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: NOTE AND COMMENT :

WOMAN'S SPHERE

Woman having been driven from her historic sphere, the home, by the developments of modern industry, has gone in for—well, everything that the modern woman is going in for.

U. S. A. AND PARCEL POST

Statistics compiled by the Express companies in the States show that they have lost from 22 to 25 per cent. of their business in parcels up to 11 pounds during the first two months of the parcel post.

COLOSSAL DAIRY PRODUCTION

Present official reports show that the Dominion has 1035 butter factories, with an annual output valued at nearly \$14,000,000, and 2154 cheese factories producing 162,450,000 pounds, valued at \$17,524,000.

MURDER AND THE LAW

Exchange of congratulations over the fact recorded at the recent Governor's Conference in the States, that there were "only sixty-four lynchings in the whole country last year," gives to the detached observer, something of a shock.

NOVEL NURSING SCHEME

A Dental Nurse Bill is being presented before the Legislature of Massachusetts, providing for the licensing of trained nurses who may be employed by schools and institutions to clean the teeth of pupils and inmates, directions for all their work being given by a registered dentist.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CITIES

A writer in Harper's Weekly makes an interesting suggestion that the appeals of municipalities to the legislature for appropriations that concern only a local community, should only be considered when accompanied by the pledge to pay one-tenth of the cost. Thus if a town wants a particularly fine post office building, let it give part of its cost, enough to feel a pride and ownership in it. That is democratic.

STANDARD OIL IN CHINA

According to a letter received in London from a Chinese correspondent of the Times, the Standard Oil Company has made an offer to the Chinese Republic for the sole rights of exploiting petroleum in China for a term of years, in consideration of an immediate loan of \$135,000,000 gold.

NEGROES AND AN ELEVATOR

When last week Colonel Baldwin, head of the Roosevelt party in the States, wanted to take to his room at the hotel, two leaders of the colored contingent, the management would not allow them to go up and down by the usual elevator and required them to take the elevator reserved for servants. Colonel Baldwin did not like it, but submitted.

LIMITING MARRIAGE

What could be more inhuman than the notification to its employees by a big banking concern in New York, that they must not marry on less than \$100 a month under peril of dismissal and loss of a share in the Company's pension fund? But it is matched by a story of a club of college girls who agree not to marry for five years after graduation, and then only men with \$5,000 income.

THE PASSING OF MRS. PANKHURST

No unprejudiced supporter of the movement for the enfranchisement of woman can condone the recent excesses of the militants in England. The united efforts of the bitterest opponents of the cause could not have done more to discredit it than has been achieved by Mrs. Pankhurst and her army of fanatics. A few more months of such militancy and Votes for Women can be relegated to the category of lost causes, so far as England and the present generation is concerned. There has been altogether too much foolish childishness in connection with the movement in recent years.

Most people sympathize with the under dog except in the case of the base ball umpire.

There is a general protest among the boarders against being fed with eggs now they are so low in price.

The tramps are in style this year, with their 10 year old flat topped derby hats.

Those Wellesley girls who won't marry a man with less than \$5,000 a year might well learn to pound a typewriter about as soon as they can.

CABLE COMPANIES AND COMPETITION

Direct communication between London and the Pacific Coast by cable and wire, has been successfully carried on by the Morse code. The claim is now being made that it is only a question of time when round-the-world messages will be sent in the same way, using the invention of John Gott, by which sea and land systems are linked as they never have been hitherto. The gain that comes to society from the competition now on among cable companies, is patent to the most unsophisticated on-looked in the contemporary world. Journalism, commerce, statecraft, social betterment and education gain an increment of power by the means which add facilities for dispatching information. In order to avoid going to a scrap-heap, systems and methods, as well as businesses often show great resourcefulness and surprising powers of re-birth and the incentive to invent and find the clue out of a baffling maze and to thwart those who would suppress all changes which result when competition is allowed. It would be a sorry day for civilization if the monopoly got its hand on ways and means of transmitting knowledge rapidly from land to land, from trader to markets, from correspondent to editor, and from diplomat to secretary of foreign affairs. The more ways of circulating truth and spreading knowledge there are, the better for mankind. Monopoly in the old would seem difficult to maintain and impossible to defend.

UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE IN ARGENTINE

In a recent issue La Nacion of Buenos Ayres, prints an editorial entitled "The Secret Vote" which contains some interesting appreciations that are worth noting because of the light they throw on Argentine problems. La Nacion contends that the secret ballot, "the subject of incidental comment during the recent political debates not very favorable to its prestige," is unjustly blamed for complications and shortcomings that should, instead, be laid at the door of universal suffrage. Recalling that the secret ballot has done away with venality, absolutely and for good, the article remarks that "the party that has recourse to it is liable to be cheated, not by stray voters but by its organized opponents with orders to extract the other party's money as booty. In the elections in this capital the experience was so decisive that it will be unnecessary to repeat it." But if the secret ballot thus affords protection against "the ignoble traffic which has become identified with our political struggles," La Nacion goes on to say that there are certain fundamental disadvantages that are attributed to it. "They say the system is an incentive to disloyalty and a shield to treason; that no party organization or discipline is possible with such a surreptitious procedure, which allows the voter to perpetrate the most insidious deceptions; that there are no bonds of gratitude, solidarity or adhesion that can resist such a dissolving influence."

: HERE AND THERE :

THE POWERS OF EUROPE

An enthusiastic English Liberal, still in his teens, recently replied to his school teacher that the Seven Great Powers of Europe were gravity, electricity, steam, gas, fly wheels, motors and Mr. Lloyd George.

ARTIC INDUSTRIES

It may not be generally known that important mining operations are carried on within the Arctic Circle. Cryolite is sent from Greenland by the shipload to be used in the manufacture of candles. At Alten, near the north Cape in Flamarck, extensive copper mines have been worked for a long time.

NEW YORK'S FACTORIES

There are in the State of New York, about 45,000 factories in which a million and a quarter of workers are employed. Of these, 14,000 are children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen.

SCIENTIFIC COAL INSPECTION

A United States Government official is credited with having been delegated to inspect a car load of coal for federal use. The result of the inspection was a report that the "coal was black, and would burn."

ARMS ARE HONORABLE

What an army is good for, whether the regular army or the militia, we are learning just now when the soldiers are called on to protect the residences of cities in the south, which are devastated by floods. An army to save life is in more honorable business than when engaged in destroying it.

SOUTHERN SOCIAL REFORM

What a difference between the condition of Porto Rico and that of Cuba or Mexico. The Porto Rican Legislature has just adjourned and the chief bills passed have to do with women and children's labor, employers' liability laws, the construction of roads, and taxes on liquor and cigars, just such as belong to a period of tranquility.

CANADIAN MANUFACTURES SELL WELL

It has sometimes been asserted that until industrial life in Canada reaches that stage where manufacturers are able to devote that attention to export trade which is so essential to its success, in addition to taking care of their interests in the home market, the major portion of the export trade from Canada must continue for some time to consist largely of agricultural products and raw material generally. It is, however, pleasing to say that in certain lines fully manufactured goods from Canadian factories now find a market in the United Kingdom.

According to the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Leeds, a well-known Canadian typewriter is coming into increasing evidence in that district. The makers; who have branch offices there are selling more of these machines. To give an instance of this, the commissioner was recently in the office of a firm who had discarded the machines they were using and had substituted instead, four of these Canadian made machines.

Another line of goods manufactured in Canada is that of valves made by a Montreal firm, which are now stocked by engineers' merchants. Canadian manufactured tobacco is also represented. A further line of Canadian-made goods sold by the tobacco trade are paper cigar pockets. The demand for organs, although not now so large as formerly, continues to be supplied by the well-known Canadian instruments.

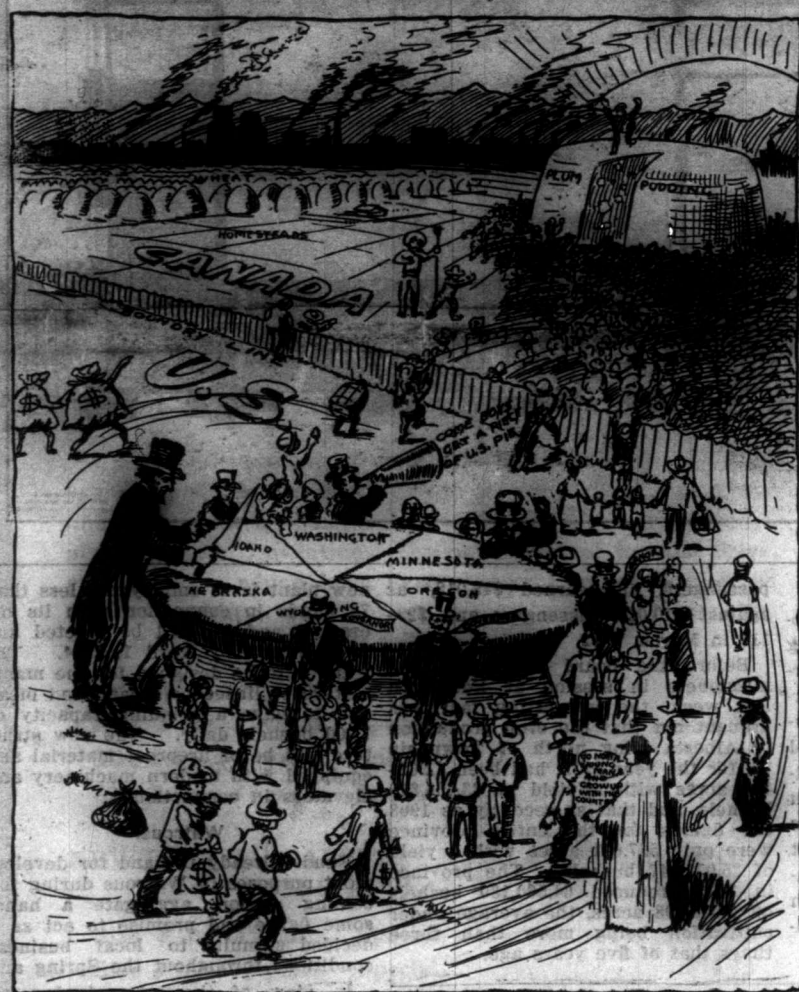
In regard to farming implements, the chief Canadian makers have depots in London, from which, by means of commercial representatives, they cover the country, taking orders and supplying spare parts out of stock. Leathers of Canadian manufacture are also bought by Leeds firms, more particularly those kind known as "sole" and "splits." The tanners also use hemlock tanning extract made in New Brunswick.

The demand for canned products put up by Canadian companies, under which heading is included canned apples, salmon, pears and lobsters, continues to be well maintained. The demand from restaurants, hotels and boarding houses for canned apples in gallon tins has increased largely.

It is gratifying to know that during the year Canada increased her supplies of canned salmon from 42 to nearly 60 per cent. of the total imports into the United Kingdom. In canned lobster, over 83 per cent. of the imports were of Canadian origin.

Other goods of Canadian manufacture sold in the English market are shoe polish, account registers, wood pulp, oatmeal, whiskey, flour, cod oil, wire fencing, paper, clothes pins, paper boards, and cereal foods in cartoons, of several brands.

ELECTIONS COME AND ELECTIONS GO BUT THE BOOM GOES ON FOR EVER



MARRIAGE LOOKING UP

Marriage is coming into favor again. This is perhaps the most interesting discovery made by the recent census. The announcement is a bit of a shock to economists who had made up their minds that the rising cost of living had made an end for good and all of the nice old custom, of early mating. It puts out of business, too, those social moralists who specialized on the perversity of our modern young people. We shall have to get on without the sermons and editorials on the folly of young women whose appetite for candy, flowers, theatres and late suppers has frightened away our aspiring clerks and bank tellers in the twelve hundred dollar salary class, and on the lamentable depravity of young gentlemen of means who care more for clubs, motor cars and bachelor functions than for cosy little homes in flats.

But although in 1910 the married in the United States numbered almost 70 per cent. of the population, the number comparing favorably with the 68 per cent. ten years earlier, there is on this continent as well as in Europe a marked decrease in the birthrate. In Paris it is now very near the death rate. In the German cities of Hamburg and Berlin, which until recently were still in the high birth rate column, the rates are now rapidly falling to the French level. America is a close second to France in this tendency.

It looks very much therefore as if there were no escape from the conclusion that the marriage rate, which for a long time fell as steadily as the birth rate did, is now again rising while the birth rate continues to fall, because the population in all countries, and to a great extent within all economic classes, has been eluded that children are unnecessary troubles.

AMERICAN CONQUEST ABROAD

The Westminster Gazette, one of the leading English journals assumes that it has solved the secret by which American manufacturers have so successfully invaded British markets.

It is British manufacturers' churlishness in business methods. The American agents are, or are supposed to be, ever cautious, attentive and self-sacrificing.

The simple truth is that American captains of industry are more quick to perceive and to supply the commercial demands of this fast-living age than are any others on earth, and the American workmen are the most ambitious, and for that reason the most eager, intelligent and skillful.

English journals may continue to tickle the fancies of their readers with excuses, but if they continue to overlook the real reason for American ascendancy in British and continental trade, it is only the worse for them.

Great contracts such as American manufacturers are securing in Europe, Asia and Africa, are not secured by nice manners.

They are secured by reason of the hard, practical fact that the Americans take pains to produce just what is wanted and to supply it promptly and at reasonable price.

American manufacture is gaining supremacy solely because of its superiority. It is mastering competition throughout the world.

BALKAN BOOKS

Not the least depressing result of the Balkan war is the fact that in one week recently, four books were issued on the subject. Not one of them does anything else than recite many of the worst and inaccurate disparages which were sent from Europe during the fighting.