

THE HAMILTON TIMES

THURSDAY, DEC. 23, 1909.

VACARIOUS MERT.

The Herald makes for its candidate Doc Hopkins, a somewhat unusual plea, and one that indicates that he is not to be confounded with the ordinary workaday, bread-and-butter-earning Canadian. This man must be recognized as something very different from the common barnyard variety of sons of the soil, who can never hope to be, at best, more than mere self-made men; although such upstarts have been known to aspire to positions of honor which should be reserved exclusively for men like the Doc, men of blood and ancestry. Pity 'tis that the rudeness of mere merit should ever be tolerated! Our contemporary's sporting man would probably describe the Doc as "classy," and the description might fit in with the Herald's plea. For, be it known, the Doc's organ impressively informs the Hamilton public that the Doc's grandfather—no, we believe it says his great-grandfather, "fit in de wah"—was "a captain in the army." Think of that, will you? Now, will you get out of the way, you insolents of less distinguished and aristocratic ancestry, and allow his great-grandfather's great-grandson to gratify his mounting ambitions? Alas, for these degenerate days! We fear that there may be found among the people to whom this plea of the Doc may be mightily convincing, not a few who, not having the veneration and respect for distant ancestry which the Doc and his organ appear to have, will turn up their plebeian noses at the plea, even at the risk of being blighted by the Doc's wrath or deluged by the Herald's abuse. They may even recall to mind a similar plea for admiration which has been embalmed in poetry:

"I'm Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines, I feed my horse good corn and beans, I know it is quite beyond my means, Though a captain in the army." These coarse-fibred people may think that a live Canadian of the common hand-picked sort is worth a good many dead great-grandfathers. They may even entertain a notion that the question of the stripes on the great-grandfather's uniform—or his back—is of less moment to them than that of the intelligence, ability, courage and manly honor of the great-grandson of to-day. And they may even dare to institute some inquiry as to the latter, in the light of his own course in this mayoralty matter. And who will blame them?

But, seriously, we marvel at Ald. Hopkins and his organ presenting such a plea to the intelligent citizens of Hamilton. Boiled down and put in plain words it amounts to this: My great-grandfather was a captain in the army, therefore you should violate the unwritten law, which gives a good Hamilton Mayor a second term, and allow me to supplant him. A true poet and philosopher has said:

"'Tis as easy to be heroes as to sit the idle slaves Of a legendary virtue carved upon our fathers' graves." He doubtless intended to include grandfathers and great-grandfathers. Great and good as those old fellows may have been, why use their places of sepulchre as election bustings? Should we even steal the funeral lamps to light mean ambition's path to municipal power? Why, probably even Ald. Hopkins did not appreciate the absurdity of his plea. He cannot qualify on the merits of a dead great-grandfather. The people demand personal virtue and service. They admire ability, uprightiness, courage, strong love of justice, and a fine sense of chivalrous honor toward others. Does Ald. Hopkins think that his conduct and attitude now meet these requirements? Dare he look into his own soul and face his own motives?

TOO MUCH LAW.

Archbishop Ireland is one of the prelates for whose opinion on civil matters great respect is entertained by thinking men of all denominations, and his denunciation of the idolatrous worship of man-made laws, uttered in an address at St. Paul, is well worth the study of all lovers of freedom. Civil freedom, the archbishop said, the right to one's own self, to the use of one's own faculties of mind and limb, is so sweet, so precious to each one that it was to be expected they were ever to be held sacred and never yielded up unless in obedience to highest duty toward the whole body politic. And he continued: "And yet is there not some peril to civil liberty from political liberty—at least from what I may be allowed to call the exuberance, the riotousness of political liberty? As a matter of fact, we have too many laws. Our legislatures are too anxious to increase the bulk of the statute book. As things are tending we shall soon have so many laws that, wrapped around, as it were, by serried mail, we shall become prisoners, forbidden to stir or to walk. The possession of power is an incentive to excess. What is the use, it is thought, of having power, if it be not put into exercise? And then a law is called for that the legislator may have it to be fondled as his own child. Be it a needed law, all the better. Be it totally unnecessary, even unduly restrictive of the liberty of the citizen, a pity it is, but legislative power must show itself in act. "The mania for legislation frequently shelters itself under the name of moral reform. Far from me to oppose prudent legislation in the betterment of morality, when crime is to be punished, natural rights to be safeguarded, a great and

wholesale measure in the interests of the public well to be supported."

Archbishop Ireland denies that society could ever be without its rich and its poor, and he condemned the cry against corporations, as such. "Destroy great enterprises," said he, "make impossible the unification of many individual energies and if equality there comes it will be equality of mediocrity and social poverty." What is needed, he impressed upon his hearers, is "legislation with eye single to the general welfare which is fostered by justice to all, by wisdom in adoption of methods, by a full recognition of the laws of nature, in the individual life of men, in economic relations for one class of men toward another and of all classes of men toward the nation at large."

These are wise words; words which are as applicable to Canada as to the United States. The danger to true liberty from the fads and cranks of officialdom is not small. We should always bear in mind that the Golden Rule is the true gauge of human freedom. We are each entitled to do as we please, as long as our so doing does not interfere with the equal right of every other individual. Let us not make a fetish of laws.

IMMENSE SUM "LOST."

It is not ocean freights on nearly \$41,000,000 worth of goods that we have lost, but all the money which we have paid to foreign shipowners for carrying nearly \$41,000,000 worth of American overseas purchases and sales. That is a specimen sentence from a letter intended to show the need for subsidizing United States shipping. It could appeal only to the most purblind protectionist. If the United States people have paid to foreign shipowners such a sum for carrying freight, they have received value for the amount in a service which they themselves could not give for the money, and the capital and labor required to do it were, it is fair to assume, more profitably employed. The U. S. shipowners say they cannot compete unless they receive many millions in subsidies yearly. That gives away the entire contention. When a man has a job to do, and finds that he will lose money by undertaking it for what is in it, he is not in a position to cavil at the fellow who takes it off his hands and saves him loss. Why should the United States people pay the United States shipowner not only the price of the service, but give him millions in bounties taken out of the taxpayers, when others stand ready to do the work and make a profit out of the price, leaving the United States capital and labor to find its way into lines at which it can earn a return? That is the question Economy asks.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Thirteenth Royal Regiment sounds well, doesn't it?

Art in the solitude of his office Stewart thinks of Hopkins, and smiles and smiles!

Do you wonder that Peary should regard the pronouncement of the Copenhagen scientists on Cook's alleged data and observations as a vindication of his course?

You have read of the humors of an election. Have you ever seen anything to beat the Herald's appeal for Ald. Hopkins on the strength of his great-grandfather?

Ald. Hopkins' candidature for the Mayoralty is the greatest Christmas box the boys with an eye to the pickings could have had. And they had almost lost hope, too.

It should be dawning upon the evil-minded of this city that the "Black Hand" business is not a safe one in this country. The law cannot deal too severely with such crimes.

Ex Ald. Farrar pays the Council of 1909 the compliment of saying he is satisfied with its work, and will not seek a place as alderman this year. And Mr. Farrar is not the easiest man to satisfy either.

The City Council of Montreal has decided to pay the members of its board of control \$10,000 a year each. Imagine what a rush we should have for control-ship if Hamilton were to offer half that sum!

One after another the Council committees present reports showing a satisfactory condition in their finances, highly creditable to the Mayor and aldermen of 1909. It is a pleasant change from the deleterious stories of overdrafts which have been the rule in recent years.

Oh, Mr. Herald, come off! Doc Hopkins' great-grandfather may have been a fine old chap with a high idea of honor; but what of that? It's his great-grandson that is in question. And would the great-grandfather or the great-grandfather or his cousin's wife's uncle, for that matter, have been proud of the present alderman's position to-day?

So much of an improvement was effected in the city's finances by this year's Council that Ald. Allan, Chairman of the Board of Works, is hopeful that if the Good Roads by-law is carried the tax rate may be reduced from 21 to 20 mills. Good enough! But not if the gang that puts Ald. Hopkins forward to oppose the Mayor and the business policy in civic affairs has its way.

It is now announced that the new Ontario Government prison will be situated near Guelph. Options on 603 acres

of land for the purpose have been secured. It will be remembered that, a short time ago, it was said to be the Government's intention to locate the prison in Wentworth County. Like the matter of that great Provincial Technical College, however, the scheme did not materialize.

John Burns, in an address in Britain the other day, declared that the British people would take two lessons from Germany, they would avoid conscription and protection. In protected Berlin alone last year, between 30,000 and 60,000 workmen were out of employment. "Why," he asked, "were there 4,000 bureaus for registering unemployed in Germany, if there were two jobs for every man in that country?" And his hearers laughed.

The present contract for 1,000 h.p. of Hydro-Electric current binds the city to that extent to the losing deal for thirty years. Mayor McLaren and the Council secured the concession of giving us a year to test it before we should be tied up in the monopoly so that we could not benefit by competition. It is to refuse this chance to test the scheme that Ald. Hopkins opposes Mayor McLaren and the Hydro gang is trying to capture the Council. They fear that the year's test may not turn out well for them.

The Hamilton Herald feels constrained to excuse the course of Ald. Hopkins with the decent people of the city, so it proceeds to say that "last year he was so much impressed with the necessity of having a Council that would reverse the action of last year's Council on the power question that he came forward as an aldermanic candidate in Ward 6, and was elected." Think again. Did he not attempt to butt in before that, to find himself repulsed? Was there not some other "influence" used to determine him on his present course?

The Dominion Railway Commission has postponed until July 1 the new regulation of the telegraph companies reducing code words not in the dictionary to a maximum of five letters. In giving judgment the chairman stated that the determination of the companies to thus limit the length of code words was a reasonable one, as present conditions were not equitable for the telegraph companies. The delay in permitting the new regulation to take effect will give time to revise the codes.

The announcement that Ald. Hopkins was to be the last chance candidate of the clique which seeks to wreak vengeance upon Mayor McLaren has been the means of waking up many citizens who usually take but a mild interest in municipal affairs. Scores are asking to be allowed to serve in aiding the Mayor's re-election, if for no other purpose but to show their disapproval of the contemptible campaign conducted against him, by piling up such a majority as will vindicate the good sense and decency of the ratepayers of the city and their appreciation of good municipal service.

Hon. Mr. Foster, in his criticism of the budget the other day, declared that it was the Western farmer and not the policy of the Government that brought about Canadian prosperity. We had not noticed that Mr. Fielding put forward any claim to having produced Canadian prosperity. It might be pertinent, however, to remind Mr. Foster that if we grant his claim that Canadian prosperity is due to the Western farmer, it must equally be granted that there are a vast number more of the Western farmers, producers of prosperity, in the country because of the wise policy of the present Liberal Government.

At last night's meeting of the Fire and Water Committee, a sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of making some suitable recognition of Engineer MacFarlane's 50 years of faithful service to the city. This is a case, if ever there are such, in which long and faithful service should be rewarded by the municipality. There is probably not in the Province of Ontario to-day a municipal servant with such a record of efficiency, trustworthiness and devotion to the practical duties which he has discharged for an unbroken period of half a century. He has given no half-hearted service. The interests of the city have been his interests and every Hamiltonian has felt that, no matter what might happen, the waterworks were safe in good hands. A co-operation testimonial in a case like this is well warranted, and it will be approved by the ratepayers at large.

Our Exchanges

TWO OF THEM. (London Advertiser.) Lloyd-George and Churchill are a great pair of political Drednoughts. A LAST CHANCE. (Guelph Herald.) A Hamilton youth has been held up in Rome. What a chance for the Herald or Times to have headed it "An Innocent Abroad." COLLABORATORS. (M. A. P.) "It was Satan," said a mother to one of her children, "who put it into your head to pull Elsie's hair." "Perhaps it was," replied the hopeful, "but kicking her shins was my own idea." GO TO THE WALL. (Guelph Mercury.) Winston Churchill, who, by the way, is a fine classical scholar, has discovered an entirely new authority upon the present British situation, and one which may well be claimed as having made the ear-

A Sensational Big Store Toy Bargains 8.30 Sharp Friday Morn. The last call for Toys, and a record breaker. We intend selling more Toys to-morrow than any two days in our history, and to do this we must have you early, not 9 or 9.30 (many of these lines will be gone before that), but 8.30 sharp, when the doors swing open. Read every item. Drop everything else and be here sharp on time. No phone orders filled. None sent C. O. D. Friday morning, 8.30 sharp.

6 only Dolls' Handsome Wicker Buggies, up holstered; regular \$1.95, for... \$1	24 only \$1 and \$1.50 handsomely Dressed Dolls, each in box, sleepers... 79c	\$1.50 Dolls' Dishes, richly decorated... 75c
12 only Dolls' 25c strong Wicker Cradles... 15c	24 only 50c Kid Body Dolls... 35c	75c Handsome Glass Sets, 7 pieces... 29c
12 only Dolls' 25c cute Wicker Buggies... 15c	36 only 25c cute Bisque Babies... 12 1/2c	36 only best 25c Pasting Sets... 5c
24 only best 25c boxed Nine Pins... 15c	36 only 50c and 75c Dolls' Heads... 1/2 price	12 only \$1 Baby Sets, Brush, Comb, Soap Dish, etc... 50c
50c, 75c and \$1.25 Toy Steel Ranges, 1/2 price	48 only 15c Dolls, for stuffing... 10c	12 only 50c Toy Granite Sets... 25c
25c Musical Dulcimers, neatly boxed... 15c	24 only 50c Dolls, for stuffing... 19c	48 Dolls' Knife and Plate Sets... 10c
50c famous Kaleidoscopic Tops, spins 15 minutes... 19c	6 only \$1.50 Steam Engines... \$1	12 only Dolls' Kindergarten Sets... 10c
50c good strong Teddy Bears... 25c	48 only 25c Flying Men, a splendid mechanical toy... 9c	12 only Dolls' 25c Wooden Chairs... 15c
25c good strong Teddy Bears... 13c		200 more Christmas Stockings... 5c, 10c, 15c

English Carriage Bags 1/2 Price 40c, 50c and 75c Books at 25c. The best gift you can delight the heart of a lady with—handsome English Carriage Bags, finest Morocco, rich greens and browns, well lined and fitted, bellows frame; regular prices \$54, \$45.50, \$5 and \$5.50, on sale 8.30 sharp. 1/2 price, \$4 bags, \$2; \$4.50 bags, for \$2.25, and so on.

8.30 Till 10—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1 Neckwear 15c. A grand clearing out of a lot of Fancy Collars, Jabots, Ties, Bows, Dutch Collars, etc., all the broken lots caused by the tremendous holiday selling, in lace, linen, chiffon and silk; worth from 25c to \$1 each, on sale 8.30.

75c, \$1, and \$1.25 Picture Frames 59c. Handsome Gold Mounted Frames, oval and square, some plain, others richly chased; cannot be bought regularly under 75c to \$1.25 each; on sale 8.30 sharp.

8.30 Till 10—Men's \$1, \$1.50 Cigar Cases 59c. 4 dozen only, all handsome leathers, an ideal gift line for a man; these will cause a stir; regular \$1 and \$1.50 values, on sale 8.30, don't be late, 59c.

8.30 TILL 10 ONLY 25c and 30c Hdkfs. 15c Each. A goodly gift line, 25 and 35c value, richly Swiss embroidered Handkerchiefs, hemstitched and scalloped edges, on sale 8.30 sharp, each... 15c.

25c Box Hdfs. 10c. 100 boxes only, and not more than 2 to a customer. Each box is a Check-board and contains 3 dainty Hemstitched Handkerchiefs and Checkers; on sale 8.30 sharp, each... 10c.

8 Hdfs. in Box 25c. 100 boxes only, each containing 8 dainty Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, worth 32c each; a sensible gift line; on sale 8.30 sharp, each... 25c.

Sale of Hdfs. 25c. Madeira Embroidered, Swiss Embroidered, Hand Embroidered. The finest collection of Gift Handkerchiefs at 25c in the city; equal values to lines shown elsewhere at 35 and 45c.

3 Bargains in Initialed Handkerchiefs. Pure Irish Linen, Hemstitched, with embroidered initials: 12c value, 12 1/2c, 2 in box... 25c 25c value, 17 1/2c, 2 in box... 35c 35c value, 25c, 2 in box... 50c

8.30 to 10 in the Men's Dept. Men's \$1.50 and \$1.75 Silk Lined Gloves For \$1.25. 25 dozen of that famous Glove purchase specially reserved for Friday morning selling, Dent's Silk Lined Cape Gloves, rich tans and browns; the best \$1.50 and \$1.75 lines, on sale 8.30 sharp, each... \$1.25.

Men's Cashmere Sox, 3 in Box, \$1. 10 dozen Men's English Cashmere Socks, all neatly embroidered with silk, new patterns, all sizes, regular 50c, special, 3 in a box, only... \$1.

Men's 50c Neckwear 25c. 50 dozen for early selling on Friday, hardly a Tip in the lot under 50c value, many worth more; a worthy gift line for the last day's early selling... 25c each.

Men's Combination Gift Sets 75c. 100 Men's Combination Sets, one pair Silk Elastic Suspenders, one pair well Armlets and one pair of Garters, regular \$1, a very useful gift, only 75c.

8.30 Sharp—Ladies' Gift Umbrellas \$2. 21 only Ladies' Elegant Gift Umbrellas, swell handles of gold and pearl, taped edge cover, case, close rolling frame, regular \$3, Friday only... \$2.

8.30 Sharp—Ladies' Gift Umbrellas \$4. 12 Ladies' Umbrellas, something extra nice, elegant handles, 10k gold plating, strong silk and wool covers, taped edge, silk case, regular \$4.50 and \$5, Friday only... \$4.

8.30 TILL 10 ONLY We Want You at 8.30 Sharp Glove and Handkerchief Boxes 19c Pair. 6 dozen only handsome boxes, pretty picture tops; on sale at 8.30 sharp... 19c pair.

75c Glove and Handkerchief Boxes 29c. 36 only Satin Lined Boxes, imitation crocodile; regular 75c each; on sale 8.30 sharp, each... 29c each.

Toilet Sets Half-Price. 24 only Brush and Comb and Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets, on sale... Half Price.

\$1, \$1.50 Boxes 59c. Collar and Cuff Boxes, Glove Boxes, Work Boxes, etc., pretty celluloid tops; regular \$1 and \$1.50 value, your choice 8.30... 59c.

Shaving Sets 19c. Cute Shaving Sets, Stand, Mirror, Soap Dish and Brush Holder combined; 6 dozen on sale at 8.30 sharp... 19c.

The G.W. ROBINSON CO. 18 to 24 JAMES ST. SOUTH LIMITED

line's pronouncement. Heraclitus of Ephesus, the preceptor of Plato, was one of the first students of politics to observe that amid the bustle of militant and under-estimated Greek democracy the privileged class always went to the wall.

A UNIVERSITY OPINION. (Toronto News.) Copenhagen says: "Mack! When the gentle Cook came back we believed him on the square. Thought he had been surely there! Now his records make us think something's on the rinky-dink."

THE YOUNG IDEA. (New York Times.) "Who made that man, mamma?" asked a child on a Broadway car, pointing to a hot sport opposite. "Hush, my child," answered the mother, "why Providence, of course." "Oh?" said the open-mouthed youngster, "and what for?" Then the sport changed cars.

WHERE SCIENCE FAILS. (New York Sun.) Euclid was deep in mathematics. "My dear," announced his wife, "I want to give Mary Smith a present that will look like it cost more than the one she sent me, but really be less, and I don't know what she paid for it. How much should I spend?" Herewith he sought safety in flight.

YARN FETCHED A QUARTER. (Boston Transcript.) Sad-eyed party—Say, boss, won't you give me a few cents towards gettin' my wife into the Old Lady's Home? Householder (dubiously)—Why doesn't your wife come here herself? Sad-eyed party—Well, you see, boss, she's a woman an' you kin hardly expect her to go around admittin' she is old enough for that.

THE EGG LUXURY. (Toronto Star.) Eggs stamped with the date of laying are selling as high as 60 cents per dozen in Toronto, at which price there are quite a number of people who will do without them. The ready sale for stamped eggs, however, draws attention to the fact that one indispensable factor in the advanced cost of living is the public demand for luxuries that would not have been saleable a few years ago.

"REGARDED WITH SOME SUSPICION." (Hamilton Spectator.) Ald. Hopkins has been a citizen of Hamilton not more than five or six

years, so far as his ability to capably fill the position to which he aspires is concerned, he is an absolutely unknown quantity, and therefore a man to be regarded with some suspicion. Which reasons, we feel, justify our opposition to his election at this time and under existing circumstances and conditions.

DAUNTLESS. (Puck.) "Sir, I wish to make your daughter my wife!" "The old man hesitated. "Hadin't you better see her mother first?" he asked, gently, after thinking a moment. "I've seen her mother, and it doesn't make any difference—I'm willing to take the chances!" exclaimed the youth, with all the ardor of honest love.

BRITANNIA LODGE. Britannia Lodge, I. O. G. T., held its regular weekly meeting on Tuesday night in Kennedy's Hall, James street. There was a good turnout. This lodge, which is still in its infancy, is making rapid progress. During the evening there was one proposition for membership, and a committee was appointed to arrange for the first anniversary banquet, which will be celebrated on Feb. 22.

Bro. Stacey, of International Lodge, presented the lodge with balloting requisites. After business the lodge was thrown open to the public. The programme, which was of a sacred character, was contributed to by Bro. F. S. Morison and Sister Hardy, of International Lodge, and Sister Morgan, Bro. Morgan and Bro. Ambrose. Next week there will be a hot night in the hands of Bro. McAngus, Lodge Deputy.

MOVING PICTURES AT Y. M. C. A. A magnificent programme of moving pictures and illustrated songs has been arranged specially for Christmas Day, when a children's matinee will be put on at 10 a. m. Other big shows in the afternoon and evening. The management has also arranged a series of first-class moving picture entertainments each afternoon Christmas week.

LOTS OF MONEY. New York, Dec. 23.—The estate of John Stewart Kennedy, the multimillionaire banker, who died here last October, is valued at over \$100,000,000, according to the will which has just been admitted to probate. He left about \$33,000,000 to charity. His widow gets about \$15,000,000 by the will.

WILL BECK RUN? If He Does There Will be a Split in Tory Ranks in London. Threat That He Will be Opposed at Next Ontario Elections. (Special Wire to the Times.) London, Dec. 23. The most unique situation in years in connection with the coming municipal elections has occurred as a result of the threatened split in the Conservative party over Hon. Adam Beck's nomination for Mayor. Mr. Beck wants to run, and is absolutely sure of election if he stands. He has been waited on, it is stated, by members of the Beattie Conservative faction and threatened with a three-cornered fight at the next general election if he does not withdraw and allow Ald. Beattie, his strong Niagara power opponent here, to run. Hundreds of prominent business men are urging Mr. Beck to run, and risk a split in the party. Prominent business men nominated by the churches to try and improve municipal conditions have declared they will not run unless Mr. Beck stands also. He is holding a meeting to-day to discuss the situation with friends, and has until this evening to qualify.

Last Day Specials. No other store is better able to handle the immense amount of business that is being done this week than Stanley Mills & Co. To-morrow will see the final rush bring the Christmas business to a close. The toy department is still well filled with many assortments of interesting and instructive toys for boys and girls. In the drug department and the hardware store there has just arrived a special shipment of shaving brushes of fine bristles, mixed badger and bristle, and all badger hair brushes. The prices range from 25 cents to \$1. These brushes are extra good value.

\$250,000 BLAZE. Kansas City, Dec. 23.—After a two hours' fight, made hazardous by frequent explosions and falling walls, the firemen here early to-day gained control of a blaze that consumed the Rialto building at Ninth street and Grand avenue, and caused a loss approximately of \$250,000.

IS SANTA CLAUS A FAKE? His Claim of Living at the North Pole is Declared Untrue. William J. Jones swears he made all records for Mr. S. Claus, the famous traveler, in payment for which he was to receive a rifle and a watch. As Mr. Claus has only come across with the watch so far, Mr. Jones freely acknowledges the failure on the part of Mr. Claus to produce the rifle as his motive in disclosing the following startling narrative: "When Mr. S. Claus asked me to furnish him with accurate data and observations for a North Pole trip I confess I wasn't a bit surprised, as I had been suspicious of his claims from the start. His seemed a bit nervous, too. "He said I could be of great assistance to him in preparing his proofs to submit to the House of Lords. I told him he must answer a few questions first. "He said, 'All right; go ahead.' "Well, I said, 'I want to know how you know you live at the North Pole.' "By my reindeers, of course," he said. "I told him he was making a great mistake in trying to put over a story like that on this generation. "Yes, sir," he replied. "Of course you have your time observations—of course you took your chronometer time?" "No, I didn't," he admitted. "I—I—well, I lost it." "Well, what is the latitude and longitude of Slumbertok?" "He said he really had forgotten—he had it somewhere. "Mr. Claus," I said, "it will be necessary for me to furnish you with a complete new chart—if you expect to be any longer believed." "I should be grateful to you if you would prepare it for me," he answered. "I asked him if he knew anything about 'Azimuth.' "Oh, yes," he said. "They are very ferocious, and one bit me on the wrist."—Chicago Tribune.

Wildcat meat is at a premium in the Chinese quarters of San Francisco as a result of the strife between the Yee family and the On Tick Tong—which has brought about six murders in or near San Francisco since November 1. There is a superstitious belief among the Chinese that if their warriors are fed on the flesh of the wildcat they will acquire the ferocity of the beast, and their fighting efficiency will be much improved. The butchers of the quarter are driving a thriving trade in wildcat among the two clans now at war.—From Fur News.