

RUSSIA'S FINANCIAL STRAIN

Great Cost of Year of 1904 Brings Weighty Debt Upon an Impoverished People.

St. Petersburg.—The Russian budget for 1904 showed that the ordinary revenue of \$1,008,500,000 exceeded the ordinary expenditure by \$53,600,000. Extraordinary expenditure of \$401,500,000 had to be met. Of this \$320,000,000 was for war expense and \$81,500,000 for railroad construction. This extraordinary expense was met by the following:

Table with 2 columns: Item, Amount. Includes Treasury bonds and imperial bonds.

This leaves a surplus of \$59,500,000 to the credit of the Russian treasury's "free balance." The "free balance" have been reduced from \$190,500,000 to \$59,500,000, and the public debt increased by \$215,500,000.

NOVEL PLAN OF COERCION.

Unionists Pay Fares in Pennies to Nonunion Conductors—Often Join Union.

Lynn, Mass.—A novel scheme is being put into practice in Lynn by the members of the labor organizations to force conductors of electric cars who do not already belong to the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees to join it.

DECREASE IN COAL OUTPUT

Production of Illinois and of Country Falls Off in 1904 to Great Extent.

Washington.—Not as much coal by 6,000,000 tons was mined in 1904 as during the previous calendar year. The total of anthracite and bituminous coal mined last year in the United States was 351,196,963 tons, compared with 357,856,416 tons during 1904.

CHINESE WOMAN A DOCTOR

First of Her Nationality and Sex to Take a Physician's Degree in United States.

Philadelphia.—Miss La Bi Cu of Hingghua, China, who has spent the last four years in this city, taking a medical course at the Woman's college, will graduate from that institution this year with high honors.

Whisky Is Not Property.

The supreme court of Kansas decided that whisky is not "property" in the usual sense of the term, and that in depriving a citizen of the right to sell it the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States is not violated.

Blonde and Brunette.

The king of England has an ivory and mahogany typewriter. But the material will not prevent the letters from getting mixed up the same as in the old-fashioned variety.

DRYNESS OF ATMOSPHERE.

Health Endangered by Lack of Moisture in the Air of Many Houses.

Indoor humidity has again been discussed by a member of the medical profession, who takes the stand also that the excessively dry air of houses during the heated season is injurious to the human organization, because the dry air in passing over the membranes of the respiratory passages and the skin calls for an enormous output of the fluid elements of these tissues, says the Engineering Record.

This physician, Dr. Henry Mitchell Smith of Brooklyn, N. Y., holds that this leads to glandular overactivity and its consequent evils, but he does not offer the specific proofs which, it has been asserted, are lacking to show that direct deleterious effects are thus produced. In his contribution, which was made to the Brooklyn Medical society, he mentions, however, some tests he had conducted with a radiator having an experimental moistening apparatus attached, and he obtained results which concur with general beliefs as to the relation of the humidity and temperature.

He found that with a relative humidity never below 50 per cent, nor above 70 per cent., 70 degrees Fahr, was uncomfortably hot, 68 degrees was warm and 65 degrees comfortable. It was determined by repeated experiments that a temperature of 65 to 68 degrees and a relative humidity of 60 per cent, produced the most comfortable conditions, which were in marked contrast to a temperature of 72 degrees, with a relative humidity of 30 per cent. The former felt warm and balmy, he said, and the latter, notwithstanding the higher temperature, chilly and dry and apt to leave the impression of draftiness. He did not describe the moistening apparatus, but said that the mechanism was such that the control of the temperature and of the moisture was independent.

HE STOPPED THE PAPER.

That Is His Copy of It, But the Metropolitan Daily Continued Publication.

An acquaintance met Horace Greeley one day, and said: "Mr. Greeley, I've stopped your paper."

"Have you?" said the editor. "Well, that's too bad." And he went his way. The next morning Mr. Greeley met his subscriber again, and said: "I thought you had stopped the Tribune."

AS TOLD BY THE SAILOR.

Changes in Ways of Steamship Passengers in the Last Few Years.

"Throughout the last ten years," said one of the oldest steamship passenger agents the other day, "there have been many changes, but one that seems to have been wholly overlooked."

"Now you may observe," continued this graybeard, as he produced a bundle of old passenger lists of the early nineties and spread them out before him, "that in all of these there is only here and there a sprinkling of folks who go and come with maids or valets as attendants on one ship than were carried during six months ten years ago, relates the New York Herald."

Another thing; these old-time lists show that Americans when they went abroad "most always" inscribed their names as John Smith, William Jones and so on. Now you will find a great majority of the outgoers, and for that matter the homecomers, simply Mr. Smith or Mr. Jones.

Oyster Imbedded in False Teeth.

The directors of the Smithsonian Institution received a novel addition to their collection of curios the other day. It was presented by the foreman of one of the Potomac river oyster boats. As one of the big scoops unloaded its quota of oysters from the deck of the boat the foreman's eye caught something glistening white in the dark-brown mass. He leaned over curiously and poked it with a stick, and out rolled a set of false teeth. Imbedded between the opened jaws was a young oyster. The bivalve in its odd house was sent to the Smithsonian institution, where the teeth were cleaned and the whole thing mounted on a little stand. One of the curators put this tag on it: "Ostria Virginia, growing on artificial teeth. Dredged off Point Lookout, Maryland."

Proud Moment.

Mike—O! hear yer wor' foined foiva dollars for assaultin' McDooley. Pat—O! wor'; an' it wor' a proud moment when O! hur-d-r-th' stintine, b'gorry!

NEW SNAKE-BITE CURES.

Freshly Cut Onion and Just Killed Chicken Used with Beneficial Effect.

Milhelm, Pa.—Venomous snakes are more numerous this summer than ever before. Berry pickers and harvest hands report an alarming number of rattlers and copperheads. One crew, in one day, in a Nittany valley hay field, dispatched 17 of the latter species. As a rule, the rattlesnakes keep nearer the mountains, and it is this species that the berry pickers have more to contend with.

A few days ago Mrs. Henry Eisenbuth, living near Ingleby, spent the entire day, barefoot, in the berry woods, and was bitten on the foot at a spring near her own home just at dusk. The snake, a copperhead, lay partly concealed under a tuft of hay in the path, and it drove its fangs into her great toe.

Mrs. Eisenbuth applied a freshly-cut strong onion, and a mounted courier was sent here for Dr. Frank, who found the woman on the verge of convulsions. The swelling and pain continued for 48 hours before it began to subside.

Earl Mung, aged 14 years, of Rock Springs, drove a large rattlesnake under some loose stones. The reptile protruded about five inches of itself to protrude from the stones, and young Mung attempted to loop the tail with a cord, expecting thus to be able to snare the rattler off. But, unknown to the boy, the reptile had coiled about under the stones until its head was within striking distance of the lad's hand, into which it sank its deadly fangs. The boy was by the time he reached the house the hand had become swollen and numb. His mother immediately killed a chicken and opened its body, and the boy's hand was thrust therein and kept there until Dr. Woods, of Pine Grove, arrived. He found the boy dreadfully sick and much swollen, but he declared that the chicken poultice had saved the lad's life. The boy suffered terrible agony for several days, a violent delirium accompanying the fever, in which he imagined himself in a den of snakes, causing him to fight and attempt to run away.

FAILED TO GET THE JOB.

Man After Many Years' Absence Returns to His Wife Still Unemployed.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Twenty-eight years ago John Fulton, of this city, left his wife Mary and their children and went out into the world. Fulton had been out of employment for some time and when he left home he told his wife that he was going to look for a job. If he could not find one in Pittsburg he was going to travel until he did find one. Five long years passed and not a word from Fulton. Then, when his wife was beginning to think that he was dead, a letter was received from the missing one from Chicago, in which he stated that he had been unsuccessful in his search for employment and was still looking for a job.

That was 23 years ago and not a line has been heard from Fulton from that day to this. Mrs. Fulton decided many years ago that her husband's search for employment was either still unsuccessful or more likely that he was dead. In recent years she has been more firmly convinced in the latter belief. Some time ago she decided to apply to the courts to have her husband legally declared dead, as there is some property that they own in this city that she wished to dispose of.

The case came up recently before Judge Over in the orphans' court. But just as the judge was about to make out the necessary papers which would make Fulton dead legally there appeared in the court room a mysterious stranger, who stated that he knew a John Fulton in Paterson, N. J., and that he was positive that he was the man whom the judge was about to declare dead.

The stranger was asked if the Paterson Fulton had a job and he replied that he didn't think he had. The judge decided that there was reasonable room for a doubt as to the man being dead and held over the signing of the papers until he can communicate with the man in New Jersey.

MISSING LINK NOW FOUND.

Blood of Man and of the Higher Apes Said to Be Strikingly Similar.

Berlin.—Prof. Dr. Uhlenhuth, an eminent army doctor, definitely claims to have discovered the "missing link" by a long series of investigations, having established the similarity in every respect of the blood of the higher apes and human beings.

If the blood serum of one animal be mixed with that of any other the mixture remains clear; if, however, blood be taken from an ape and injected into the veins of a rabbit the blood subsequently taken from the rabbit becomes troubled when mixed with more ape's blood. A similar result is obtained if human blood is injected into the veins of a rabbit, and the experiment is often relied upon to prove if blood found on the clothes of a suspected murderer is human.

The higher the ape in the scale of development the more pronounced is the reaction.

Cheerful Prospect. Russian terrorists assure Gen. Treppoff that he is perfectly safe from attack in the streets—that they will shortly kill him in bed. The intensely cheerful part of this is that it is probably true.

TREPHINE THIEF'S SKULL.

Operation Performed on Indiana Boy for the Purpose of Reforming Him.

Indianapolis, Ind.—A remarkable surgical operation has just been performed at the Deaconess hospital in this city on a boy by Dr. John Kolmer, brain specialist, to correct criminal tendencies of the youth, who stole a pocketbook from a woman while she was kneeling at a confessional in St. Mary's church. There was over \$100 in the pocketbook and the boy started to see the world. He was arrested within a week at Jersey City and returned to Indianapolis.

After a thorough investigation Judge George Stubbs of the juvenile court, a deep student of criminology, decided to turn the boy over to the specialist for an operation, believing that it might correct him. An electric trephine was used by Dr. Kolmer.

An incision was made in the scalp in the center of the forehead, at the point where the hair began. From that point straight through the middle of the head the trephine plowed a narrow furrow to a point about one-half way down the back of the head.

An incision was also made from this furrow to the right for several inches. The patient was on the operating table less than two hours and rallied splendidly from the anaesthetics.

Dr. Kolmer was pleased with the operation and believes it will be successful. His theory is that in addition to the ill effects of an old fracture the boy's brain lacked room for development. The purpose of the furrow in the forehead was to open the skull so the brain would have room to develop to normal size. The furrow will soon fill with a soft, bony substance and the pressure on the brain will be removed.

At places the boy's skull was an inch and a half thick. The boy suffered an attack of brain fever when four years old. He once fell from a housetop and again from a high brick wall. As he grew older his criminal tendencies seemed to increase and he became afflicted with sudden spells of wrongdoing.

DUST SETTLED BY STEAM.

New Street Cleaning Machine That Possesses Some Peculiar Features.

Hartford, Conn.—Already supplied with the first practicable motor springing cart built in this country, this city comes to the front again with an automobile street sweeper, which has already demonstrated its utility in actual service. The length of the machine over all is 16 feet and it weighs four tons. Steam is used not only as motive power, but for laying the dust. Oil is used for fuel, the tanks holding a sufficient supply of oil and water for five hours' work. The operator steers the sweeper with a hand wheel, something on the order of a traction engine or road roller, which it greatly resembles. Without the emission of smoke, dust or odor, this machine traverses a paved street at the rate of four miles an hour, cleaning it thoroughly and without leaving the surface wet and slippery. The dust is dampened as it is taken up by the rotary brush, on which a current of hot steam is constantly directed, and white no dust is allowed to escape into the outer air the cleaned surface is left dry.

Careful estimates indicate that this sweeper, with an eight-foot brush, will do the work of 40 men—18,000 square yards of surface an hour—and do it better, at a total cost of operation of less than one dollar an hour. All dirt and refuse is trowed by the rotary broom directly into a dirt box large enough to hold two ordinary cartloads. This box is unloaded at the curb and may be emptied in a few seconds.

LEAVES FORTUNE TO CATS.

Eccentric New York Woman Inherits Her Daughter in Favor of Feline Pets.

Lockport, N. Y.—"After all my just and lawful debts are paid, I decree that the sum of \$5,000 be given to my only child, Laura Everington Knewar. All the rest and residue I bequeath to the founding of a home for homeless dogs and cats, the best use, I deem that money can be put to. I ask that the surrogate appoint a commission to see that the object of this part of my will is carried out."

This is the will that was found in a secretary that had been used by Mrs. Ellen J. Knewar, a wealthy and eccentric widow, who died at La Salle June 23, leaving an estate valued at nearly \$45,000. Until the discovery of the will, which was dated January 21, 1902, it was supposed that the daughter, Laura Everington Knewar, was the sole heir. Application for the probate of the will in this manner had already been made.

Mrs. Knewar was especially fond of cats and dogs in life and had long made a practice of picking up every stray canine or feline and adopted it into her household. Miss Knewar has signified her intention of contesting the will on the ground that her mother was of unsound mind when she made it.

Not the Real Thing.

It is proposed to christen the battleship Vermont with maple sirup. Vermont maple sirup is a sweet and sticky compound made of glucose and molasses in Chicago.

Easy to Find.

It is reported that snow still lies on the ground in some parts of Montana. That ought to be a good country for red golf balls.

INCUBATED TUBERS.

MONTANA SCHEME FOR PRODUCING ENORMOUS CROPS.

Cook from Chicago Claims to Have a Secret Method of Raising Potatoes in Unlimited Quantities.

Anaconda, Mont.—A resident of Great Falls has either made use of the greatest discoverer of the age in agriculture or he is one of the greatest fakirs of the time, and at present those whom he has taken into his confidence are willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. W. D. Darst, a cook, declares he has perfected a process by which an indefinite quantity of potatoes may be forced to grow on any tract of ground at a cost not to exceed two dollars a ton. He asserts he can easily raise 30,000 bushels of potatoes to the acre every 60 days and that he is satisfied that a much greater yield can be secured.

Something concerning the experiment has heretofore been made public but until this time Mr. Darst has refused to permit his name to be used. He now declares that he has been notified by the United States patent office that his applications for patents have been approved and he declares that as soon as his patents shall have been received he will reveal his secret and will demonstrate to the public that he is telling the truth.

Darst has been a resident of Montana for about six years, coming to the state from Chicago. He was employed in Helena for more than three years and about two and a half years ago came to Great Falls as chef at the Hotel Grand. He recently gave up his position and has been devoting his whole time to gardening and to perfecting his potato raising process, it being his design to raise potatoes entirely underground, without permitting any sprout or vine to appear above the surface. He claims he has done this, and that he can cause potatoes to grow wholly underground, one layer of potatoes on top of another.

He says he has caused potatoes to grow in this way with layers to a depth of 15 feet, in which depth there would be enough layers to produce 30,000 bushels of potatoes to the acre, and he declares there is no reason why they should not be planted to a much greater depth, with a corresponding increase in the yield per acre.

Darst declares the secret lies in the composition of a preparation that takes the place of soil. It is upon this mixture that he claims to have secured a patent. He says that a layer of this mixture, three or four inches deep, may be placed in a box, with eyes of potatoes, on this first layer may be placed another layer of the mixture, with potato eyes scattered through it; and so on, one layer on top of another until the box has been filled.

Then the mixture may be heated, he declares, and growth of potatoes will commence and progress rapidly in each of the numerous layers. He claims that all that is necessary is to keep the mixture at a growing temperature and to water it every two weeks, and that within 60 days from the time of planting the eyes there will be a crop of perfect potatoes in each layer in the box, all the tubers being of about the size of a hen's egg. All this, he claims, will result without a vine or sprout appearing above the surface.

JAPAN TEACHES GERMANY.

In All Their Military Movements the Kaiser's Men Will Observe Secrecy.

Berlin.—The secrecy with which the Japanese have screened the movements of their armies has caused the German general staff to reexamine the methods for administering the army in time of peace or war, so that intelligence even about little things shall not become known outside of those immediately concerned.

The general staff, already one of the most reserved institutions in Germany, is to become still more impenetrable. The annual maneuvers which are to take place this year in the lower Rhine country West Prussia, are to be conducted with much of the secrecy that would surround actual war, especially during the last day's maneuvers, when the new model portable bridges are to be thrown across the Rhine in the few hours under fire, permitting the movement of two army corps.

Newspaper correspondents will accompany the troops under conditions intended to approximate those in war. The two things in the Japanese operations that seem to have impressed the general staff most were the extent of perfection of their spy system, giving the Japanese commanders certain intelligence of the numbers and locations of the Russian troops, and the skill in which the Japanese maneuvers were masked.

Snakes in Bird's Nest.

A young boy of Aniston, Ga., saw a bird's nest up in a tree. He climbed up to inspect. Just before reaching the nest with his body he reached up and felt inside. Something soft caused him to think of young birds. He climbed up farther and observed two large moccasins snugly nestled therein. The boy was so badly frightened that he fell to the ground.

Milk for Snake Poison.

James McBride, a well-known stockman, of Barco, Col., was bitten by a rattlesnake the other day, and only his presence of mind saved his life. He drank a 20-pound pail of milk, and then went to Trinidad for medical treatment. The doctors say the milk saved him.

THIEF'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

"King of Thieves" in Rome to Publish the Story of His Crooked Career.

Rome.—George Manolescu, known as the "king of thieves," whose boast it is that his name is on every police register in the world; has now taken up his residence in Milan, and is engaged in writing an autobiography which will shortly be published by Langenacheldt, of Berlin. His book will be entitled "Disgusted!" and its moral is that the game of roguery is not worth the candle.

Born in Roumania of well-to-do parents in 1871, he was given chances of obtaining a good education. Showing himself incorrigibly idle, he was sent to sea, but deserted at Constantinople, and after an adventurous life, there and in Athens, proceeded to Paris, where he arrived at the age of 18 with £12 in his possession.

With nothing but magnificent self-confidence to help him, he took an expensive suite of rooms in a hotel, and lived by his wits and his fingers. He kept a diary of his transactions, which showed that in 18 months he stole jewels worth £21,600 from jewelers' shops. In 1890 he was caught and underwent five years' imprisonment.

On his release he turned to London, but finding his calling unproductive there, went to the Riviera, where he wedded a German woman of high birth, who, after divorcing him, finally brought off a clever coup which gained him £20,000, and which strikingly illustrated the contemptible Turkish proverb: "Set a Jew to catch a thief and a Greek to catch a Jew, but a Roumanian will deceive them all." Calling on a New York Jew, a receiver of stolen goods, he induced him to smoke a drugged cigar, and escaped to Europe with an immense booty. After a desperate illness in Genoa, he returned to his parents, swearing to reform his mode of living. His memoirs showed that he had cleared £238,000 during his career as a thief.

TO RECLAIM MESOPOTAMIA.

New Plan of Irrigation That Will Make It a Great Cotton Producing District.

London.—The irrigation of Mesopotamia, the ancient granary of the world, is being seriously discussed in London and Constantinople. Sir William Willcocks, late director of reservoirs in Egypt, divided up the country between Tektir and the head of the Persian gulf into 15 sections. These may be dealt with one after another or simultaneously, according to the capital in hand. The whole area contains over 40,000 square miles of alluvial soil, all of which is capable of irrigation and cultivation. The scheme includes the improvement of the Tigris and Euphrates as means of transportation and the utilization of canals.

What is now required is capital and the permission of the Turkish government, but the difficulties are chiefly political. The delta of the twin rivers is part of the country which the Bagdad railway is destined to traverse, and, therefore, is territory which Germany considers within her sphere of influence. German cooperation is absolutely necessary to get the good will of the sultan, and to secure that cooperation it is necessary for Great Britain to reconsider her uncompromising attitude in regard to the Bagdad railway.

Sir William Willcocks says he could make the country as rich as Egypt, and one of the great cotton producers of the world.

THIS TURTLE AN OLD ONE.

Reptile on Pennsylvania Farm That Is Known to Be Over the Century Mark.

Pottstown, Pa.—A land turtle with an authenticated history of over a century lives on the old West farm, in Oley township, several miles from Boyertown. Daniel West, a grandson of the first man by that name to settle in Oley, when 18 years old found the turtle in 1796 and cut the date and initials in its shell. After his death in the fall of the year, the inscription, "1796—D. W.," was renewed from time to time by his brother John. He died in 1838 and the renewal of the inscription was then continued by his son, Daniel West. His death occurred ten years after the old turtle had been seen, since then the old turtle has been seen years ago, and regularly every summer on the West farm, generally in the meadow. This farm has been in the possession of the West family since 1740, when John West came from Wunsamburg, Germany, and settled there.

Moving Furniture to Europe.

A queer specialty in the moving trade has sprung up in the last few years, since Americans go more and more frequently to Europe. One company makes a business of moving the entire furniture from a house in New York to a house in any city in Europe, with only one packing. A van was hoisted on board a trans-Atlantic liner and gear by steamer and train to the city of its destination. Then it is set on wheels and driven to the house, where the goods are carefully unpacked.

Honored by the Sultan.

The sultan of Turkey recently granted an audience to Senator Bacon of Georgia, and was so charmed with that genial American citizen that he inconspicuously conferred upon him the Grand Jordan of the Chelekat and gave Mrs. Bacon a lot of porcelain manufactured in the imperial potteries.