

Still Harping on Panama Exposition.

Dec. 26. The current Economist lends the authority to the journals against the Panama-Pacific Exposition. It says: "The thing that has happened in commerce, in a very short time, is the enormous reduction of the American tariff, for which we have to thank President Wilson. The trouble about the Panama tolls is, by comparison, the merest trifle, and it is well known, moreover, that in this matter President Wilson will do his utmost to secure a fair and satisfactory settlement. What, then, in the name of common sense can be the object of annoying American public opinion by refusing an official participation in the Panama-Pacific exhibition."

"Surely a friendly act to the American people, which would be appreciated throughout the United States, is worth as much as a fleet of rate cruisers. What we fail entirely to understand is how the Foreign Office can have the face, by the expenditure of public money on 'missions,' and by the efforts of diplomacy, to push the trade in our leading armament firms to all parts of the world, and then turn round and refuse to agree to nation of customers a bare act of courtesy which is obviously desired by men of business throughout the country."

Popular Mechanics: The word 'Limousine' now applied generally to closed automobiles, originally meant the woad-cloak worn by public carriers in France. Later the word came to mean the top or canopy of the carrier's cart, then the wheel cart, and finally any vehicle with an enclosed space for passengers.

Court records of Los Angeles county, California, were cleared on Saturday last of the McNamara dynamiting cases when the indictments charging bribery against Mr. Clarence S. Darrow, who was counsel for the dynamiters, were dismissed.

The New York American says Andrew Carnegie's benefactions have aggregated \$365,000,000 as follows: Carnegie Corporation of New York, \$125,000,000; Carnegie Hero Fund Commission and gifts of libraries, \$60,000,000; Carnegie Institute at Washington, \$22,000,000; Carnegie Institute Pittsburg, \$22,000,000; Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teaching, \$16,125,000; Carnegie endowment for International Peace \$10,000,000; Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, \$10,000,000, total \$265,125,000, and \$100,000,000 miscellaneous gifts.

Bishop Rowe, of Alaska, has authorized Dr. E. T. Temple head of the electrical engineering department of the University of Pennsylvania to design and build an electric light plant run by a windmill for the use of the Episcopal Mission at Point Hope, Alaska. There the polar night lasts several months and the wind velocity is seldom below 20 miles an hour.

Cheaper Than Beef In Toronto

Dec. 26.—For the first century, according to the price dealers, turkey is cheaper than beef. In fact, it was

real economy to serve a Christmas dinner of turkey and leave the roast of beef hanging in the butcher's shop. Sirloin roasts were five cents per pound dearer than the best dressed turkey. Prices for the best beef cuts and roasts were then dearest in any market in the world, while turkey on the contrary sold on the Toronto market for considerably less than at other points in Canada and the United States.

German Bishops Call Fashions Immodest.

Berlin, Dec. 23.—The German Catholics in conference at Fulda passed a resolution to-day censuring the present women's fashions as devoid of any sense of modesty. The bishops urge the Catholic women of Germany to join a crusade against the impropriety in dress, which they term "a disgraceful aberration."

THE GREATEST PROBLEM OF THE DAY.

The great practical problem of world politics to-day is the abolition of the war system—a system which would speedily die were it not for the artificial stimulation from the great armaments and other interests. Militarism is sapping more and more the life blood of liberty, and we must get rid of it or give civilization. The world can no longer ignore this matter. The issue between Kruppism and organized justice is being rapidly and most sharply drawn. Advocate of Peace.

A RECORD OF SHAME.

"The largest increases in the expenditure of the United Kingdom since 1861 have been in armaments. I have pointed out that 1861 represented highwater mark at that date of the cost of armaments. It was then £28,285,000; it is now £74,544,000—an increase of £46,000,000. It was then growing at the rate of hundreds of thousands per year; it is now growing at the rate of millions a year. Since I have had the privilege of occupying my present office, expenditure on armaments has grown by £15,000,000. Expenditure on armaments differs from every other expenditure in two respects. It is non-productive. Armaments count for the largest and I think the most sterile, increase since 1861."—Lloyd George.

WHAT STUPENDOUS FOLLY.

Ten years ago the largest battleship in the United States Navy cost \$5,000,000. The next Dreadnought will cost \$14,000,000. The Secretary of the United States Navy, like Lloyd George, looks upon such waste as a folly and a crime and he has recommended the calling of a world conference to discuss the matter and see whether the nations 'cannot agree upon a plan for lessening the cost of preparation for war.'

TAKING NO CHANCES.

A tall, gaunt-looking man entered a hotel not long ago, and applied for a room. The price he was willing to pay entitled him to lodgings on the top floor of the house. Among his belongings the landlord noticed a coil of rope. He asked what the rope was for, and the man replied: "That's a fire-escape. I always carry it with me, and in case of a fire, I let myself down from the window." "Yes," replied the landlord, stroking his chin reflectively, "seems a pretty good idea; but guests with fire-escapes pay in advance at this hotel!" "Six—" "See here, what do you mean by going around telling people I am a first-class idiot?" "Six—" "I didn't say first class."

OVERPRAISING THE CLAN McCROBES.

Postmaster-General Burleson tells of an old Scotchman who was listening to former United States Secretary of Agriculture, Wilson, lecturer on the activity of microbes. The Secretary of Agriculture said: "There are microbes in the cabbage, and microbes in the wheat, and microbes in everything that grows." When he left the hall, one of his friends asked him how he liked the lecture. "I don't see why the Secretary of Agriculture should put so much stress on what the McCrobes done," he said. "They've done no more than the McGregors or the McPhersons, and there lives no such clan as the Campbells, anyhow."

The Chief Duty of Governments. The chief end and duty of all governments is to maintain peace—Henry Van Dyke, late professor of English literature in Princeton University, and now United States Minister to Holland.

Six Stitches In Heart, Is Expected To Live

New York, Dec. 26.—When six stitches taken in his heart, Vincenzo Lauro, victim of a stabbing affray, is expected to live. When taken to the Holy Family Hospital, Brooklyn, the surgeons decided that the rare operation was necessary. Because of the weakened condition of the patient, an anaesthetic was given, but cocaine was used locally, the ribs above the heart were cut through, and six stitches taken in the heart tissue. Late last night the patient was improving so fast that the surgeons said they expected his recovery.

Beaten A Lieutenant. In an earlier generation, the laws were enforced very rigorously against gentlemen of the profession which Captain Kidd made famous. In this day and generation Captain Kidd would have been an illustrious member of an Interstate Commerce Commission, or a Public Service Commission, with a big fat salary.

"My you be just as happy yourself, As you like to see anybody else." —Burns.

PROTECTION FOR FOX RANCHERS

Montreal Times: The fox breeders in New Brunswick will ask for a measure at the approaching session of the legislature to protect them against stock coming in from outside points. The New Brunswick ranchers desire a measure similar to that passed by the legislature of Prince Edward Island. In Ontario, it is said, there is a law requiring quarantine of animals of all kinds until shown to be free from disease. The government of New Brunswick, it is understood, has promised consideration.

Circular From Agricultural Department

"This is to certify that R P Gorham and D B Flewelling are regular members of the staff of the department of agriculture in this province and at present are authorized to examine potatoes in every and any locality throughout the province. "It is charged by the government of the United States that we have the disease among our potatoes known as "powdery scab," and it is proposed to place an embargo upon the localities affected. The proposed legislation of the government of the United States is of such a nature that it behooves the government of this province to make faithful endeavors to determine where this disease exists. Not only is this important in the matter of shipments to the United States, but it is important for our own local markets. "If this disease becomes general throughout the province it will mean a large financial loss to our farmers; therefore we solicit the hearty co-operation of all the farmers and buyers in our efforts to locate this disease, and afterwards to enforce such measures as we may deem best to eradicate the same from the province. I would call your attention to legislation passed by this province on the 20th of March, 1913, known as 'The injurious insect and pest act.' "I trust that the officers of this department will have the hearty co-operation of all the potato growers of the province. "From information gathered at the hearing recently held in Washington, I am satisfied that this disease can be soon eradicated. "(Signed) J. B. DAGGETT, "Secretary for Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Fredericton, N. B. Dec. 23, 1913.

A STRIKING OBJECT LESSON.

The Massachusetts Peace Society was represented in the recent 'Law Replaces War,' presenting in striking contrast a grim collection of armor, guns, cannon, and other paraphernalia of the old war system, and with a mourning widow and orphans kneeling beside them, and a fine figure of Justice with her scales, typifying the dawning method of Law in the settlement of international disputes.

First Real Blizzard in New York State

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 26. Syracuse and the outlying districts are blanketed to-day with a heavy snow. The first real blizzard of the winter is raging, interfering with telegraph wires and trolley service.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 26. A blizzard which began at night and continued with less violence this morning, paralyzed street traffic in this city to-day. Reports from the country say roads are impassable on account of the drifted snow.

London charities receive an unexpected bequest of \$1,250,000 owing to the death Tuesday of a school boy, Geoffrey Ansell. The boy's father, a stock broker, who amassed a fortune in the South African, gold boom of 1895, died in 1905.

The distribution of Christmas dinners to nearly 100,000 of the city's dependents was the feature of New York's observance of the Day of Nativity.

Titanium and Carbon

Titanium is 50 per cent more abundant in nature than carbon, yet the world's consumption of coal is over one billion tons per year, while the consumption of titanium is so small that it is almost negligible. The only use for titanium is in treating steel, with a few pounds per ton of steel, while carbon enters into almost every industry and is the mainstay of many.

The Paris Letter has discovered the most "nervy" of English tourists—always a self-confident race. This man entered a well-known restaurant, accompanied by two little girls, ordered a bottle of mineral water and three plates, and began to eat sandwiches, which he had brought with him in his pockets.

The manager, overcome by this out rage, approached him and said, "I should like to inform you that this is not a—" "Who are you?" interrupted the Englishman. "I am the manager," was the reply. "Oh, you are the manager, are you? That is good. I was just going to send for you. Why isn't the band playing?"

Forty-two hundred rebel cavalry men with ten cannon and six machine guns, have left Chihuahua to begin the long delayed attack on the federals at Ojinaga, opposite Presidio, Tex.

The explosion of fireworks factory Christmas Day at Torre Annunziata in the Province of Naples, resulted in the death of many persons. Nineteen dead and eighteen seriously injured were taken from the ruins, and it is believed that many other bodies are covered by the debris.

Oscar Bider, a Swiss aviator, made a successful flight across the Alps Thursday, though for several hours he was unable to see his way because of the heavy fog which hung over the mountains.

The conquest of Tripoli, it is announced, cost the government of Italy \$191,400,000, besides the services of marines and the lives of not a few soldiers.

Fresh-Water Oysters.

The mouth of the River Mactra in Algeria, is now blocked off from the sea by a sandbank. During the past few years little salt water has penetrated into the river proper—with the result that the water near the mouth has gradually become free from any trace of salt. An investigator, who has been watching the change and its effects since 1905, reports that the old oysters died as the water became fresher, but that the young oysters continued to thrive. In spite of the changed conditions, the bivalves reproduce themselves, and grow even faster than they did before. If it turns out that the oyster can be raised successfully in fresh water, the discovery will be of great economic importance, for they will then be cultivated far from the sea.

Piercy of Iron Yet in Sight,

Iron is one of the mainstays of civilization, and James J. Hill caused much alarm some years ago when he predicted the speedy exhaustion of the supplies of iron ore. Since then large deposits have been found in the Lake Superior region, in Brazil, Chile, and China, so that instead of being near the end of our supply, we are now a comfortable distance from it.

The Seven Wonders of The World.

From France comes a wise remark on the recent efforts of scientists to determine the seven wonders of the modern world. Their choice was as follows: Wireless telegraphy, the telephone, the aeroplane, radium, antiseptics and antitoxins, spectral analysis and X-rays. Of the seven wonders of the ancient world, only one was of practical utility, the lighthouse of Alexandria, the others were notable only for size or beauty. "But," says the French writer, "what importance will these seven modern marvels have in the fourteenth century when the learned men of that age look back upon them? We can no more predict or understand the seven wonders of the future than could the ancients predict those of the twentieth century. We cannot tell from what quarter of the globe the new knowledge will come. Is not that one reason more for men, no matter to what country they belong to put forth all their power of investigation in a common effort and to work together to discover some of the marvels of which they are still ignorant?"

A Daily Thought.

"Those who forge to the front are not so often those of extraordinary ability as those who are simply using ordinary ability to its utmost."

Does Your Stomach Work Properly

There is no complaint so humiliating and tiresome as stomach complaint. The reason so many people suffer with their stomach is because they overwork it and do not give it a tonic. Mio-na Tablets will tone the stomach and speedily remove the disagreeable belching (gas on the stomach), sour taste and foul breath. Dizziness, biliousness and headache all disappear when you begin to take Mio-na. Mio-na is guaranteed by E. W. Mair who will refund your money if they fail to cure or do what we claim. Postpaid from The R. T. Booth Co., Limited, Fort Erie, Ont., on receipt of price, 50c.