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The Attorney-General of Illinois, Mr. Akin, has rendered an opinion that it is not an offence under the criminal code of his State for a citizen to die without the assistance of medicine, and that the new Medical Practice act of 1899 does not prohibit the treatment of disease by mental or spiritual methods by Christian Scientists or others where no medicine is used. Whether, in his opinion, persons who have not had a medical education may lawfully charge fees for treatment of the sick does not appear.

Americans resident in Yokohama complain that their resources are not equal to the great drain on their hospitalities which is a consequence of the visits of American transports and hospital ships to that port. Their hearts are enlarged by the sight of American soldiers, especially the sick soldiers, and they want to do them all good and make them happy; but though they have systematized the work, they find it too great for them to handle, and one of them, in a recent letter published in the New York Evening Post, calls upon the War Department to help them out, by establishing, in Yokohama, a temporary reception hospital, with surgeons and a few nurses. The rest the local Americans will be able to manage.

Various eminent members of Sorosis, New York City's famous club for women, have recently deplored the cultivation of the imagination of children. "We don't believe in it," they say. "We do not believe that imaginative books or stories that are untrue are good for children." A child would be a miserable creature at best without imagination. Deprived of intimate association with nature, there would be nothing left but a life of practical humdrum misery. During the years when a child's nature is most plastic inspiring books should be put before it. "Robinson Crusoe," "The Swiss Family Robinson," and books of a similar nature teach moral lessons that are never forgotten and arouse moral and spiritual fancies that do not readily die. Children build largely upon books the broad and deep foundation above which the moral structure of their future lives is raised. By all means cultivate the imagination of your children.

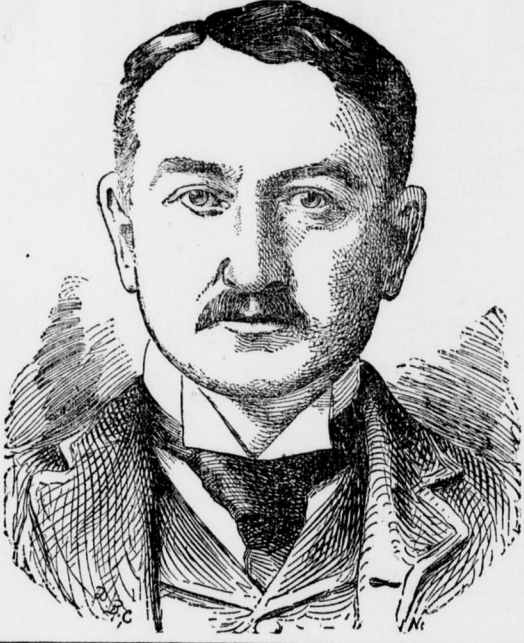
Big Bait Business.
Charley Schuler had the finest display of minnows the other day that has been seen in St. Louis for years. His reservoirs contained about 18,000. Most of these beautiful chubs were just the right size for big bass bait. The cool weather makes it an easy matter to keep the minnows alive. It is no easy task to get together 75,000 to 100,000 minnows a week, which Schuler requires to supply the anglers. He manages to get them, however. It requires several men and wagons to haul the chubs when they are caught. Some of the minnows come in by train from remote points, but Mr. Schuler gets nearly all his supply from ponds he stocked a year and a half ago. He says that minnows grow very fast, and multiply at a most astonishing rate. He put 10,000 in one pond a year last spring, and has taken a million out since.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Desirable Glove.
A glove manufacturer near Carlsbad, Germany, has invented a process for the manufacture of glazed leather for gloves, which can be washed without losing its color, and which will at the same time remain pliant and resist the action of heat and cold.

Sticks to the Old Style.
The queen has a great dislike to typewritten communications, and does not allow any documents that are supposed to emanate from the sovereign to be sent out typewritten. The earl, on the other hand, has taken a great fancy to the typewriter, and is the owner of a machine of type bars of gold and frame set with pearls.

The Barber Talked.
Smithy (coming out of the barber shop)—"That shave made me think I had made a mistake and got into a dentist's chair." Jonesy—"Why? Did it hurt so?" Smithy—"No; but I had to take gas, you know."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

CECIL RHODES, SOUTH AFRICA'S "UNCROWNED KING."



The Diamond Mines of Kimberley.

Cecil Rhodes Controls the Richest Prize in All South Africa.



In this country and in Great Britain attention has been strongly attracted of late to the city of Kimberley, and this time the interest has been martial; for Kimberley is the home of Cecil Rhodes, the Grand Young Man of Africa. The Boers, according to some accounts, at the beginning of hostilities were anxious no less for the blood of Rhodes than for the rich booty of the mines.

Cecil Rhodes is often described as "the man who made South Africa." Mr. Rhodes was formerly Premier of Cape Colony, and is certainly the most prominent and powerful man in South Africa. He has achieved that place in twenty-six years. In 1873 he left Oxford because of a serious lung trouble, and went to the Cape in search of health. He is the youngest son of an English clergyman, and was born at Bishopstortford, on July 5, 1853. He did not go to South Africa to seek diamonds, but because his physician had ordered a change. He continued his studies while living in Natal, and returned to Oxford each

war and the defeat and death of King Lobengula. The Jameson raid across the Transvaal border was probably due to the influence of Cecil Rhodes, for he has never denied complicity with it, and as its result he resigned in 1896 as Prime Minister of Cape Colony.

Kimberley is the diamond region of the world, far surpassing those of Brazil in richness. Kimberley is not a city in the modern use of the word. It is a great camp in which men's passions rise and fall as the treasures of the earth are uncovered or not found. The camp is in what is called the Vaal Basin, the wash ground of the river which divides the Transvaal from the Orange Free State. The first diamond discoveries there were made about 1870, but it was ten years later when Englishmen and others realized that the spot was the most valuable of its kind in the world.

By 1881 the mines which had been opened had yielded gems to the value of \$20,000,000. By 1887 seven tons of diamonds had been taken out valued at \$250,000,000. This record placed the Kimberley mines in the shade and made Kimberley world-wide in its fame. The Cecil Rhodes syndicate, known as the De Beers, came into control of all the mines after much negotiation. This syndicate is capitalized for \$75,000,000 and pays interest at the rate of 5 1/2 per cent. per annum and an annual dividend of 20 per cent. Since Cecil Rhodes came into control of the mines they have given out 2,500,000 karats of diamonds. To get at these it has been necessary to wash 2,700,000 loads of the blue earth in which they are found. In the working of these diamond

small iron trucks to the levels. Upon these levels the blue ground is worked until the gems within are extracted. The process of extracting takes from three to six months. The stones found vary in size from a pin-head to the largest ever found—428 1/2 karats. The largest stone when cut weighed 22 1/2 karats. It is one of the experiences of the mine owners that they lose from ten to fifteen per cent. of their product each year through the thefts of employees, who, although closely watched, still manage to get away with their loot. The punishment for stealing a diamond is fifteen years' imprisonment. All diamonds except those which pass through illicit channels, are sent to England, the weekly shipments averaging from 40,000 to 50,000 karats. The greatest outlet for stolen diamonds is through the Transvaal to Natal, where they are shipped by respectable merchants.

It is said of the Rhodes interests in the mines that they take good care of their workmen. They have built a model village called Kenilworth within the precincts of the mines. In this village are cottages for the white workmen. A clubhouse has been built for their use and there is a public library. The equipment of the mines is something remarkable. Each mine has ten circuits of electric lights. They consist of fifty-two arc lamps of 1000 candle power each and 691 glow lamps of sixteen and sixty-four candle power each, or a total illuminating power of about 64,000 candles. Thirty telephones are located in each mine and over 100 electric bells to each for signaling. The lives of the workmen are insured and every precaution is taken to make their condition tolerable.



TYPE OF THE NATIVE DIAMOND MINERS.

The rate of wages runs from \$2 to \$8 per day, unskilled labor receiving the lower price. What effect the closing of the mines by war have on the world at large is hard to say. Diamonds have already risen in price, but there is a large stock on hand in English and French hands.

The Great Corn States.
"The great corn States, according to the statistics of last year," writes John Gilmer Speed, in Ainslie's, "are in the order named, Iowa, Illinois,

OLDEST PICTURES OF MANKIND.

Earliest Known Drawings of the Human Profile Discovered in Egypt.

Long centuries ago, in the "early dusk and dawn of time," at a period which was ancient in the days of the Pharaohs, some primeval artist in the



OUR RACE'S FIRST PHOTOGRAPH.

land which is now Egypt scratched upon a potsherd the picture of a man and a woman.

Pleased was his tribe with that image—came in their hundreds to scan—Handled it, smelt it and grunted: "Verily, this is a man."

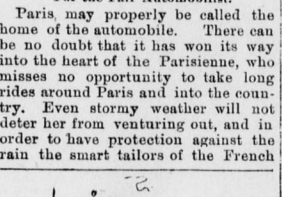
A few months ago, when excavations were being made in a little unexplored part of Egypt, one of the relic hunters came upon this potsherd. Little was thought of the find at the time, but the finder, an archaeologist of Berlin, was showing it the other day, along with his other Egyptian relics, to a German savant, who at once became interested in it. The savant begged to be allowed to take the potsherd home and study it more closely. His request being granted, he did so, and now he has given his opinion that the drawings on the potsherd are the oldest representations of mankind in existence. He believes that they are at least 300 years older than anything of the kind discovered before. The Egyptologist who owns this relic calls the pictures "The First Man and Woman."

A reproduction of the pictures is given here. It will be noticed that the man wears a "goatee" and that the woman in the case has a prominent nose. They were evidently people of standing in their day and generation, leaders of society, or king and queen, perhaps, when they sat for their portraits to the Egyptian King.

Stored Energy.
"You didn't act with your usual fire and enthusiasm," said the acquaintance.
"No," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes, "an actor sometimes finds it necessary to husband his powers for a supreme effort. I was saving myself for the argument with the manager when the box office receipts are counted."

The Bad Penny.
Again the Bad Penny turned up. "I'll make you look like thirty cents!" cried the other, losing all patience.
"Wouldn't that be counterfeiting?" insinuated the Bad Penny, with a malignant leer.
Of course the end did not justify the means, particularly in the federal courts.—Puck.

For the Fair Automobilist.
Paris, may properly be called the home of the automobile. There can be no doubt that it has won its way into the heart of the Parisienne, who misses no opportunity to take long rides around Paris and into the country. Even stormy weather will not deter her from venturing out, and in order to have protection against the rain the smart tailors of the French



A PARISIENNE'S MOTOR CAR COSTUME.

capital have designed a very serviceable costume. A fair idea of it can be had from the illustration. The costume has a military appearance. It is made of dark gray waterproofed covert coating with stitched leather strappings.

The most costly leather in the world is known to the trade as piano leather.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

Designs For Costumes That Have Become Popular in the Metropolis.

NEW YORK CITY (Special).—On the street it is now possible to take stock of the new coats, and a great many full-box shapes with Raglan shoulders



THE NEW RAGLAN.

certainly are worn. Of course they should be the exclusive property of the youthful and slender; for ample proportions find no strength or refuge in their straight trying lines. Everything except a dress coat, that fairly lays itself out in its gorgeous revers, buttons well up onto the chest, with a

across the front, in many cases, appear to fasten the skirt. Others, again, have a wide black velvet band from the centre of a high stock, secured in front by a buckle. The favorite way, however, is to thread white lace with narrow velvet and use the lace as trimming. Entire gowns are made of this velvet, threaded with insertion, sewed deftly together.

A beautiful toilet of ecru guipure has two small capes covering the shoulders, the one over the other. These and the standing collar, also of guipure, are threaded with very narrow black velvet. A torsade of black velvet descends in front to the waist, while black velvet bows continue the effect on the front of the skirt.

Bangs Are Becoming Popular.
Bangs are slowly but surely superseding the pompadour. The most novel feature of the coiffure is the pouch at the back. It is often so exaggerated that it hangs over the collar. The scold locks are caught up the middle of the pouch with a dainty bit of a gold lace pin and a luxurious head of hair is affected by padding the pouch with a wide pompadour roll.

How Skirts Are Made.
Skirts are still made to touch in the front and sides, with quite a dip in the back, but have plaits at the waist line, rather than the perfectly plain effect. None of the new gowns are gathered at the back.

Two Pretty Effects.
A pretty effect in braid is shown in its application on a blue cloth tailor-made suit. The tunic appears in this instance, which is taken from the New York Sun, over a very plain overskirt and trimmed with black braid in conventional designs. The coat is one



PRINCESS DRESS. COSTUME OF SILK. SCARF DRAPERIES.

ly front, too, and there, only a few inches below the chin, opens back with modestly small silk-faced lapels.

Again, everything except a dress coat, the eccentricities and prerogatives of which will be dwelt upon later, has pockets, plenty of them, and for true service designed. A Raglan pocket, for instance, when it is nobly planned, has a right-hand slip in its skirts that opens into a capacious silk-lined pocket, and then there is, on the same side, a breast pocket. A ticket pocket is its descriptive title given by the tailor men, and if this coat is used for traveling the virtues of that upper pocket can be tested and appreciated.

Three of the Season's Triumphs.
On many models lace motives are mingled and form part of the applied garniture. The arrangement requires taste, but when properly treated the effect is absolutely charming. To look its best the shade chosen for this style of trimming must not correspond exactly with that of the dress, but in preference be a shade or two lighter when the lace which accompanies it is white, and darker in the case of black lace being chosen. One of the most striking costumes of the season is shown in the large engraving. It is a piece of fancy material, and is from the Dry Goods Economist. The costume on the left of the large engraving represents a tailor-made princess robe of Dresden-blue satin de laine, trimmed with a scroll design in steel beads. A similar adornment conceals the back seam on the skirt and corsage.

The central figure shows a rich silk visiting dress of "roseau" green, with side panels of handsome cream-colored renaissance, framed on either side by three folds of dark-green velvet. The bodice, which bulges slightly in front, but without fullness, has bretelles and epaulettes of the same lace, which terminate at the shoulder seam. Cuffs of the same at the wrists. Small embroidered cambric collar with long "Regate" cravat of roseau-green silk.

Black Velvet Much Used.
Black velvet is seen in some form on nearly all light gowns. Bands

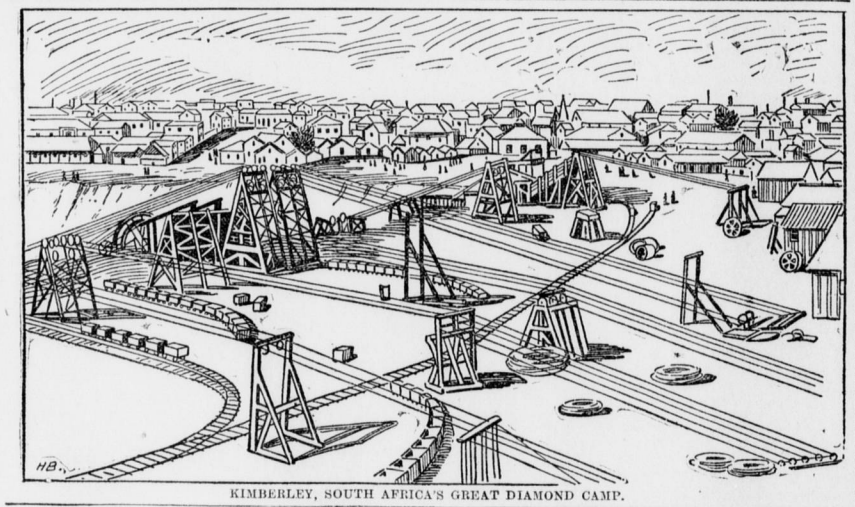
of the shortest, and short even as regards the elongated front, which can be called long only because the back is so far from that. The way in which the braid is applied seems more in keeping with the idea of the tailor-made gown than does the wandering floral pattern that is often used. Mink fur lines the high collar, and mink plays an important part on the hat, where it forms the crown.

The charms of black and white are to be seen in an extremely plain but very fetching gown. The skirt of black cloth is unrelieved with the exception of a row of white stitching. The dainty little bolero is bordered by a row of the white stitching, too, and is fastened with buttons of black and white. On the revers and collar another note is brought to bear, for they are faced not with white, but with a delicate corn-colored material. The toque brings the black, the white and the yellow into combination by using black and white plaid with a narrow line of the yellow running through



BLACK CLOTH TAILOR MADE. BLUE CLOTH GOWN.

the whole. Yellow is a wonderfully becoming color to most persons, whereas pure white belongs to the few.



KIMBERLEY, SOUTH AFRICA'S GREAT DIAMOND CAMP.

year until he took his degree at Oriel College.

It is hardly too much to say that Mr. Rhodes has made his fortune in diamonds. Diamonds had been discovered in South Africa a few years before he got there. Finally he, too, caught the fever, and it was not long before he had staked all he had in a few claims. These he shared with his brother, Herbert, who later relinquished his share and went to the north, where he met his death while hunting elephants. Cecil plodded away in the diamond fields, where he superintended his gang of Kafirs. He was successful in his ventures, and it was not long before he found himself the possessor of some \$5,000,000. He was elected to the Cape Parliament, and by his political adroitness was made Prime Minister in 1890. He sought and won riches, but it is unfair to assume that he has done so solely for his own aggrandizement. With the advancement of his personal fortune he has also striven to realize an early dream of bringing Africa under British dominion.

"That's my dream—all English," he said, many years ago, moving his hand over a map of Africa up to the Zambezi. Coupled with the acquisition of wealth, he has labored toward that end.

One of the results was the Matabele

mines there are employed about 1500 white men and 6000 natives. The greater proportion of these men are employed in the De Beers and Kimberley mines, the two biggest holes which greedy men have ever dug into the earth. The De Beers mine has an area at the surface of thirteen acres and a depth of 450 feet. The mines are worked from shafts sunk some distance from the original holes and



KAFFIR POLICE AT THE DIAMOND MINES.

penetrating to the blue ground by transverse drivings at depths varying from 500 to 1200 feet. The blue ground, when extracted, is carried in

Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, Indiana, Texas and Ohio. Each of these States grew in excess of 100,000,000 bushels, while the total of Iowa was 254,999,850 bushels. This year we are promised from Kansas alone in excess of 350,000,000 bushels. Montana, among the new States, grew the smallest amount of corn last year, and Rhode Island among the old States. In Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Washington all of the corn grown was consumed at home, practically none of it being transported beyond the county in which it was produced. The other States, according to the amount grown, shipped corn to other parts of the country and abroad. In price the corn on the farms realized all the way from sixty-six cents a bushel in Montana to twenty-three cents in Iowa, the general average throughout the country being 28 7-10 cents per bushel. In 1897 this general average was 26 3-10 cents; in 1896 it was 21 5-10 cents; in 1895 it was 25 3-10 cents, and in 1894 it was 45 7-10 cents. In the latter year (1894) the production was short, being somewhat more than twenty per cent. less than last year.

It is a singular fact that Washington and Oregon have yet no iron or steel works within their borders.