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WOODSTOCK

(From 'World Wide')

The Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, who has been so ill with a cold that his physicians insisted upon his staying in bed, is said to be improving.

Lord Roberts on New Year's Day unveiled a statue to Gen Wolfe, the hero of Quebec, at Westerham, among those present being Lord Strathcona and Sir Charles Tupper. Laurel wreaths were sent by Canadian residents in Great Britain.

Among the honors conferred on New Year by the King, in connection with the establishment of the Union of South Africa, is a baronetcy upon D. Jameson, the famous rider upon the Transvaal in 1895, now a member of the Federal Parliament.

Gen Juan J. Estrada, by the unanimous vote of Congress, on Saturday became the constitutional President of Nicaragua for a term of two years. Adolfo Diaz, former Minister of the Interior, was elected Vice President for the same period.

The President of France has commuted the death sentence of Durand, the secretary of the coal handlers' union, who instigated the murder of the foreman, Donge, during the strike on the Havre Docks, to seven years imprisonment.

It is believed that the insurrection in Mexico owing to lack of numbers and a forceful leader will collapse before long.

Queen Helena of Italy on Saturday night fell down the stairs leading from her bedroom to her children's nursery, hurting her head, severely bruising her knees and injuring one of her forearms. Prof. Bastianelli examined her injuries and put the arm in splints.

As a result of a proposed reduction in wages at the collieries of the North Atlantic Collieries Co., Port Morien, Cape Breton, during the winter, it was decided upon, at a meeting of the Mine Workers Union that there would be no strike, but a general cessation of work on the part of the men.

In a gas explosion in the south side of No. 3 colliery of the Nova Scotia Steel Co at Sydney, N. S. on Tuesday morning, followed by a fall of coal and stone, eight men were killed and two are still entombed, their fate not being known.

General Booth of the Salvation Army has been discussing for the last few days a preaching and lecturing tour of the U. S. in 1911. Before this, he announces, he will probably conduct religious campaigns in one or two European countries on the lines of his recent tour in Denmark and Germany.

The revolution against President Davila of Honduras, is becoming serious and the soldiers of the government are deserting in large numbers to ex-President Bonilla.

W. R. Travers, general manager of the wrecked Farmers Bank of Toronto, already under bail bonds, charged with giving false returns of the bank's affairs to the Minister of Finance, has again been arrested on the charge of stealing \$40,000, the property of the bank.

Arch Hoxsey and John B. Moisant, two of the world's foremost aviators both Americans and both holders of notable flying records, were killed on Saturday. Hoxsey in a Wright biplane fell a distance estimated at 530 feet at Los Angeles while doing what appeared to be a

plane mot death on the outskirts of New Orleans. He lost control of his machine at a height of 200 feet. At 100 feet elevation he fell out of his machine. Neither man was killed instantly. Hoxsey's heart was still beating when he was removed from the wreck of his machine, but he never was conscious after he struck the ground. Moisant was unconscious when picked up, and died a few minutes later while being taken on a special train to a New Orleans hospital. According to some aviation fatality records, forty men have been killed since the sport of the science of flying in heavier than air machines began. Of these forty deaths, thirty occurred during 1910.

A fire and panic which occurred while a New Year's religious festival was in progress in a church near San Luis Petosi, Mexico, cost the lives of 17, and serious injury to more than 80, chiefly women and children.

THE DISCOVERY OF BLOTTING-PAPER.

(T. P.'s Weekly, London.)
Blotting-paper was discovered purely by accident. Some ordinary paper was being made one day at a mill in Berkshire when a careless workman forgot to put in the sizing material. It may be imagined what angry scenes would take place in that mill, as the whole of the paper made was regarded as being quite useless. The proprietor of the mill desired to write a note shortly afterwards and he took a piece of waste-paper, thinking it was good enough for the purpose. To his intense annoyance the ink spread all over the paper. All of a sudden there flashed over his mind the thought that this paper would do instead of sand for drying ink, and he at once advertised his waste-paper as blotting paper. There was such a big demand that the mill ceased to make ordinary paper, and was soon occupied in making blotting only, the use of which spread to all countries. The result now is that the descendant of the discoverer owns the largest mills in the world for the manufacture of this special kind of paper. The reason the paper is of use in drying ink is that really it is a mass of hair-like tubes which suck up liquid by capillary attraction. If a very fine glass tube is put into water the liquid will rise in it owing to capillary attraction. The art of manufacturing blotting-paper has been carried to such a degree that the product has wonderful absorbent qualities.

All blotting-paper is made from rags. The original blotting paper was of a pink color, due to the fact that red rags were used—rags which could not be used for making the ordinary paper, as the color could not be removed. Here was a method for using the apparently useless matter and so for a long time pink was the predominant color. It is a matter for surprise what curious preferences are shown by various people with regard to the color of the blotting paper they use. Business men greatly prefer that of a buff color. This is preferred to white from the fact that it is more easily distinguished from the letters that are handed while at the same time it is not sufficient striking to seem out of place in an office, is only in this country that buff colored blotting paper is the favorite. Countries which possess hot climates prefer green, and this preference can readily be understood when it is remembered that green is such a restful color to the eyes. The people on the continent have quite a different taste from our own with regard to the color of the paper; they



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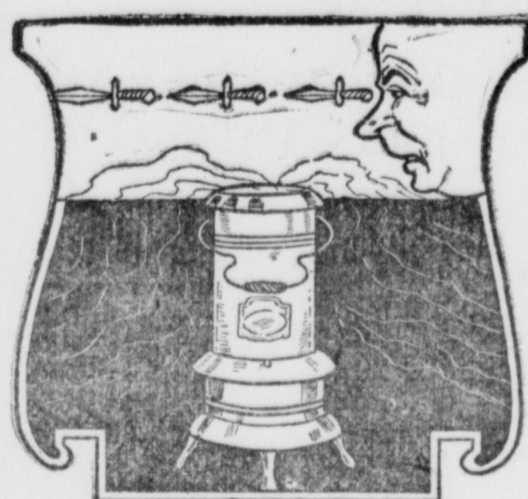
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prefer vivid colors, showing especially preference for deep pink. There is an opinion which seems to be fairly prevalent that colored papers do not blot as well as white. As a matter of fact, the color makes no difference at all to the absorbent quality of the paper, the particular tint depending purely upon the blending of the rags. Quite the newest tint is black. This is preferred by persons who do not wish any body to see what has been written. The black paper, however, absorbs the ink marks without showing them. In the case of the Sovereign, any piece which has blotted His Majesty's signature is at once destroyed.

KING GEORGE HAS FRIGID EXTERIOR

London, Jan 7—In this coronation year everyone in England is interested in the habits, characteristics and peculiarities of King George V. The King is apparently a colder personality than his late lamented father and his circle of friends, as naturally might be expected, is not so great and he is no what is called in America a good mixer. But those who have been admitted to the circle of intimate relationship with King George say the frigidity of his manner is more apparent than real, and that, while more economical than King Edward, he and Queen Mary are equally charitable.

One who seems to have considerable knowledge of the King's daily life says his tailor bills are not half what King Edward's used to be in a year. According to this authority, the late King rarely wore the same suit of clothes more than half a dozen times—often only once or twice—while King George frequently wears a suit three or four dozen times before it is discarded.

The new King is a collector of curiosities spending about £2,000 (\$10,000) a year in this manner, and like every collector, has been imposed on once or twice. In this connection a story is told that some years ago when he was duke of York he purchased a brass plaque described as being of sixteenth century English womanhood. This plaque was purchased for 100 guineas at a charity sale. It subsequently developed that it was a specimen of modern Indian workmanship and worth about £5 (\$25). As the money paid for the plaque went for charity, the duke did not regret paying it, but he disposed of the article to a dealer.

Some time later he saw the plaque for sale in Paris with the statement on it that it had come from the collection of the Duke of York, and on inquiring the price was told he could have it for 100 guineas. Perhaps it is in America now.

To keep outdoor brass bright, clean the brass as usual, then rub it carefully over with a soft cloth dipped in vaseline, and afterwards polish with a dry duster. This will keep it from tarnishing quickly, even in the dampest weather.

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

Pays special attention to **Savings Accounts**

White floor matting may be scrubbed with bran water. Put two pints of bran into two quarts of water and boil it. Strain and when cool, use for scrubbing the matting.

When two glass tumblers or dishes stick together so that there is danger of breaking in getting them apart, put cold water in the inner one and hold the outer one in warm water, and they will separate once.

WOODEN CLOTHING THE NEXT VENTURE.

London, Jan 7.—No one wants a wooden overcoat, but wooden clothes are likely to be the next sartorial venture. The discovery of the new process is largely due to the fact that bleached cotton is known to be composed of very nearly pure cellulose, and working on this basis, scientists have discovered a method of manufacturing cellulose thread extracted from spruce wood, which is now largely utilized in the making of neckties.

It is reported that cotton spinners are optimistic about the discovery, and that the process, when perfected, will enable clothes to be produced at lower prices than are now charged.

It is also said the new fabric will not only die any color but that the dye will not fade and furthermore, the material is not inflammable. This new process said an expert tailor should bring the best up to date attire within the reach of all. Also since waistcoats are to be manufactured of this cellulose thread I can see no reason why all the rest of one's suit should not be made out of a similar material. In fact the discovery should revolutionize the price of cotton goods.

AUTO TIRES DROP ANOTHER TEN PER CENT.

Boston Jan 9—Following the reconduction on December 1 of fifteen per cent in prices of automobile tires comes the announcement from practically all of the larger tire companies, including the Goodrich, the largest individual maker of pneumatic tires in the country, and the Fisk and Diamond of a further cut of 10 per cent, effective Jan 1st.



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