

Home Journal

People and Things the World Over

A copy of the first edition of "Alice in Wonderland," a classic just forty-five years old, was sold at auction in London the other day. It fetched \$205.

Some Detroit engineers have figured that, to duplicate the Pyramid of Cheops in that city at the present cost of materials and labor would require nearly \$100,000,000.

In the seven years, 1901 to 1908, China's postal service expanded remarkably. The postal routes now cover 88,000 miles, and the post-offices number 3,493, as against 176 in 1901, an increase of 3,317.

Mme. Mathilde Francke, wife of an English journalist, and one of the most daring women aviators in the world, has announced that she will compete in the 960-mile aeroplane race between New York and Chicago.

By making it illegal to charge admission fees to ring contests, the legislation committee of the city council believes it has found a means of barring prize fights from Los Angeles without conflicting with the State law relative to boxing matches.

The Royal Academy of Music has awarded the advanced grade gold medal to Laura Lavery, of New Westminster; pianoforte silver medal to Mildred Goodeve of Windsor, N. S., and the pianoforte intermediate grade gold medal to Gladys McKelvae, of Calgary.

Next year will see the 300th anniversary of the King James version of the Bible, and a suggestion for marking the tercentenary has been made by persons interested in the American Bible Society. They have started a movement for a united celebration by the British Bible Society and its Yankee offspring, to take the form of a King James Bible Parliament in London. The American society can enter into the spirit of the jubilee with added zest because of its recent completion of its endowment fund of a million dollars, half of which was given by Mrs. Russell Sage.

Miss A. Gwynne, who was vice-president of the Toronto Humane Society, by her will left \$75,000 to be paid free of succession dues to the British Union, for the abolition of vivisection; \$25,000 to the Toronto Humane Society and \$5,000 to the Sarnia Humane Society. There are several personal legacies of \$25,000 and many smaller ones, but the total value of the estate has not been learned yet. Miss Gwynne was always deeply interested in the work of the humane societies. The local body will have use for every cent of the legacy left it, as it is planning a programme, which will call for an endowment fund of at least \$100,000.

A report has reached Maiden Lane from Johannesburg, South Africa, of the finding of another large diamond in the Premier Mine. The gem is said to weigh more than 191 carats and is described as a pure white stone, absolutely

flawless, and measuring two inches long by about three-fourths of an inch thick. It tapers in breadth from one and one-fourth inches to three-fourths of an inch at the smallest end, and is valued at \$150,000 uncut.

The Premier Mine became famous in January, 1905, when the Cullinan diamond was discovered there. This gem weighed 3,032 carats in the rough, and was presented to King Edward VII by the Transvaal Government.

No Place to Flee

The way of the transgressor has always been hard, and it is growing no easier. The greatest source of wretchedness to the evil doer is the danger of being found out, caught and punished, and that danger is increasing every day. Owing to the great inventions of our day the world is getting so small that soon there will be no place left to hide. With cables and wireless to report his every move, photographs, phonographs and the Bertillon system to register his features, voice, size, weight—even his very finger prints.—what chance has he to think his crime can be concealed? There is no wilderness or hinterland or darkest Africa left as a refuge

shelter. Disease has broken out among them to add to the general misery.

But aside from the loss of life and the discomfort of humans, the loss of the forest itself is being more considered than ever before. A few minutes will destroy a tree that has taken years to grow, and that can never be replaced in our lifetime or that of our children. Canada has looked upon her timber as one of those "inexhaustible resources" we are so fond of talking about, but sad experience in wholesale destruction has proven the fallacy of the phrase. It is up to Canada to conserve this exhaustible resource. In this work the Dominion Forestry Department has been busily engaged since its formation. There has not been time as yet to accomplish much, but fortunately so far the work in Canada is one of protecting the standing timber rather than of having to replace it by planting young trees to begin new forests. The timber areas are being surveyed and mapped and fire rangers and wardens are scattered over the Dominion to guard, as far as their limited numbers will permit, the country's timber. A member of the forestry commission says that most of the fires are caused by carelessness on the part of settlers, campers and the railways.

The Old and the New

Below are given the forms of the King's accession declaration, the shorter one now replacing the old style, which has occasioned so much heart-burning and bitterness by its mode of expression rather than by its real significance. The new form achieves exactly the same result and does not injure the feelings of the most sensitive subject of the realm:—

NEW STYLE

I do solemnly and sincerely, in the presence of God, profess, testify, and declare that I am a faithful member of the Protestant Reformed Church, and according to the true intent of the enactments which are intended to secure the Protestant succession to the throne of my realm uphold and maintain the said enactments to the best of my power according to law.

OLD STYLE

I do solemnly and sincerely in the presence of God testify and declare that I do believe that in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper there is not any transubstantiation of the elements of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever; and that the invocation or adoration of the Virgin Mary or any other saint, and the sacrifice of the masses as they are now used in the Church of Rome are superstitious and idolatrous, and I do solemnly in the presence of God profess, testify and declare that I do make this declaration and every part thereof in the plain and ordinary sense of the words read unto me as they are commonly understood by Protestants without any evasion, equivocation, or mental reservation whatsoever and without any dispensation already granted me for this purpose by the Pope or any other authority or persons whatsoever or without any hope of any such dispensation from any person or authority whatsoever or without thinking that I am or can be acquitted before God or man or absolved of this declaration or any thereof although the Pope or any other person or persons or power whatsoever should dispense with or annul the same, or declare that it was null and void from the beginning.

GOD'S ANGEL

I saw thee first, when thou hadst gone from me,
Stealing across my darkened, empty days
Like moonlight silvering with its softened rays
The lonely spaces of the open sea.
But in my heart, with every thought of thee,
I know that tho thy days in Heaven are spent,
No idle hour can bring thee sweet content;
Nor any moment without purpose be.
The gentle ministrations of thy hands,
That day by day wrought here unceasingly;
Thy willing feet so swift to Love's demands,
These are my constant memories of thee.
Remembering these, I see thee as thou art,
God's Angel with a human mother heart.

—The Independent.

for the "gentleman-ranker," who prefers for sundry reasons to be "the world forgetting, by the world forgot." There is no chance to be forgotten while newspapers exist. There is no rest left for the wicked, if there ever was any, for to self-torture and remorse is added the almost sure exposure and penalty. The mark of Cain is on his brow and there is nowhere left to hide his face. He knows that justice is not blind or deaf or maimed when in pursuit.

Out of The Smoke

From one end of Canada to another in July you could smell smoke and in many localities the pungent odor still remains. Never before at one time was fire so widespread in this country—New Brunswick, New Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, all have suffered. And people who heretofore have said "forest fire" indifferently, because it had never come nigh them, have been forced into a more interested attitude of mind because the danger is close at hand. So far there has been almost no loss of life, which surely is great cause for thankfulness, but the end is not yet. The people of Campbellton, N. B., whose homes were completed destroyed, are suffering now from the delayed rains from which they have no beginning.