

BAR CIGAR LIGHTER

Those Who Use Them in France Arrested.

Government Has Monopoly on Matches and Setting Machines and Intends to Keep Strong Hold on Both—Case to Be Fought.

Paris.—"Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," or the French equivalent, chiseled in stone, looks down upon the French population from the front of every public building, but more and more the people are asking why. Certain threatened acts of legislation and performances by the police authorities have served to stimulate their wonder recently.

Automatic cigar-lighters, carried in the pocket and performing their office at the pressure of a button, have gained considerable popularity here. They provide a flame whenever one is wanted, while one French match in three may be counted upon to disappoint the man who attempts to use it. But the order has gone forth that every person seen using one of the little machines is to be arrested and fined ten francs (\$2), and the automatic lighter confiscated. There is even talk of enacting a law to prohibit the use of stationary lighters in the cigar stores.

The object of these moves is to insure a clear field for the government match-making monopoly. With all substitutes out of the way everyone will be compelled to buy the matches manufactured by the republic of France. That many of them refuse to light is of no importance. Their purchase helps insure the national revenue. Several men who dare to carry automatic lighters have been arrested and fined.

Alleged competition with another government monopoly was given a blow at the Anteuil racecourse the other day. M. Thiebaut and M. Bally stood side by side watching a race.

"I believe my horse is going to win," said Thiebaut, studying the field with his glasses.

"I don't think so," said Bally. "I'll bet you two to one that it does," challenged Thiebaut.

"Done," replied his companion, "fifty dollars to twenty-five."

Then each man was tapped on the shoulder. A man behind them informed them that he was a detective, that they had broken the law forbidding private betting and would have to answer for it.

Under the French law all bets made must be placed with the "parti-mutuel," which is government operated. This case will be fought in the courts as a test of the law.

KISSING BARRED AT GATES

Bey of Young Society Buds Block Passage Way and Other Passengers Miss Their Train.

Omaha, Neb.—Painted in black on a white ground and in large letters, the notice, "Kissing at This Gate is Positively Prohibited," has been posted at each of the passenger gates at the Union and Burlington railroad stations in this city. The notices have been posted on instructions from the respective stationmasters and are sanctioned by all of the railroad managers.

The anti-kissing order was instigated by a young society man of Hastings, Neb. The young man had been in this city several days, and when ready to depart for home was accompanied to the Burlington station by a bevy of young society buds of Omaha.

The Burlington train rolled in from the east and the passengers hurried out of the station. At one particular gate, the one which was the cause of the issuance of the new order, travelers were confronted by the Hastings man and his female friends. He first insisted upon imprinting a lingering kiss squarely upon the lips of one Omaha maiden.

This being done, a second stepped up for a parting kiss, and then a third, and finally a fourth. Before the fourth kiss had been given the train had gone and an angry crowd of a dozen or more persons who had been left discouraged on the foolishness of kissing and said many harsh things. The next morning the no-kissing order went into effect at the Burlington station, and a day later it appeared at the Union station.

Big Clock as Table.

London.—What is described as the largest electric clock in the world has been constructed by Gent & Co., Limited, Leicester, for the tower of the Friendly society's offices now being built at Liverpool. The sections of one of the dials are being assembled in the Trades hall at Leicester, and sixty or seventy guests of the firm are to be entertained at luncheon, the clock face forming the table. The diameter of each dial is 25 feet, the intervals between the minutes one foot two inches, and the minute hands 14 feet long.

Roman Coins Found.

Paris.—Six hundred old Roman coins in an earthenware jar were found by M. Banet, a landlady at Bonpas, in the Pyrenees Orientales. The coins bear the effigies of various Roman emperors, including Augustus. Thirteen of the pieces are of pure silver, while most of the others appear to be of an alloy of silver and copper.

LONDON STORE BE A WONDER

Shopping There Can Be Executed by Means of Wireless Telegraph From Steamer.

London.—Mid-ocean shopping will be one of the features of the new "Whiteley's," the foundation stone of which was laid in Queen's road by the mayor of Paddington.

The millionaire who is on his way to England from America this year will be able to fix the details of his stay in this country from his saloon on the liner. A wireless message to Whiteley's, and an estate will be immediately purchased for him in town or country. Another message to the provision department and the house or castle will be stocked with provisions, while on his arrival a ten-course dinner will be prepared for him in his new home and an army of servants will be ready to wait on his every wish.

The wonders of the new Whiteley's will be sufficient to throw cold water on the feats of Aladdin and his magic lamp. And the romance of Whiteley's is as great as any romance which may be found in the "Arabian Nights." From a two-storied shop, whose provisions consisted of a few tons of hiccults and other grocery odds and ends, a giant store arose, and the giant store is now to be a shopping palace large enough to contain two or three cathedrals.

The new palace will be for the rich and poor alike. The woman who wishes to purchase a pound of tea may take the air in the Italian garden on the roof, where in summer deck chairs will be set beneath shady palms and facing flower gardens devised by horticultural artists. On an upper floor the shopper's children will be provided with a sandy beach and buckets and spades and nurses while their mother makes purchases below.

The new Whiteley's will have a versatile staff, who will cope with every little social difficulty, which faces their clients. Coming-of-age speeches will be provided at moderate prices. Country clients who do not know their way about town will be met at the station, conducted to Queen's road and seen safely home again.

These are a few of the wonders which will be placed before the public in a year's time, when the single stone which was laid will have grown into the greatest store the world has ever known.

FIND GOLD IN HENS' CROPS

Farmers in Washington State Quit Selling Live Poultry—Kill and Dress Them.

Vancouver, Wash.—At the recently discovered gold bearing ground seven miles east of here chickens are helping to harvest the rich metal. Several chickens killed in that vicinity had gold nuggets and flakes in their craws, and now chicken is a popular meat there. The farmers, thinking that they will get several dollars in gold from a chicken's craw, will have chickens to eat and the gold to be put in the bank. As a result it is reported that chickens in that part of Clark county are being killed off at a rapid rate. No chickens on foot are being sent to market. The thirty farmers are killing them and dressing them first.

Several prospectors are planning to fence their claims and with plows turn over the soil, then turn several thousand chickens into the inclosure and let them pick up the yellow metal, which, being heavier than other food gobbled up, remains in the bottom of the craw, there to be extracted when the life of the chicken is sacrificed. The prospectors believe that raising chickens under ordinary circumstances is a profitable business, but when a bounty such as gold nuggets is possible they say it will truly be gold mine and a producing one.

PAYING CHICAGO FIRE DEBT

Last of \$50,000 Bonds Issued by City of Buffalo Will Not Be Retired Until 1917.

Chicago.—The city of Buffalo is still retiring bonds issued for the relief of Chicago at the time of the fire. It issued \$50,000 worth of 7 per cent bonds Oct. 10, 1871, and this indebtedness will not be wiped out until 1917, according to the date of expiration of the latest refunding of the original issue.

Information on this subject was obtained by the county architect, Edwin Rice Baker. Seeing in the last annual report of the comptroller of Buffalo, William G. Justice, an item of a \$20,000 bond issue, marked "Chicago fire relief bonds," he wrote to the comptroller of that city for enlightenment on the subject through curiosity and as a matter of general public interest.

Cute and 101.

New York.—"Cute and 101," is John M. Butler's description of himself, spoken after quaffing four lemonades the other day at the celebration of his birthday anniversary at his daughter's home, Ocean Grove, N. J.

Butler had a hearty breakfast, walked to Asbury Park for a shave, and walked back again to "hit up" the lemonade with well-wishers who called.

"My mind is as keen as ever and I'm cute yet," he said over his fourth glass. "The only trouble is I can't see as well as I used to. When it comes to business you have got to be the easy boss to live long."

SPELLING TOO HARD

Irish Language Too Difficult for Many.

Conveyed in Alphabet of Much Artistic Beauty and There is Nothing Arbitrary About It—System is Genuinely Scientific.

Chicago.—The Dublin correspondent of the Daily News writes: A curious and noteworthy sign of the times in Ireland is the fact that at this moment of political tension, with a general election in prospect and a concentrated interest in party struggles, so much space should be devoted to the newspapers to an animated discussion as to how the Irish language should be spelled.

The controversy is carried on by traditionalists and spelling reformers with a zeal and earnestness and occasionally with a warmth of temper hitherto reserved for politics.

Everybody is very serious about it and shows to the full that whatever line he takes he is convinced of its vital importance to the Irish language movement and the value of that movement to the Irish nation.

Irish has a very wonderful spelling, conveyed in an alphabet of much artistic beauty. Many people are familiar with a version of Irish words found in the novellists in English translation. They would be startled at the appearance of the words in the Irish spelling, even when the English went fairly close to the pronunciation.

Yet there is nothing arbitrary about the Irish spelling; it is a genuinely scientific system. It has none of the inconsistencies and anomalies of English spelling, which have provoked the reforming zeal of Mr. Roosevelt. When you have mastered its rules you can have no doubt as to the pronunciation of any word. But its rules are not easy to master and many Irish enthusiasts have come to realize that the preliminary necessity of studying a difficult spelling system is a deterrent to the study of Irish and an obstacle to its popularity.

Nor are the reformers found only or mainly among the learners or the inexperienced. Distinguished professors have taken the lead. Professor Bergin, of the National university, and Professor O'Noyan, of St. Patrick's college, Maynooth, are among the leaders of the movement, and it is said that Canon O'Leary, a writer who has done some of the best work in original Irish writing since the Gaelic League was started, is not opposed to reform. Of course, these learned men have no difficulty with the traditional spelling; it is child's play to them. What they are thinking of is the learner.

Irish, says Professor Bergin, in some Irish-speaking districts decaying as the older generation of Irish speakers dies out, and he believes that unless a radical alteration is made, in a few years over nine-tenths of Ireland there will be no Irish and in the remaining tenth it will be understood but not spoken. It will have no chance with the young against English. As he phrases it, the old letters and the old spelling are strangling the language and to use them is like using bows and arrows against machine guns.

LONDON AIR RUINS PICTURES

Sulphuric Acid in City's Smoke Declared to Be Injurious to Valuable Art Treasures.

London.—If London wishes to be on the safe side it might better dispose of its picture treasures to art loving Americans or see that they are covered with impenetrable material of some kind.

Speaking of the injurious action of sulphuric acid on the various materials used for the foundations of paintings and drawings, Sir Arthur Church, professor of chemistry at the Royal Academy, remarked that there was poured out every year into the atmosphere of the British metropolis a million tons of soot, which comes chiefly from chimneys and gas burners. "That is a very moderate estimate, too," said this authority. "One man who wished to minimize it said half a million tons, but even that is quite enough. It is not the soot itself which does the damage, after it pours from the chimneys, but every particle of soot has a little sulphuric acid in it. It might be remembered, also," added Sir Arthur, "that London breathes this same output, but that's up to the medical folks."

Law on Rotten Eggs.

Albany, N. Y.—The New York state department of agriculture announces that in its efforts to enforce the pure food law it has been difficult to obtain evidence to convict persons who sell bad eggs for food.

"It is the practice," says the department in its circular, "to ship rotten eggs to New York city from the four corners of the earth marked 'not for food' or 'for tanning purposes.'"

"This makes the shipment legal and it is not until the shipment reaches the consignee that its purpose is changed."

Furs to Be Much Cheaper.

Paris.—Pleasant news for the women is contained in a report from the French consul at St. Petersburg that the hunting returns from Siberia promise a reduction in the prices of furs.

BILL FOR LUXURIES IS HUGE

Extravagance, Not Prosperity Alone, Seen in Figures Compiled at New York Port.

New York.—Those who maintain that the extravagance of the American people threatens the national prosperity are finding support for their claim in some statistics just compiled of expenditures on account of luxuries imported during the last year.

These figures show that about \$50,000,000 was paid out for diamonds, precious stones and jewelry imported, or a larger outlay than was ever before made on this score.

Even this amount seems small compared with the sum of \$120,000,000 devoted to various forms of woman's wearing apparel, including furs, laces, hats, gowns and toilet requisites. An art objects Americans expended a trifle of \$28,000,000, while furnishings for wealthy homes, including china, glass and porcelains, rugs, hangings and antiques of different kinds, accounted for \$40,000,000 more of the sum spent abroad.

For foreign wines and liquors another \$25,000,000 was expended, about one-quarter of this representing the cost of imported champagnes. The tobacco bill paid by Uncle Sam to other nations amounted to \$32,000,000, and there are many minor items in the list, such as \$7,000,000 for foreign-made toys and a like sum for horses and automobiles.

Altogether these eight items in the list of luxuries purchased abroad, chiefly from Europe, in the last year amount to over \$300,000,000.

Two-thirds of this sum, say the critics, might better be kept at home. Its expenditure, they hold, is not an index of prosperity, but of a growing habit of extravagance which ultimately will injure the progress of the country if it is continued.

WAITERS MUST BE HEALTHY

Big New York Hotels to Require Physical Examinations Similar to German Custom.

New York.—The German system of supervising the health of hotel employees for the protection of guests is being put into force in the larger New York hotels. A large Broadway hotel, employing 450 servants, put the system into operation last night.

The serving of food by infected waiters imperils the health of patrons, according to sanitarians. "The hotel guest," said one manager, in speaking of the innovation, "is at the mercy of the management of the hotel which he patronizes in respect to the selection of employees. A hotel ought to protect its guests from diseases just as any private householder would protect himself and family."

"Only recently it was brought to my attention that a man and his wife and child who had been staying at a hotel, whose name should have been a guarantee for the utmost cleanliness, became infected with a horrible skin disease. It was learned that a scrubwoman who suffered from the disease had used a drinking glass in the guests' room. The disease had been communicated to a cut on his lip and thence to his wife and child."

The question of requiring similar inspection of dining car waiters presents more difficult aspects to the health authorities attempting to solve the problem. They point out that congress should authorize a national health bureau, as recommended in the president's message, one of the powers of which might be to supervise the sanitation of interstate carriers. Of the 450 employees in the first hotel to initiate the German system only 12 refused to undergo the physical examination. They were discharged.

DREADNOUGHT EACH 10 DAYS

Thirty-Six Giant Battleships Will Be Added This Year to Thirty-Eight Now Afloat.

London.—No fewer than thirty-six dreadnoughts are confidently expected to be launched during 1911; in other words, one ship every ten days.

At the present moment only thirty-eight ships of the dreadnought type are in the water, completing and completed.

Of the ships to be launched this year eleven, or nearly one-third, will be British. Germany comes next with seven.

The United States will launch two 28,000-ton ships, the Wyoming and Arkansas, and it is just possible that the 27,000-ton New York and Texas, which were sanctioned last autumn, will be launched near the close of the year. Russia at present has four dreadnoughts in course of construction.

The following powers will each launch two dreadnoughts: France, Japan, Italy and Argentina. Chile, two ships soon to be ordered in England; Japan, Saitau and another. One dreadnought each will be launched for Italy, the Conte Di Cavour; Austria, the Tegetthoff; Brazil, the Rio de Janeiro, and Spain, the Espana.

Trips Over Indian Relic.

York, Pa.—A stone over which he stumbled while upon a stroll near the forks of the Codorus creek brought Albertus Ortmeyer of this city a good price. He was attracted by the curious shape of the stone and brought it home. A collector of relics recognized it instantly as a true quartzite adze of Indian workmanship and purchased it.

BREED ARMY HORSES

Great Britain on Still Hunt for Good Animals.

Sum of \$250,000 to Be Set Aside for Developing Equine—Choice Ones Go Abroad Because Foreigner Pays More.

London.—A sort of government stud, of which the purpose is to establish a new breed of horse, is not unlikely to be presently endowed by the commissioners of the development grant.

They have promised, as recently announced, \$250,000 for the encouragement of horse breeding; but the more any definite scheme is inquired into the more clearly it appears that the cardinal point, so far as the army is concerned, is money. The best horses go abroad simply because the foreigner pays more; and to supply a government department with extra doses is no business of the commissioners. What they do should be done principally on behalf of the breed itself.

This being so, it is proposed as a first step to try to convert the hunter from a mongrel to an aristocrat. The hunter is the horse of horses for utility. The cavalry and the territorials want nothing but the hunter. At present the breeding of hunters is a random business, as it always is in cross-bred stocks.

Thoroughbred sires are sent to the several centers by the royal commission on horse breeding, but the breeding of hunters would be on a very different footing if the hunter type could be, as it were, stereotyped in a distinctive pure breed. In many parts even of Ireland, the paradise of hunters, the type is depreciating and nowhere is it improving.

It is argued that a really scientific and practical body, with the grant of several thousand dollars a year, could evolve a pure bred hunter of just the sort required, just as the pigeon or dog fanciers have evolved birds and dogs of every sort of "pattern." Similar experiments recently made in Hertfordshire in regard to polo ponies are very promising, and these have been undertaken on no very scientific method.

The evolving of such a horse would make horse breeding for the army a steady, lucrative business instead of a lottery, and would be a constant source of wealth to the country. It is to be hoped that a small part of the \$250,000, vaguely and conditionally offered, will be spent on such a progressive experiment as this.

There are scores of men who would cooperate. Hackney enthusiasts believe that hackney blood should appear in such a breed and would, as recent offers prove, lend mares as others would lend stallions. It is not often that the opportunity is offered of organizing so useful an experiment so cheaply.

A letter from Mr. Haldane was read at a meeting of the City of London Territorial Force association, in which the secretary of state for war wrote that progress was being made with the scheme for the supply of horses on mobilization, and before long definite instructions would be issued. In the meantime Mr. Haldane did not see any reason for a conference with the association on the subject.

STREETS ARE LIKE CANYONS

Resident of Yellowstone Park Likens Chicago Thoroughfares to Western Gorges.

Chicago.—"Downtown streets of Chicago would make perfectly gorgeous canyons."

This was the exclamation of Mrs. T. E. Farrow of Yellowstone park the other day while on a visit to this city. She is in the city for the first time in eight years, during which she has resided almost continuously in the great scenic tract of the west, where her husband is manager of a hotel and transit company.

"Yes, one feels as if she were at the bottom of a deep gorge when she looks up from among the wilderness of big skyscrapers and sees a bit—just a bit—of the sky peeping down. Most of the time we are at the top of our canyons looking down, but Chicagoans are at the bottom, fording their way across the noisy streams in the streets."

"I don't like the scenery here as well, though, because you don't see the lovely sunsets that we do. Of course, the streets are pretty when they are lit up with electric signs at night, but these are poor rivals to the reflections of the evening sun in our canyons."

"Yellowstone is practically deserted now," continued Mrs. Farrow, in answer to a question. "Everything is covered with two feet and a half of snow except the seyers, which, of course, never freeze. I would rather live in Yellowstone than in any spot in the world that I have seen. But in the winter time it seems good to visit a city like Chicago, where there is so much life and so many, many people."

Ship 3,100-Pound Cheeses.

Chester.—A firm at Clutton, Chester, has sent to Bradford 2,500 Cheshire cheeses, valued at \$19,000. Nine of the largest Cheshire cheeses ever made, some weighing in the aggregate of 31 hundredweight, were included in this consignment. These cheeses were made at Tattenhall Hall and won the championship at the Royal Agricultural show of England.

TOY HOUSE TO BE RETAINED

Even Though Girl for Whom It Was Constructed Has Since Married and Moved Away.

Chicago.—The bijou toyhouse for children, which for many years has gladdened the hearts and excited the interest of children passing the home of Thomas Lynch, Dearborn avenue, is to be kept in repair and renovated. The wedding recently of Miss Lella Lynch, for whom the model house was constructed, when she was a small girl, revived a desire of Mr. Lynch to keep intact the miniature dwelling which had brought as much joy to members of the family. Miss Lynch is now Mrs. J. F. Stevens and her home for the present is at Washington, D. C.

The little home, about ten feet long and eight feet wide, situated in the yard adjoining the Dearborn avenue address, is or was complete in its appointments. It is a replica of a modern house, but now sadly in need of repair and fresh paint. A veranda which formerly made a pleasant lounging place for the small residents of the house has fallen away in ruins. Electric light and the connections are broken, and the inside of the dwelling is one of chaos. Much of the appointments of the apartment, however, remain to demonstrate its former glory and completeness.

Three rooms comprise the lower floor, with stairs leading to a tower, from which a view of the neighborhood can be obtained. A bedroom contains a bureau and mirror with a closet and chairs. There is a small sewing machine and piano in the living room, with a table and couch. A gas burning grate formerly provided heat for the apartment, while electric fixtures testify to modern lighting effects. Real windows with shades, an electric door bell, small dinner dishes and other accompaniments of a perfectly ordered household were enjoyed by the small owner and guests. A flagstaff surmounts the tower top and a small yard surrounds the house encircled by an iron fence.

"It sure was some house, wasn't it?" commented the coachman of the household to a visitor as he crawled over the door and fastened it with a string. "It's a shame to see it go to pieces." It is to be repaired, however, and kept in shape.

PARROT CHEWS UP HER TAG

Express Employee Had Lively Time Caring for Bird—Death Follows Delivery to Owner.

St. Paul, Minn.—A parrot, sent to St. Paul from Chicago, chewed up her address tag and made things lively for the last ten days in the office of the Wells-Fargo Express company. She perished after reaching her rightful owner.

"Why that parrot was talking the whole blessed day; we could hardly get in a word edgewise," said one of the clerks. "We took her out of the box every day to feed her, and we always had trouble catching her again." Polly was shipped to a Mrs. Cook by her son in Chicago. The bird managed to reach the label on the box and destroyed it and there was a long delay in getting a duplicate address.

Mrs. Cook called at the office of the St. Paul Humane society and informed Miss Alice Millard, secretary, that the Wells-Fargo company had detained her parrot for ten days because they had lost the address and that she did not believe the parrot had been cared for all that time. The express company officials say every attention was paid to the bird and that it really got a good deal more than was its due.

MARRY TO ESCAPE SCHOOLS

Italian Girls in New York City Find Matrimony Refuge From Compulsory Study.

New York.—It became known the other day from the board of education that many Italian girls from 14 to 16 years old have married recently to escape going to school, or so that their parents would escape the expense of caring for them.

According to Edward B. Shallow, in charge of the department of compulsory education, there have been fifteen such cases within the last three months.

When young girls are ordered by the court to attend school their parents in some cases apply for a transfer card, move to Jersey for a few days, and then return to some other part of the city.

Dog Is Hero.

London.—Jess, the Irish terrier of the paralyzed Islington watchmaker, has been presented by Mrs. De Courcy Laffan with a collar admitting it to the Brotherhood of Hero Dogs. Known as the dog with the human brain, Jess is in the habit of answering the door for her master, and helps him by holding and fetching tools, running errands and generally acting as a domestic.

Play Ball on Ice.

Sandusky, Ohio.—The novel experience of witnessing a baseball game on the frozen surface of Lake Erie, off the south shore of Kelly's Island, was the pleasure of nearly two thousand islanders.

A regulation diamond was marked off on the ice and the rules of the national game were followed. The teams playing were dubbed the Elfers and the Porters. The Elfers won by the score of 22 to 20.