

MANY LOST BANK BOOKS.

Thousands of Them Go Astray During the Year in One Way and Another.

"That's the third woman who has been here to-day to notify me that she has lost her bank book," said the receiving teller of a savings bank a few days ago, says the New York Sun.

"That's a bigger average than usual, but nobody except a banker has any idea how many pass books are reported lost in a year. I couldn't tell, myself, but it is away up in the thousands."

"Most of them aren't really lost, though they're just mislaid, and a few days later the person who reported to us that a book was gone returns sort of ashamed and says she's sorry to have caused us all the trouble, but the book was found back of her desk."

"I'll bet that woman who just left will be here within three days to tell us something like that. Most of 'em do, and the women are the worst offenders."

Of course a depositor is safe, even though his bank book is found by a dishonest person. The paying teller wouldn't pay out money unless the ownership of the pass book was proved; but a lot of unlucky depositors are afraid of fraud, just the same.

Bankers know that most of the lost books will reappear before long, so they don't issue new ones for six months. They are allowed to make that delay by law, and it saves them a lot of trouble, for two pass books on the same account are sure to give rise to complications.

During the six months of waiting for a lost book to reappear, the depositor is often put to some trouble. The account is supposed to be temporarily suspended, but savings banks make it a general rule to see that their patrons are not unduly inconvenienced, and money may be withdrawn if the need is known to be pressing.

"It sometimes happens, too," said the paying teller, "that a crafty wife is responsible for a lost book. A case that happened a few days ago illustrates this point."

"A husband had an account with us and told his wife that he thought he'd draw out his money and play stocks. He told her that everything was booming up and it was a shame not to take some of the stock's money."

"But his wife couldn't see it. The husband's life insurance was due pretty soon, and she wasn't taking any chances about losing that policy through her husband's losses in stocks making it impossible for him to pay the premium."

"Well, when Mr. Man looked in his bank book the next morning for his pass book, intending to come down here and draw out all his cash, the book couldn't be found. Mr. Man reported to us that his book was lost. We were sorry, but he didn't get his money out."

"Then came the slump when copper carried all the rest of the market down and wiped out many a margin. Mr. Man came around a day or so ago and told me that his wife admitted to him that she had hidden that bank book, and, say, he was the happiest man you ever saw. Said he was overjoyingly grateful to his wife, who had more brains in her head in a minute than he had in a week, for preventing him from losing his bundle; and he told me that our rules were the finest ever."

DISAPPROVE WHIPPING-POST

Use of the Degrading Implement of Public Punishment Discourteous in All Lands.

Notwithstanding the advocacy now and then of the rehabilitation of the whipping post, that form of punishment is losing rather than gaining ground in civilized countries, says Law Notes.

It is now inflicted in England and in only a few of the continental countries of Europe. In the United States it is used only in Delaware and Maryland. And perhaps it still obtains to some extent in Australia. The punishment is not inflicted upon women in England, Delaware or Maryland.

In England there is an increasing reluctance on the part of the judges to inflict the punishment.

A late return shows that this form of punishment was ordered only in 16 cases in 1903. Seven of these sentences were passed at the Central criminal court, five by Judge Rendell and two by the common assizes. It is interesting to notice that Mr. Justice Williams, Mr. Justice Lawrence and Mr. Justice Darling are the only three high court judges who ordered the use of the "cat." Flogging has been practically discarded in English convict prisons as a means of prison discipline, and a few years ago a bill to extend the whipping post to a number of offenses not punishable in that manner was refused a second reading by the decisive vote of 185 to 72.

Eagerly Sought After.

In Denmark the postmen often have very long rounds in the country, and are obliged to walk or ride many miles a day in all kinds of weather, but unobtrusive as such positions would seem to be, they are eagerly sought after, and more surprising still, by men suffering from consumption. It has been proved that the work is healthy, despite the hardships and the exposure to inclement weather, for almost all the invalids who adopt the life become robust and hearty.

Autos in Egypt.

The streets of Cairo are no longer to find fame in camels and donkeys, but in automobiles. The Egyptian government is favorably inclined toward the establishment of a motor omnibus system in Cairo extending to the Pyramids.

CAUSE OF CROWDED HOMES

The Accumulation of Things Is a Prolific Source of Woman's Worry.

One of the greatest sources of worry to the women in the home is the accumulation of things—things ancient and modern; and this process dates from the very day of the wedding, and often before, when the bride's mother and the groom's mother vie with each other to see which can heap highest musty heirlooms upon the domestic caravan in which the courageous young couple start out across life's country, says the Canadian Magazine.

If wise the two occupants will "travel light," and it is not always their own fault, for foolish friends follow their departing wagon, flinging things after them, which are just as useless as the proverbial old boots, making of that which should be free and happy a weary and tiresome journey. To begin with, many of the wedding presents are tawdry or unprofitable possessions, and it would go out of fashion, excepting for the pretty sentiment which surrounds the gifts. For how can a woman hope for an artistic home when its interior belongings are selected by a hundred different people? The first and the greatest mistake is the big, showy ceremony proclaiming the union of hearts, or rather the supposed union of hearts, for the real is seldom accompanied by the noise of drums, the flash of fireworks or the record in the society columns of "numerous and costly" presents. Think, too, of the money squandered on the big wedding, a sum which would go far toward paying for a comfortable home or defraying the current expenses of the first year. There is no doubt that the fear of not being able to support a wife up to the present-day demands of the ordinary woman keeps many a young man from taking the step.

Instead of being willing to start where their mothers did many girls seem to think they should start at a point reached by their parents, after years of struggle and deprivation. The accumulation of things going on daily in the house should be fought against with all the force of character the young housewife can muster; for, after the habit of hoarding up things is once formed, the only cure for it is to move from house to house. By this means she learns by experience to discard everything that is not absolutely necessary. Old friends, old wine and some old books may be good, but don't let these, your treasure old clothes, dilapidated furniture, or old broken china. Go through your wardrobe once a month and throw out every particle of wearing apparel that you are not perfectly sure of needing again.

Let the ragman in your lane or the heathen outside the pale have the benefit of the doubt; but, above all, don't leave them hanging around for the undeserving moths to devour. Quaint furniture doubtless pleases the eye when viewed in another person's house or in the antique shop window, but it gets on your nerves when you yourself are responsible for the care of it. The same with china. Of course, if it is the only proof you can bring to convince fashionable callers that your great-grandmother was a lady, by all means keep the old china in a glass case in the drawing-room. But if your own conduct is unassailable and your manners good, bring forth the pretty wares and use them on the daily table, where they will give constant pleasure; otherwise they may but serve as a bone of contention in the hands of ungrateful children when you are dead and gone.

ABOUT THE HOUSEHOLD.

Ornamental Articles That Lend Attractiveness to the Interior.

Among things decorative tankards, chocolate pots, tea pots and candlesticks of copper stand preeminent this season. They are mounted in brass, some of the articles are plain, others present a surface in imitation of hammered copper that is very effective.

Copper and silver represents a combination of metals that finds many admirers, steins of copper, mounted with silver and lined with gold being a favorite example.

The revival of embroidery on canvas or serim has brought about the introduction of a new weave of this material, especially adapted for this work, as it permits the patterns to be stamped thereon, thus obviating the necessity of counting stitches as has heretofore been the custom in sample work.

Silk or satin ribbon ruffling for sofa cushions has given away this season to a canvas ribbon with a fancy border, in which the colors of the embroidered center are reproduced. Cordis divide favor with ruffles as a finish to the midish couch pillow and the new ribbon makes a handsome frill.

Sofa pillow covers of chene silk in delicate tints are found these days in company with the familiar fancy silk weaves, the velours and the tapetes.

Brussels Sprouts, Creamed. Select two quarts of small heads and remove the withered leaves. Wash thoroughly to remove sand and soak in cold water 15 minutes. Cook rapidly in two quarts boiling salted water (two teaspoons salt). In uncovered dish, that the color may be preserved, for 20 minutes, or until tender. Take from stove, drain, and to each quart add two cups of white sauce—Philadelphia Press.

Very Good. "Are you on good terms with all your guests?" asked the new arrival at the winter resort.

"Very good terms," chuckled the landlord of the hotel. "About ten dollars per day."—Chicago Daily News.

AWFUL DOSE CURES SULTAN

Directions of American Surgeon Misunderstood by Mindanao Natives.

This actually happened in Mindanao. The story was told me by the army surgeon himself, relates the Brooklyn Eagle.

He was seated in his tent one morning when a number of the followers of the sultan of Pantar came hurrying to him, saying the sultan was dying of cholera. Aided by the slight knowledge he then had of their language, the surgeon diagnosed the case from their reports as a well-nigh hopeless one. Still, anxious to show the skill and friendliness of the American for the Moro brother, he hastily made up six powders, each containing one-sixth of a grain of morphine and 30 grains of bismuth. These he gave to the emissaries, telling them to give the sultan one of them in a glass of boiled water every three hours and to report to him next morning how the patient was getting along.

The next morning the surgeon was more than surprised to see the sultan himself walk into the tent. Wan and weak as he was, he had come some eight miles to thank the surgeon personally for having saved his life, and had brought with him one of his subjects who spoke Spanish well enough to serve as an interpreter.

It was through this interpreter that the surgeon learned how his directions had been followed. First, they had given the entire six powders to the sultan at one dose—a full grain of morphine and 180 grains of bismuth—and then had poured a tumblers full of boiling water into him every three hours afterward, scalding his mouth and throat so that he could hardly speak.

But it cured him, and the surgeon says the same treatment cured many another Moro who would probably have died under lesser doses.

UNITED STATES AND GUAM

Conditions in the Island at Present Leave Much to Be Hoped For.

Secretary Morton, whose province it is to foster the prosperity and happiness of Guam, informs the country that conditions there leave much to be desired, and that we cannot escape the blame.

The fact is that congress has neglected Guam, but that is partly due to public forgetfulness, says the New York Tribune. Whereas formerly the Spanish government defrayed four-fifths of the cost of the local administration, the people now have to bear all the burden themselves, and are consequently overtaxed. There used to be a line of steamers running twice a month to and from Manila, but at present the inhabitants have to rely on the irregular and exorbitant services of Japanese sailing vessels for the shipment of their copra, coffee and cocon. There are no schools, and the children have scant opportunities to acquire a knowledge of the noble English tongue. The judicial system is unsatisfactory and perhaps oppressive, owing to the fact that no right of appeal exists. The people are docile, and might become thrifty if they had a fair chance. The resources of the island are not to be despised, but there is no inducement to develop them. In short, the institutions which we vouchsafe do not suit the requirements of the case and ought to be overhauled. It will be a pity and a discredit to the United States if something more and better is not done for Guam.

IS A STATE OF LONGEVITY.

Virginia Has Had Two Citizens Who Lived to the Age of One Hundred and Thirty.

"Mine is the prize state for longevity," said a Virginian who registered at a Chestnut street hotel to a Philadelphia Press man. "I can produce a list of 19 former citizens and slaves of my state whose years when they died aggregated 2,241 years. Of the 19 persons named the youngest when he died was 110 years old. Two lived to be 130, one to be 126, two to be 121, one to be 116, two 115, three 114, one 113, two 112, two 111, one 110, one 109 and one negro, lived to the ripe old age of 136 years. Of the 19 persons only six were negroes; all the others were whites. While I am in the humor I will tell another one:—There is, or was, a few years ago, standing on the banks of Neabsco creek, Virginia, a tombstone carrying probably the oldest monumental inscription in the United States. The date is 1608, and it is thought that the deceased was one of John Smith's men. This is the inscription: 'Here lies ye body of Lieut. William Herria, who died May ye 16th, 1608; aged 65 years; by birth a Briton; a good soldier; a good husband and neighbor.'"

Not Hopeful.

Mayor George B. McClellan, of Greater New York, walked down the steps of the city hall the other evening, and bought a paper from a newsboy. While waiting for his change, he said: "Well, my little man, how is business to-day?" The little merchant looked up and answered: "On de bum." The mayor thought for a moment and finally said: "Keep at it, my little man. You have a chance to become president some day." The little fellow answered immediately: "Dat might be so, but I'll sell me chances for a nickel right now."—Argonaut.

New Anesthetic.

Eucaine, the new local anesthetic, is adapted for many operations where chloroform cannot be used on account of heart weakness. It is injected under the skin at the point of incision. Cutting may begin in a few moments without pain, and more of the drug is dropped in at intervals of a few minutes as new portions of tissues are exposed. A recent successful operation in London was continued an hour and a half.

British Sailing Ships Gone.

With the withdrawal of the training ships Northampton and Cleopatra from the active list, the other day, the last shred of canvas disappeared from the British navy.

FINE STITCHING IN SURGERY

Work of Modern Surgeons Finds Scope for Skillful Execution with Needle.

The use of the needle and thread in closing wounds has come to be a fine art. In former days the surgeons were mere bunglers, and most wounds left hideous scars. But at the present day the manner in which arteries are ligatured, tendons spliced, intestines sutured and wounds closed is the foundation of success, no skilled use of the scalpel taking its place, says the New York Herald. An English railroad hand recently walked into a cut where some laborers were blasting rocks. His approach was not noticed, and a considerable portion of his body was conveyed several feet distant by the explosion. His left arm was virtually torn from the socket and a large part of his scalp had disappeared. The most serious wounds were in the trunk. The abdomen had been split open as if with a cleaver and the intestines fell out. An old army blanket was spread over him and one of the men was about to get a pin box when the supposed dead man groaned. His mutilated body was carried to a hospital with the greatest speed.

A London surgeon was telegraphed for by the local doctor who had been summoned. The intestines, which were covered with dirt and small stones, were washed and warmed with tepid water. There were 12 distinct lacerations of the small intestines, which were carefully mended with small stitches. Part of the man's clothing was found embedded against the spine in the depth of the cavity. A small, silver watch case was found bent nearly double where it had been forced into the stomach. These foreign bodies were removed and the abdominal space was washed with a solution of bichloride of mercury. The man fully recovered and returned to work, but the limitation of "crazy quilting" on his hip, where the skin had been lacerated in a zigzag fashion, showed a design worked by the surgeon which would have been the despair of any decorative art worker.

Some of the knots which form the basis of surgical needlework are most ingenious. There is the square, or reef knot, which is in most common use. It is never used for tying arteries or any delicate work. The "clove hitch" is another knot which is found useful in surgery. It is never known to slip and is easy to make. Its chief object is to secure a catheter in the bladder. It is also used to fasten a scarf upon a limb in order to get a good purchase in reducing a dislocation or a deformity of a fracture.

Ligatures are used in many novel forms. The tying of bleeding arteries, baggages, tapes about limbs to control hemorrhages or to prevent the absorption of virus poisoning the blood, as from a reptile's sting, are the uses of ligaturing in surgery. Those used for tying arteries are unbleached thread. A very fine, ductile metallic thread, generally of silver, has also been much used. When there is difficulty in securing a bleeding point, on account of the friable nature of the tissues or because the latter are too dense to be pinched by the forceps or ligature, the hemorrhage can be arrested by passing a suture deeply beneath the bleeding vessel and tying the thread so as to include it. It is thus that Horsley controls hemorrhage in operations on the brain.

The Staffordshire knot, a method of applying ligatures, has been introduced by Prof. Tait. A small pedicle or an organ under operation may be transfixed with a single thread tied around one-half and the ends carried around the central pedicle and tied on the other side.

There are two forms of sutures for drawing the edges of wounds together. They are the interrupted and continuous. The former is employed when only one or two stitches are used, the latter when the wound has to be regularly sewed, like a seam. By the continuous suture with each stitch, which is independently fastened, if the thread should break in one stitch the wound would heal. An irregularity of seam is often seen in the continuous suture owing to the fact that, although the needle has passed at right angles to the incision at each stitch, there is an oblique pull upon the lips of the wound when the suture is finished. This is avoided by passing the needle after each stitch through the loop of the preceding one, thus making a sort of continuous chain called the "Glover suture," and making each stitch partly independent of the rest.

There is Longevity in Cheerfulness, Says a Writer—Forget Trouble. Bitter memories of a sinful life which has all gone wrong make premature frowns in the face take the brightness from the eyes, and the elasticity from the step, says a writer in Success, and make one's life aimless and uninteresting.

We grow old because we do not know enough to keep young; just as we become sick and diseased because we do not know enough to keep well. Sickness is a result of ignorance and wrong thinking. The time will come when a man will no more harbor thoughts that will make him sick or weak than he would think of putting his hands into fire. No man can be sick if he always has right thoughts and takes ordinary care of his body. If he will think only youthful thoughts he can maintain his youth far beyond the usual period.

If you would "be young when old," adopt the sun dial's motto—"I record none but hours of sunshine." Never mind the dark or shadowed hours. Forget the unpleasant, unhappy days. Remember only the days of rich experiences; let the other drop into oblivion.

It is said that "long livers are great hopers." If you keep your hope bright in spite of discouragements, and meet all difficulties with a cheerful face, it will be very difficult for age to trace its furrows on your brow. There is longevity in cheerfulness.

Philippine Trading.

A traveler in the Philippines gives this experience on the island of Negros. He had gone to the open-air market, where the native women sit squatting in a row, prepared for the long financial arguments that follow the customer's first mention of a price. "How much?" asked the visitor, pointing to some mangoes. "Three cents each," was the answer. There were six mangoes in the basket, and the traveler took them all and laid a 20-cent piece in the seller's lap. But she snatched them back, and also returned the coin. "They are three cents, if you buy them separately," she said. "If you buy the lot, you will have to pay five cents, for I shall have none to sell to other people."—Youth's Companion.

Medical Tax in Switzerland.

The city of Zurich, Switzerland, imposes a medical tax of about 87 cents a head on the whole population above the age of 16, which creates an annual revenue of \$100,000. This is divided among 40 doctors, who receive \$2,500 each. In return for this salary they will be compelled to give medical attendance to all citizens of Zurich who may claim their services.

FIGHTING IN PHILIPPINES.

Experience of American Soldiers Under Fire in Battle with Natives.

There are some graphic touches in the report of Lieut. Fred S. Young in which he tells of a battle in Mindanao last summer. "About 6:30 this morning," he writes, "the enemy attacked us from across the river at our camp, just below the outpost near the Moro camp. The command turned out promptly and drove them off in less than 15 minutes. As soon as the men could obtain breakfast I took 30 across the river to follow the trail, if possible. We left camp at 6:30 and arrived in front of the enemy at about 10:30. As we approached the enemy's position the trail opened into one more distinct appearance, through a slough 500 feet from the enemy's position. This is the trail we were in during the fight which followed. We had gone some 750 yards on this trail, and were 1,000 later within 50 yards of the river, when the guide stopped and held up his hand. Gampor, the Moro interpreter, who was with him, said to me: 'Mucho biente.' I kept the command quiet and sent the interpreter forward to reconnoiter. Our position was on a small piece of ground on the edge of a river, and I could not find more than 20 feet of firm ground to operate on. Although I had the high grass broken on either side of our line nothing but water was found.

"We were cooped on this spot for 45 minutes, during which time we fired and were fired upon incessantly. So soon as the enemy returned our fire my men were ordered to lie down, and I kept them down. It was a brave man who stood up, as the enemy knew our position and had firm ground up and down the river on both sides. They had positions from behind which they fired, and they kept their cover well. Four of our men were wounded. The enemy's casualties were unknown. We fired over 1,500 rounds, and 50 of the enemy killed is considered a conservative estimate. The men of our side were hit trying to get good aim over the high grass, and had to rise behind cover to do it. They all deserve great credit for their work. They were hit at various times, and not until the surgeon urgently recommended that they need prompt attention did the command retire.

"I spent 30 minutes trying to find a place from which I could find the enemy, but found none; we would hardly get room to fire. The men were kneeling in a mud hole, half under water. We seemed to be on the only firm ground on our side. When the order was finally given to retire we had advanced the enemy's fire, and the command was ordered to fire volleys. There seemed to be no way to cross the river, and as much as I desired to actually stand upon the enemy's ground, we had to console ourselves with a view from our position. Our return was slow. We put the wounded on litters, and they carried well. The men used poles through the jungle, and literally cut our way back to camp."

RIGHT THOUGHT BARS AGE

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STORY OF SIAMESE TWINS.

Barnum, the Circus Man, Asked Peculiar Questions by a Visitor from the Country.

The late P. T. Barnum was a keen student of human nature, as well as a natural humorist, and a thing which set forth human traits that were odd or amusing escaped his attention. He was fond of telling stories of incidents that brought out features in human character, and one of them that delighted him immensely was connected with the Siamese twins. When he was exhibiting those oriental freaks the press of the country made them widely known and they became soon one of his best-drawing cards. One day there came to see them a back-country rustic, who was perfectly absorbed in them, and inquisitive enough in regard to them to require almost a bureau of information to answer his innumerable questions. Mr. Barnum happened to be the one questioned, and he was asked their age, occupation, original home, whether they were single or married, their weight and stature and their religious belief. Nothing at any rate, was too trivial or irrelevant for the rustic to think of, all of which interested the showman intensely. Finally the bucolic visitor started slowly, but reluctantly, to leave; but after walking away a few steps he returned and said with the most solemn simplicity: "They are brothers, I presume!"

Very Valuable Raiment.

The women of savage tribes have not infrequently a wardrobe consisting of furs which would be worth from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Grudemann, the explorer, relates how one fair Greenlander wore a dress of sealskin with a hood of that costly fur, the silver fox. The garment was lined with fur of the young seal, and there was a fringe of wolverine tails. About \$600 is probably the average worth of the dress of Indian women on the Columbia and Fraser rivers.

Spoils of War.

Among the spoils of war taken at Liao-yang was a pet pig belonging to Gen. Kuropatkin. It is now in Tokio.