

WANT BETTER RIFLEMEN.

Bill Before Congress Provides for Prizes for Contest in Marksmanship in Army.

To promote better marksmanship in the army is the aim of a bill recently introduced in the house from the military committee. The bill appropriates \$10,000 annually for a national trophy and prizes for rival competition.

It is claimed that in the war in South Africa the success of the Boers in repulsing vastly superior numbers has been due to expert use of the rifle.

The legislation is in line with the legislation proposed in several other countries, notably Switzerland and Great Britain.

The necessity of the proposed legislation is expressed as follows:

To qualify a regiment of volunteers as marksmen, each man to fire 150 shots with a range having ten targets, it would require two months. When troops are urgently needed sufficient time for target practice cannot be had. In 1909 several volunteer regiments fired not more than 15 shots per man before going into action.

The feature of the constitution of the United States and of the laws enacted under it in 1793, which made all citizens liable for service in the militia and which encourages the carrying and handling of arms, establishing the right of every citizen to do so, might well be extended and might be the animating spring of a national system of target practice by which all citizens fit for active service shall be invited to qualify for this important attribute of a good soldier—his ability to use the tool of war with accuracy and skill.

BATS LUNCH IN COURT.

Former Speaker Reed Shares the Contents of His Gripack with William C. Whitney.

Thomas Brackett Reed qualified as an expert in electricity in the United States court at New York the other day. Taking his lunch with him, stowed away in a well-worn yellow gripack, reminiscent of the days when he used to campaign for congress in Maine, he sat all day long in a class in higher electricity, drinking in the technical terms with much gusto, and wound up by reading his essay from a pink manuscript.

Mr. Reed appeared as counsel for the Stanley Electrical company, of Pittsfield, Mass. The Westinghouse company asked an injunction to prevent the Stanley people from an alleged infringement on an electric motor patented by Nikola Tesla. Millions hinge on the result of the case, the future of the Stanley company, which is now employing 1,500 men in Pittsfield, depending upon what is done in the case. The big display of electrical machinery which filled the courtroom was there to demonstrate that the Stanley motor is different from that of Tesla. When the court adjourned for recess Mr. Reed took his big Maine gripack and calling his friend, William C. Whitney, went back to the last bench of the courtroom. He opened the big grip and exhibited a luncheon that would have delighted a sturgeon. There were big, brown, old-fashioned biscuits, sliced open and filled with ham and chicken. Like two school-boys the big speaker and his friend dived into the sandwiches and between mouthfuls the big Maine man told funny stories.

SUBDIVIDES A MOLECULE.

Eastern Scientist Declares That He Has Also Identified New Ions.

Some unique discoveries in physical chemistry have recently been made by Nevil Monroe Hopkins, B.S. M. S., of the Columbian university of this city. He says that he has subdivided a molecule.

In addition to this, in research work upon the electrical and magnetic properties of those minute electrically charged bodies called "ions" by modern scientists, Prof. Hopkins brought to light for the first time the identification of a new ion, with the establishment of the fact that a chemical molecule may form more than two kinds of ions, depending upon conditions.

He has shown that ions are influenced directly by friction and has succeeded in stopping them and showing them up at will through the application of friction, and starting them again upon their journeys as readily as if but a handful of marbles. The ions may be moved by static induction, and by a novel application of a delicate galvanometer the existence of "free ion" may be proven.

A Kingly Poet.

A new volume of poems by King Oscar of Sweden and Norway has made its appearance, and the Chicago Tribune says that Oscar is every inch a king and many feet a poet.

Immigration in Cuba.

The Havana Post estimates that 60,000 immigrants, mostly Americans and Spanish farm workers, have landed in Cuba in the last three years. The number also includes about 1,000 Chinese.

Norway Ambitions.

Norway is disposed to insist, says the Chicago Tribune, on a general adoption of the idea that it is not a mere hyphenated appendage to Sweden.

Drawback to Balloning.

The trouble with most of the inventors of airships, says the Chicago Record-Herald, is that they leave needy families behind them.

Corps Reorganizing Her Army.

China, as well as China, is going to have her army reorganized, and a British officer has already arrived at Seoul for that purpose.

TALKS ON SUCCESS.

Young Rockefeller Discusses Subject Before His Bible Class.

Son of the Multi-Millionaire Estimates Money as a Necessary Factor from His Ideas of True Success.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., eliminated money, except as a circumstance or accident of life, from his idea of success in his address the other day on "Success; What is Success in Life?" He was speaking at the last meeting of the season of the young men's Bible class of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church, the class being about to take a vacation until the first Sunday in October.

There were 206 men at the meeting. Most of them were young, but there were not a few gray hairs and patriarchal beards among those who listened to the young millionaire. Mr. Rockefeller said:

"It is a habit of thought in business that the man who gets the most money is the most successful, but though he may get great sums of money honestly and legitimately by his own efforts, that money is of no real use to him unless he uses it in the right way, and it may be a great curse to him, and he may achieve no real success whatever. On the other hand, the man who is poor, with only enough money for the necessities of life, may use his life for the good of others, and that man is a true success.

"One man may hold high office and may make a failure of life by misusing his power, while another may serve the public good and be a success. The lawyer may be skillful and may have many important cases, but unless he makes a wise, just and good use of his talents he is not by any means a success.

"If you believe what Christ said of success, you must agree that a successful life is one that has been made the most of in the way of doing for others. The highest success is not what one can make, but how one can make one's self most useful. Money, power and place are circumstances more or less useful, according to how a man may use them."

OUR TRADE WITH FRANCE.

Reports from United States Consuls Show That Business with That Country is Increasing.

A publication of timely interest, in view of the national exchange of courtesies between the United States and France has just been made public by Frederic Emory, chief of the bureau of foreign commerce, showing how this country progressed in trade relations with the French republic last year.

It is stated that nearly all the consular officers in France speak of the gratifying increase in the importation of agricultural machinery from the United States.

American brooms and rubber shoes, says Consul Tourgee, of Bordeaux, have made their appearance in Bordeaux in such numbers during the last two years as to seem familiar. American shoe machinery is used in the largest shoe factory in France (situated in Limoges), and \$250,000 worth of American dressed kid skins were imported into that region in 1930 for the manufacture of shoes.

The exportation of fruits from Marcellines to the United States. Consul General Skinner says, has been seriously affected of late by the increasing attention given to these products in California.

Consul Covert at Lyons mentions numerous articles imported from the United States. Stores there have signs announcing American fabrics, and there are several so-called "American bazaars," though many of the articles are not of American manufacture.

EYELESS FISH IN QUEER POOL.

Pennsylvania Workmen Find with Them Horned Snakes and Other Odd Creatures.

While workmen were blasting rocks to enlarge a reservoir, near Uniondale, Pa., a few days ago, a small pool of water was discovered under a great ledge of rocks. The water in the pool was a bright green, but when the mass of rock was taken off it turned a dark blue. Around the edges of the pool were strange mosses or ferns, which withered as soon as the rays of the sun encountered them.

Through the crevices of the rocks ran great red and blue beetles and ants, and horned snakes, with hoods and double fangs, wriggled around the edge of the pool.

In the pool the workmen found fish without eyes. They had green scales, but when lifted from the water this color changed to a dark blue. When they encountered the air they gasped a few times and died. In the fissures of the rock horned toads were still living. The place has been visited by noted scientists, who are mystified at the singular find among the ragged hills of Susquehanna county. Eyeless fish have been found but twice in Pennsylvania within a century.

Promotions in the German Army. It is proposed to stimulate promotion in the German army by reducing the period of service required to authorize the retirement of an officer from 40 to 37 years and a bill for this purpose has been presented to the secretary of the military authorities. The retiring allowance is to be increased so as to make the small pension granted three-fifths of the full pay.

Steel Pens in Germany. Germany still imports 75 per cent of her steel pens from England.

RARE STAMPS AND COINS.

The Jefferson Half-Dollar of 1804 Is the Scarcest Piece of American Money.

According to experienced coin collectors and numismatists the rarest of American silver coins is the 1804 dollar and half dollar, issued during Jefferson's administration. Several of these coins turned up recently. The rarest of American gold coins are the \$2, \$5, \$10 and \$20 gold pieces of 1822, while in postage stamps the rarest are the peculiar 1, 2 and five-cent stamps of 1862. These stamps are perfectly round and fit into a little circular tin shield, which, by arrangement with the government, were made at the time by a manufacturer of cooking flasks of the name of Bennett, whose advertisement appears on the back. Protecting the face of the stamp from moisture or from being soiled or torn is a circular disk of mica, that fits under the rim of the metal shield, holding the stamp firmly in place.

These stamps were issued for the soldiers of the union army, and were accepted in payment for small purchases at their full face value and as readily as coins. Protected by the transparent mica disk, through which one could see the denomination of the stamp on one side and by a tin shield on the other, they could be carried through rain and sun without injury to the stamp and inclosed within. This curious stamp case was invented by Burnett. When anyone wanted to use the stamp on a letter he tore off the mica covering and took out the stamp, throwing away the tin shield, which was of no value in itself. These stamps are now very rare.

GEN. PUTNAM'S TOMBSTONE.

Long-Lost Gravestone Turns Up in an Old Stone Walk of an Ohio Residence.

A valuable historical discovery was made in this city lately when the original tombstone commemorating the death of Gen. Rufus Putnam was found among the stones of an old stone walk which was taken up to be replaced by a new one. A few people knew that the stone had existed, but it was lost half a century ago, and no one knew where it had gone, says a Marietta (O.) correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer.

There has been an old stone walk laid across the lawn of the property that once formed a portion of the Putnam residence on the outskirts of the city. The stone immediately in front of the doorstep proved to be the long lost monument, and when the workmen turned it over the inscription was plainly visible. The stone is of marble, and is five feet two inches long, two feet wide and two inches thick. The tramp of many feet has worn its unscrubbed face, but the chiseled side is as well preserved as though it was cut but a few years ago.

Gen. Putnam led a party of adventurous pilgrims that left New England and settled at Marietta, which was the beginning of the magnificent march of civilization that has given the United States and world the splendor of our great northwest. Gen. Putnam lived the remainder of his days at Marietta, and died on May 4, 1824, in his eighty-seventh year. The above cut is a fair simile of the stone and inscription.

INTELLIGENT ROBINS.

Remarkable Performance of Three of the Birds to Save One of Their Young.

The following incident seems too remarkable to be true, and yet it is vouched for by a writer whose word should not be doubted, says the Minneapolis Journal: "Two robins were trying to teach their little one to fly. It attempted to cover too great a distance and fell to the ground. My little boy caught it and I told him to put it on the roof of our side porch. Then he and I watched to see what the old birds would do. They fluttered about the yard for awhile and then flew off. We waited for them to return, but they did not, and I had just made up my mind that they had deserted the young one when I saw them coming, accompanied by a third one. They flew directly to the roof of the porch, and I saw that one of them had a piece of twine in its bill. And what do you suppose they did next? If I had not seen it I never would have believed it. Two of them caught hold of the twine, one at each end, and the little one caught the middle of it in his bill. Then they flew off the porch, the third robin flying under the little one and supporting it on its back."

Humors of the Schoolroom.

A fund of humor exists in the exercises handed up to the teachers of composition in private schools, especially in those for girls. Following is a characteristic sentence taken from a composition by a little girl of 11: "You may not think of it, dear, but I was once a little girl like you, though I am now over 20 and have a large family of my own." But perhaps the gem of the collection is the concluding remark of a description of how two little girls were chased by a bull: "I left Madge to her fate and saved myself by leaping over a gate. Needless to say, I never saw Madge again, and ever since I have disliked picnics."

A Teaching Enigma.

The following brief, but touching eulogy was recently pronounced by a sergeant over the tomb of a soldier in the cemetery at La Haya: "Comrades, the deceased, a friend of us all, had a clean sheet. He looked after his boots, which rarely required mending, and he always had some money to draw from his pay. Imitate his example, comrades."

EFFECT OF VOLCANO.

Magnetic Needles of Geodetic Survey Observatories Disturbed.

Government Instruments at Cheltenham, Md., and Baldwin, Kan., Show Irregularities at Time of Destruction of St. Pierre.

Mr. Otto H. Tittmann, superintendent of the United States coast and geodetic survey, reports that the delicately suspended magnetic needles at the two coast and geodetic survey observatories, the one situated at Cheltenham, Md., 16 miles southeast of Washington, and the other at Baldwin, Kan., 17 miles south of Lawrence, were disturbed beginning at about the time the catastrophe at St. Pierre is reported to have occurred. The wave of fire struck St. Pierre at about 8 o'clock a. m. May 8, and a clock was stopped at 7:50.

The magnetic disturbance began at the Cheltenham observatory at a time corresponding to 7:53 St. Pierre local mean time, and at the Baldwin observatory 7:55 St. Pierre time.

The delicate apparatus installed at these observatories is so arranged that it registers automatically, by photographic means the minutest variation in the direction and intensity of the earth's magnetic force. It is a noteworthy fact that no seismological observatory has thus far reported a seismic disturbance during the eruption.

Up to the present time no magnetic effects due to eruptions of distant volcanoes have ever been recognized at magnetic observatories. Purely mechanical vibrations caused by earthquakes have been often registered by the delicately poised magnetic needles. The Guatemalan earthquake on April 15, for instance, was recorded not only by seismographs at various places, but also at the Cheltenham magnetic observatory of the coast survey. The earthquake simply caused a mechanical vibration of the magnetic needles about their mean position of rest, and lasted about one-half hour, whereas the disturbance of May 8 was a distinct magnetic effect, pulling the needles aside from their usual direction and lasting many hours.

Until further information has been received by the magnetic division of the coast and geodetic survey from other magnetic observatories, especially from foreign ones, it cannot be stated definitely whether the disturbance of the compass at the United States observatories is to be referred directly to the eruption of Mont Pelee, or is due to some cosmic cause, but the coincidence in time is remarkable.

The coast and geodetic survey, besides the two observatories already mentioned, has another at Sitka and a fourth near Honolulu.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTURE.

Agricultural Department May Be Asked to Investigate Pauper and Criminal Classes.

An interesting division will be added to the agricultural department if a measure proposed in the house by Representative Henry, of Connecticut, is adopted. It provides for the establishment of a division in that department for the study of the criminal, pauper and defective classes, and the influence of agricultural life upon them as compared with urban life, especially as concern youth and childhood.

It is provided that this work will not only include laboratory investigation, but also the purchase of books and periodicals, the collection of sociological and pathological data, especially as found in the institutions for the criminal, pauper and defective classes, and as may be observed in hospitals, schools and other institutions. It also provides for the investigation of anarchistic criminals, mob influence, and like phenomena, as well as an investigation into the social evil with a view to its lessening or prevention.

The results of these investigations will be published from time to time. The bill provides for the appointment of a chief of the division vested with authority to employ specialists to assist him in his work.

OBJECT TO FAMILIAR HYMN.

Mississippi Presbyterians Criticize Verse Beginning "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood."

An overture was the other day filed with the committee on overtures from the Booneville (Miss.) Presbytery, demanding that the hymn beginning "There is a fountain filled with blood" be eliminated from the Presbyterian hymn book—or else the line reading "And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains," be changed. The overture sets forth that this sentence is an exaggeration of truth in representing that the blood of Christ ever flowed in such quantities that one could be immersed in it.

Scientific But Unpopular.

Cremation may be the scientific way of disposing of the mortal remains of human beings, but it is not making much headway, says the Chicago Tribune. Science has an uphill job when it goes against a popular sentiment.

Only Woman Hater.

Queen Wilhelmina is now the only woman ruler on earth that is, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, if we wish to be technical about a matter of this kind.

CHINA'S TRADE INCREASED.

Statistics of Last Year's Commerce Show That Country Has Recovered from Outbreak.

Business has been resumed in China apparently with increased activity. The official publication of the Chinese government, "Returns of Trade and Trade Reports for the Year 1931," which has just reached the treasury bureau of statistics, shows that railroad construction has been actively resumed in several of the provinces, that practically 1,000 miles of railway are now completed and in operation, and that several hundred miles will be added during the present year, while the record of the foreign commerce presented by the report shows that the imports into China in the year 1931 were larger than those of any preceding year. The total value of the imports is given as 268,302,918 haikwan taels, or \$192,978,160, against 204,000,000 taels in 1929, 202,000,000 in 1927, 171,000,000 in 1925, and 162,000,000 in 1924. The exports are valued at 169,656,735 haikwan taels (\$122,153,000), and exceed those of any prior year except 1929.

From the United States the imports in 1931 were valued at 23,229,606 haikwan taels (\$16,841,600), against 16,724,493 haikwan taels in 1929, 22,288,745 taels in 1929, 17,163,312 taels in 1928, and 9,232,082 haikwan taels in 1924. Thus the imports from the United States have increased about 150 per cent, since 1924, while the exports to the United States in 1931 were practically the same as those of 1924, the figures of 1931 being 16,572,988 haikwan taels, and those of 1924 16,442,788 haikwan taels. Comparing the progress of the United States with that of other countries, it may be said that the imports into China from Great Britain increased from 50,000,000 haikwan taels in 1924 to 41,000,000 in 1931; those from Hong-Kong increased from \$2,000,000 to 120,000,000; those from continental Europe, except Russia, from 6,000,000 to 17,000,000, and those from Russia increased from less than 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 haikwan taels. The growth in imports from the United States is larger than that in imports from any other country, though Hong-Kong, Great Britain, Japan and India rank higher than the United States in the import statistics of 1931.

REMARKABLE FEAT.

Immense Six-Span Trestle Bridge Placed in Position in Two Minutes and 55 Seconds.

One of the greatest feats in the history of railroading took place shortly after noon the other day, when the big six-span trestle bridge on the Pennsylvania at New Brunswick, N. J., was moved 14 1/2 feet in the space of one minute and 48 seconds. A slight delay on the part of an engine at the East Brunswick side of the Raritan river made the complete time when both ends were in satisfactory position two minutes and 55 seconds. Prominent officials, engineers and the representatives of several railroads as far west as Chicago were present to witness the performance.

To eight stationary engines, designated by numbers, were assigned the task of moving the steel structure. Four of these engines were on floats in the Raritan river, and the other four were upon the adjacent banks. The task was the more difficult since the large drawbridge over the Delaware and Raritan canal had to be moved as an independent structure. The bridge has six spans of 155 feet each, so that the total length, exclusive of the draw, was 930 feet. With the draw the steel work moved was 1,000 feet long, and the weight about 2,700 tons.

There was not the breakage of a rope or the straining of a bolt, so perfect had been the preparation. The work was loudly applauded by the railroad officials. A crowd estimated at 6,000 persons gathered to view the work. The banks held a mass of sightseers, and the river was covered with steam launches and boats.

Thirty-six minutes after the last train had passed over the bridge in its old position a freight train of 67 cars passed over the trestle on its new bed. There was no delay in traffic and no error in the calculations made by the engineers.

COEDS MUST COVER ARMS.

Dean Talbot, of Chicago University, Forbids Practice of Hurling Up Sleeves and Going Hatless.

Miss Marion Talbot, dean of women at the University of Chicago, has decided that it is unseemly and "mannish" for the coeds to be seen around the campus without hats and with the sleeves of their shirt waists rolled up. This practice has become popular with the coeds and the men at the university during these hot days.

The girls consider Miss Talbot's ban on the custom a hardship. One of them said it was "so jolly" to go around with one's sleeves rolled up, and besides, she said the girls were only following the precedent set by Miss Alice Roosevelt in going without their hats. They all think Miss Talbot is considerably behind the times.

Dean Talbot, however, has warned them that such practices are especially objectionable in a coeducational institution, and that if they are persisted in they likely will hasten Dr. Harper to a decision to divide the junior colleges. This threat, it is believed, cannot fail to be effective.

MORE SUBMARINE BOATS.

Growing Opinion That These Tiny Fighters Have Come Into the Navy to Stay.

There is a rapidly-growing opinion among both naval and army officers that submarine boats have not only come to stay, but are destined to produce almost as vast a change in naval architecture as that which followed the success of Ericsson's Monitor. Ensign Nelson, the expert in charge of the torpedo station at Port Royal, gave some remarkable testimony before the house committee on naval affairs. He declared that a submarine boat of the Holland type could drive an entire hostile fleet out of a harbor, because the enemy, if wise, would put out to sea to avoid attack which could not be prevented, because it would be delivered entirely out of sight.

An attacking fleet would therefore be forced to keep out at sea under all circumstances, and could never approach the harbor near enough to cover the landing of troops or to make effective use of small calibered guns against shore defenses. Ensign Nelson declared that battleships were all right in their places, and were worth all they cost, but he pronounced it a piece of great folly and useless extravagance to keep a battleship cooped up in a harbor, where half a dozen little torpedo boats would afford the same protection.

The moral effect of a submarine boat, he declared, was even greater than its destructive ability. He gave it as his opinion that the United States should at once develop a fleet of submarine boats of the latest and best type, and his testimony, or rather his lecture, for such it was, had a great effect upon the members of the house committee. When the naval budget gets into the senate it is quite probable the appropriation for submarine boats will be largely increased, thus enabling the navy department to go into a new departure in naval architecture on a scale which will tend to put the navy of this country ahead of the sea force of all other nations, at least so far as the element of harbor defense is concerned.

THE KAISER MAY COME.

Thought That the Emperor of Germany is Paving the Way for Trip to United States.

Is the kaiser paving the way for a personal and official visit to the United States?

That is the query one hears on all sides, cables the Berlin correspondent of the New York Herald. It is understood the prospects of a journey to the United States were discussed during the kaiser's recent trip on board the Kronprinz Wilhelm to the North sea. It has always been one of his earnest wishes expressed in private conversation and to the members of the American embassy at Berlin that he might some day be able to visit the United States.

Apart from a promise of a glowing reception, the kaiser wishes to see with his own eyes the colossal enterprises and industrial magnitude of the United States.

The kaiser sincerely believes that Germany and the United States can obtain more advantageous results by working together commercially and politically than by resorting to tariff warfare.

The German government will propose, it is believed, a renewal of the favored national treaty with the United States to prevent an outbreak of tariff hostilities such as the agrarians are clamoring for.

PHOTOGRAPHED ON HORSE.

President Roosevelt Caught by the Camera in the Act of Jumping a Fence.

President Roosevelt has had his picture taken 17 times in the attitude of going over a high fence astride of a horse. While out riding recently his horse took a fence in a manner to suggest the artistic qualities of a photograph, and Mr. Roosevelt engaged a local photographer to take a series of pictures. This was accomplished one day last week, with the result that no less than 17 successful proofs of as many different equestrian attitudes have been obtained. The president is highly pleased with the work of the camera, and he has given to a few close friends these pictures, accompanied by his autograph. The photographer who achieved this result has sold to a New York illustrated paper the privilege of reproducing the 17 pictures, for which the publisher pay \$500.

A Lucky Hospital.

The Westminster hospital, facing the entrance to the abbey, claims to have the best site in London from which to view the coronation procession, and, as a stand to accommodate 2,000 people is to be erected, and as 25 gineas a seat has already been offered by some applicants, the hospital coffers ought to overflow.

Minnesota Miners.

About 40 per cent of the men employed in the Minnesota mines are Finlanders, another 40 per cent, Hungarians, about eight per cent, Italians, and the rest are divided among Americans, Germans, French, Scotch, Welsh and Cornish.

The Lammereker.

The largest bird of prey in the old world is the lammereker, or bearded vulture, which has a wing expanse of nine or ten feet.

Little Money Laid.

Of all money transactions in England, 97 per cent, is transacted by checks, only three per cent, by notes and gold.