NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

Many Things the Pages Do to Amuse Themselves

WASHINGTON.—As the crowd of sightseers entered the capitol they were surprised to hear shouts of laughter and the scraping of chairs. "Is that congress in session?" one of the party asked the guide. This wise individual laughed before he answered.

"No, it's too early in the morning for the congressmen, you couldn't get them out before noon except on extraordinary occasions. The noise you hear comes from the pages frolicking about in the chamber of the house of representatives. You'll see them for yourself when we go upstairs."

The noise increased visibly as the party neared the chamber. There were loud shouts in boyish voices, shrill laughter and the sounds of falling furniture. The guide took his sightseers to the visitors' gallery, for none except members of the house, their secretaries and house employes are allowed to enter the sacred precincts. But at this time of morning a wild sight was to be enjoyed. Fully 25 or 30 boys were running up and down the aisles of the room, totally forgetful of their surroundings in the pleasure of their fun. To a person accustomed to gazing on the house when it was filled with dignified congressmen it was a most unusual sight. Several boys were wrestling, others boxing and still more tossing a piece of paper around the room in imitation of a baseball game.

The fact that visitors from all parts of the United States were looking at them did not seem to bother them in the least. They kept on with the sport. Then suddenly a member of the house entered and walked to his chair. At once the levity ceased. The boys walked to the sides of the room and tried to appear dignified—an impossible task, by the way.

The page, whether he be employed in the house or senate, holds a job that makes him envied by almost every youngster in Washington, besides a number of their old pals "back home." It isn't so much the fact that the position pays $75 a month to the lucky youngster as long as congress is in session, but because of the prestige to be secured through such personal contact with the "big men" of the nation, for the page gets to the place where he can address every congressman by name and also be answered in a familiar strain. And what American boy wouldn't give most anything for such a privilege.

It's a treat to sit for a morning and watch the house pages. They arrive about 9 o'clock, then for three hours there is a continuous performance of fun galore only ended when the house chaplain formally opens the day's session. Then for the remainder of the day the page works hard and earns his salary.

There are many traditions that show just what an opportunity awaits the house page. If he pays strict attention to the happenings in the house he may learn the necessities and qualifications of a statesman, orator and politician. He may attract the attention of some prominent congressman who will help him in an upward career. There have been any number of pages in the history of the country who have in later years returned to the house of representatives and senate as the representatives of their fellow-voters. And the names of these men are cherished by the present generation of pages.

Probably there isn't a more popular stunt during the morning fun hours than an attempt at a mock house. Every page wants to be the speaker, and there is always a wild scramble to reach the desk ordinarily occupied by Champ Clark. The disappointed ones then quarrel to have the honor of making the first address. Probably it is well for the dignity of some of the congressmen that they do not arrive at the chamber when the youngsters are giving imitations of them. It might not be flattering to them.

Street Car Regulations in the Capital City

TWO men were standing under a tree in Farragut square near the west side one hot afternoon last summer. One of them was in the uniform of the street car service and the other was in plain clothes. Each had a pencil and paper pad and each was making notes of the street cars passing.

"What are those men doing?" asked the reporter of a conductor, expecting the reply "spotters."

"Those men are making up reports as to whether the cars are light loaded, medium loaded, loaded or crowded," said the conductor. "One is in the employ of the public utilities commission. If a dozen or so passengers are on a car it will be marked as 'light.' If everybody has a seat and there is a scattering of empty seats, it will be marked 'medium'; if all the seats are occupied it will be marked 'loaded,' and if passengers are standing it will be marked crowded. We have cut our schedule—that is, the company has reduced the number of cars running because of the number of people out of the city, and these men are aiding in the making up of a report to determine whether the new schedule is providing sufficient accommodations to the public."

"Yes," said the conductor, "any rule for the safety and comfort of passengers ought to be a police regulation. A regulation made only by the company does not go very far. It is against the rule of the company for passengers to stand on the running board of open cars, but all I can do is to request or persuade a passenger to step inside. Perhaps there is no room inside. I have no authority to put him off. As I said, it is against the rules of the company to stand on the running board of the open cars, but if a conductor should enforce that rule against a passenger refusing to observe it there probably would be all kinds of trouble.

"If a man spits on the floor of a car I can have him arrested and he will have to answer in court. It is a police regulation that a man shall not spit on the floor. The rule that smoking is permitted only on the last three seats is a company regulation, and a man can smoke on the front seat or any other seat if he chooses to be disagreeable about it and I may not put him off.

"However, a conductor can make nearly all men observe the smoking rule if you handle them right. You can get along better with the public by 'requesting' than by any other means. If you begin threatening you will be in hot water right away."

Was Hurtled Through the Door Like a Catapult

REPRESENTATIVE ERNEST W. ROBERTS of Massachusetts tells a story of a bully who lived in his town and whose general demeanor made him a fit subject for the stocks. Jim Jones was a general, all round, good-for-nothing, lazy, fighting idler whose only work in life was an attempt to escape labor, but who was always boasting of what a "bad man" he was under his ragged coat.

One day Mr. Roberts was strolling down the street and stopped to talk to a friend near a lamp post which stood outside of a saloon. From within came the odor of stale beer and tobacco mingling with the angry tones of a heated conversation.

Just then Jim Jones came strolling up proudly. Throwing out his chest and pointing to the swinging door from which the noise issued, he declared: "I'm going in there and throw every durned one of them fellows out. Just watch me. Be sure and count them as I throw."

Jim sailed within the mystic precincts, while outside Mr. Roberts and his friend awaited the outcome of the onslaught.

In a few moments the uproar increased. There were wild yells and smashing of chairs. The door jerked open and a kicking figure was hurtled through it like a catapult and fell into the gutter.

"One," counted out the friend aloud, determined to keep the score right.

"Stop counting!" yelled the prostrate form in the gutter. "Ain't you got no sense—this is me!"

It was Jim.

Judge's Stern Warning to Desperate Prisoner

THERE is a good story going around the capitol about Congressman Small, who hails from North Carolina. In prehistoric days, when Small was young in the law, he was prosecuting a town bully who bore a desperate character. This desperado was supposed to have added greatly to the population of the village cemetery and to be ready to kill his man at the drop of an acorn.

So when Small stood him up at the bar before a country justice of the peace the embryo congressman painted the prisoner in such dark colors that his own mother would never have recognized him at five paces. In the very height of his eloquence Small pointed a long finger at the trembling man and shouted:

"Why, that man at the bar would just as soon kill me as not right here before your face, judge."

The judge leaned thoughtfully over, took off his specs and glowered at the offending criminal.

"John Smith," he thundered, "if you dare kill Small here before me I will fine you a dollar and fifty cents for contempt of co'te; durn my soul, if I don't!"

WORLD'S EVENTS TERSELY and BRIEFLY TOLD

Washington

The senate at Washington defeated the proposal of Senator Hitchcock for the increase of the federal reserve board from seven to nine members by a vote of 35 to 32. Mr. Hitchcock's amendment to the Owen-Glass currency bill was laid on the table by the action of the administration forces.

* * *

The Republican national committee at Washington decided it has the power to change the rules and proceedings of the national convention of the party without calling a special convention for that purpose. All of the changes which it will propose, however, probably will be submitting to the Republicans of the various states for ratification.

* * *

After a lively discussion the house at Washington voted down a bill approved by Postmaster General Burleson authorizing the postmaster general to make contracts for transporting the mail by aeroplane or by any similar device.

* * *

Senator Root of New York declared on the floor of the senate at Washington that he would not accept the nomination for president and could not accept the office if elected.

* * *

Angered by the ridicule of Secretary of State Bryan's peace program and at the song with the refrain, "Damn, damn, damn, the insurrectos," sung at the banquet of the military Order of Carabaos, in Washington, President Wilson ordered that an investigation of the events at the dinner be made.

* * *

According to the annual report issued by Secretary of Commerce Redfield at Washington, the foreign commerce of the United States during the past year increased more than $421,000,000 over the year 1912. It reached the great total of $4,279,000,000 in value. Of this great sum $2,466,000,000 were exports and $1,813,000,000 were imports. Our exports of domestic manufactured goods of all kinds amounted to $1,507,000,000, or 61 per cent of our total domestic exports. On June 30 of this year the total documented merchant shipping of the United States comprised 27,070 vessels of 7,886,518 gross tons. This is the largest tonnage of our history and, excepting the British empire, exceeds that of any other two nations combined.

* * *

Senator Elihu Root of New York severely arraigned the administration currency bill in the senate at Washington.

* * *

Representative Harrison of Mississippi has prepared a bill, which he will introduce in the house at Washington, to declare illegal options and futures on cotton, hops, wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, wheat flour, pork, lard, bacon or other agricultural or food products.

* * *

Andrew Carnegie takes little stock in rumors of business depression, either present or impending. At the White House in Washington when asked what he thought of the general business outlook, Mr. Carnegie said: "The recent reports of impending widespread business depression are all tommyrot."

* * *

The administration currency bill was subjected to many attacks during the debate in the senate at Washington.

* * *

A sweeping investigation of transit rates on live stock over railroads in western classification territory was ordered by the interstate commerce commission at Washington.

* * *

Mountain Laurel is proposed as the official national flower of the United States in a bill introduced in the house at Washington by Representative Kinkead of New York.

* * *

Domestic

Cleve Culbertson, convicted of murdering three members of the Dillon family at Ray, N. D., was taken from his cell in the Williams county jail by a mob and hanged.

* * *

Maine's big game season is ended. The estimated number of deer killed was 10,000. Seventeen persons were killed in the woods.

* * *

Three persons were murdered and two seriously wounded in Chicago within twenty-four hours. Jealousy and marital troubles were responsible for the murder of three persons, the self-destruction of their assailants, and the serious injury of two others.

* * *

Joseph Anderson was shot and killed by Mamie Lindsey at Lancaster, Pa. It is said that the dead man was jealous of his son, who had eclipsed him in winning the affections of the woman. She was arrested.

* * *

Six men were killed, one woman and two children are missing and thought to have perished and one man was fatally injured in a fire which swept the Salvation Army hotel for men at Cincinnati.

* * *

Henry Spencer, sentenced to be hanged at Wheaton, Ill., next Friday for the murder of Mildred Allison Rexroat, the tango teacher, was granted a four weeks' reprieve by Governor Dunne.

* * *

The end of the Mediterranean cruise of United States battleships brought to New York nearly 5,000 officers and men glad to be home again with a pay day in sight, and with a chance to spend the Christmas holidays ashore.

An increase of 15 to 25 cents a day to outer and inner sole workers in Brockton (Mass.) shoe factories was awarded by the state board of conciliation and arbitration.

* * *

Ernest and Frank Williams, negro brothers, were lynched at Blanchard, La., for the confessed murder of Calvin Ballard, a planter.

* * *

Black damp added 38 victims to its list in the Vulcan coal mine of the Rocky Mountain Fuel company, near Newcastle, Colo. The majority of the dead are sons of wealthy American ranch owners.

* * *

The Mississippi river steamer Shiloh sank while tied to a Memphis dock. All the passengers had left the boat and the crew reached shore safely.

* * *

J. K. Codding, former warden of the Kansas state prison, told an audience at Salina, Kan., that it is not the foreigner who is sent to prison, but the misused boy from the American home. He declared that the American home is becoming a training school of lawlessness.

* * *

Governor Major of Missouri told the house roads committee at Washington that he favored the federal government's rental of post roads in agricultural communities and that the lowest rental proposed in the pending Shackleford bill would be sufficient to maintain such roads.

* * *

The first conviction under a new state law concerning fraudulent advertising of merchandise was obtained when William H. Meloney of Hartford, Conn., was fined $20. He advertised a sale of second hand goods at his house. The complainant testified to buying for $20 a rug advertised to be worth $65, and which later was found to have been bought at a department store for $12.50.

* * *

The revenue cutter Windom is being rushed to Velasco, the town nearest the inundated section in Texas. Harry A. Black, chairman of the Galveston relief committee, telegraphed Secretary McAdoo at Washington that two counties are almost entirely under water.

* * *

"We are clearly of the opinion that there should be a substantial advance now, provided that such additional revenue can be obtained without imposing upon the public unjust and unreasonable transportation charges," says the conference of railroad commissioners in its report upon the proposition of the Boston & Maine railroad to increase its rates.

* * *

One hundred guests narrowly escaped incineration and more than $125,000 damage was caused by a fire which destroyed the Astoria hotel at Chaffee, Mo.

* * *

Fire destroyed the warehouse of the Illinois Warehouse company at Peoria, Ill., causing a loss estimated at $300,000.

* * *

Mexican Revolt

All the property of Luis Terrazas, Sr., Enrique Creel and Juan Creel, including banks, mines, vast areas of land, thousands of head of cattle, horses and personal effects in Mexico were ordered confiscated to the rebels in an official decree issued by Gen. Francisco Villa.

* * *

Americans, Germans and Spaniards, who arrived at El Paso, Tex., from Chihuahua, Mexico, report that Francisco Villa, the rebel leader, virtually had constituted himself dictator there and that he refused to heed the requests of representatives of foreign governments. Villa sent word to the federal commander, who had retaken Torreon, that if he marched on Chihuahua, Luis Terrazas, Jr., son of Gen. Luis Terrazas, the wealthiest native in Mexico, would be executed.

* * *

Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander of the American naval forces in Mexican waters, ordered the rebels and federals fighting at Tampico to cease firing, threatening to open upon them with the guns of the gunboat Wheeling if his order was not obeyed. Both sides obeyed.

* * *

Foreign

The suffragists arson squad fired a lumber yard at Devonport, England, and destroyed property worth over $400,000.

* * *

The battleship Haruna, a sister ship of the Kongo of the Japanese navy, was launched at Kobe, Japan. It was built in England and is said to be the equal of the American warship Texas.

* * *

"Mona Lisa," Leonardo de Vinci's masterpiece, the mysterious disappearance of which from the Louvre in August, 1911, threw the art world into consternation, was found in Florence, Italy. The man who stole it was arrested.

* * *

Twenty women and children were injured in London in a riot growing out of an attempt by the police to disperse a procession of suffragettes in the Bow street district.

* * *

Personal

Cardinal Mariano Rampolla, formerly papal secretary of state, who was defeated in the last election to the papacy only by the vote of Austria, died at Rome. He was seventy years old.

* * *

Lena Johnson, a maid employed at the home of H. J. Morton, a well-known Minneapolis business man, was murdered. Marvin Timm, a former sweetheart of the girl, is at a hospital, under police surveillance, with a self-inflicted bullet wound in his side.

* * *

John D. Rockefeller will enjoy Christmas and New Year at his Cleveland home for the first time in 11 years. Illness of Mrs. Rockefeller prevents the usual trip to Pocantico Hills, N. Y.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

TELEPHONE BILL IS UNDER WAY TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE TELEPHONE SYSTEMS.

Burleson Wants Them for the Postal Service, Which Is Now Self-Supporting.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington.—A sweeping declaration in favor of the principle of government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines and an assertion that the postal service, now is self-supporting for the first time since 1882, are features of the annual report of Postmaster General Burleson, transmitted to congress. Concerning the acquisition of telephone and telegraph lines Postmaster General Burleson says that the government has demonstrated its capacity to conduct public utilities, and from his present information he is inclined clearly to the taking over by the postoffice department of the telegraph lines, and possibly also of the telephone lines. Discussing that, the postmaster general says:

"A study of the constitutional purposes of the postal establishment leads to the conviction that the postoffice department should have control over all means of the communication of intelligence. The first telegraph line in this country was maintained and operated as a part of the postal service, and it is to be regretted that congress saw fit to relinquish this facility to private enterprise. The monopolistic nature of the telegraph business makes it of vital importance to the people that it be conducted by unselfish interests, and this can be accomplished only through government ownership."

HUERTA RAISES $1,000,000.

New York.—That the Mexican government recently had obtained a cash from a source which he said he was from a source which he said he was not in position to disclose, and that from the money thus realized the army expenses and all budget obligations had been discharged, was a statement made by Ricardo Huerta, Mexican consul general in New York.

FLYER STRIKES INDIANA MAN.

Hammond, Ind.—While he was congratulating himself on his narrow escape from death at Oak Glen, when he just missed being struck by a Grand Trunk train, August Poehls, 55 years old, failed to hear the horrified shrieks of spectators and stepped in front of a flyer going in the opposite direction on the adjoining track. He was instantly killed.

CINCINNATI MARKETS

Wheat—No. 2 red 98½@99c, No. 3 red 96@98c, No. 4 red 82@93c.

Corn—Old corn is quoted as follows: No. 2 white 77@77½c, No. 2 yellow 76½@77c, No. 2 mixed 74½@75c. New corn is quoted as follows: No. 3 white 71@72c, No. 4 white 68@69c, No. 3 yellow 70½@71½c, No. 4 yellow 67@68½c, No. 3 mixed 69@70c, No. 4 mixed 67@68c, yellow ear 64@67c, mixed ear 61@66c, white ear 62@65c.

Oats—No. 2 white 45@45½c, standard 45c, No. 3 white 44½@45c, No. 4 white 41@43c, No. 2 mixed 42@42½c, No. 3 mixed 41½@42c, No. 4 mixed 39@40c.

Hay—No. 1 timothy $19, standard timothy $18, No. 2 timothy $17, No. 3 timothy $15, No. 1 clover mixed $16, No. 1 clover $15@15.25.

Eggs—Prime firsts 30½c, firsts 29½c, ordinary firsts 25½c, seconds 22c.

Poultry—Hens, 12½c, roosters, 9½c, springers, 12½@14½c, spring ducks, white, 4 lbs and over, 13c; ducks, under 4 lbs, 12c; turkeys, toms, old, 10 lbs and over, 16½c, young turkeys, 10 lbs and over, 16½c; turkey culls, 8c.

Cattle—Shippers $6.50@7.65, extra $7.75@8; butcher steers, extra $7.50@7.65, good to choice $6.25@7.25, common to fair $4.75@6; heifers, extra $7.25@7.50, good to choice $6.50@7.25, common to fair $4.75@6.25; cows, extra $6@6.25, good to choice $5.50@6, common to fair $3.25@5.25; canners $3@4.

Bulls—Bologna $5.75@6.25, extra $6.35@6.50, fat bulls $6@6.50.

Calves—Extra $11.25, fair to good $8.50@11, common and large $5.50@10.50.

Hogs—Selected heavy $7.70, good to choice packers and butchers $7.65@7.70, mixed packers $7.60@7.65, stags $4@6.50, extra $6.75, common to choice heavy fat sows $4.25@7.25, extra $7.30, light shippers $7.40@7.60, pigs (110 lbs. and less) $5.50@7.40.

Sheep—Extra $4.60@4.65, good to choice $4@4.40, common to fair $2.50@3.75.

Lambs—Extra $7.60@7.75, good to choice $7.15@7.50, common to fair $5.50@7.

FORTUNE IS SENT AWAY.

New York.—The last of the Christmas mails for foreign lands left New York. All told, foreigners in New York City sent 496,897 money orders, aggregating $7,775,000, to the folks at home. This is an increase of 68,000 orders and $1,250,000 in money over last year. To Great Britain went $2,000,000; to Italy, $1,667,000; to Russia, nearly $800,000, and to 16 other countries sums dwindling to $1,069 in the case of Liberia, recipient of the smallest amount.

BIG TUG TO AID VERMONT.

Washington.—Upon the urgent appeal of the commander of the dreadnought Delaware, which is towing the "completely disabled" battleship Vermont, 360 miles east of the capes, the navy department has ordered the big seagoing tug Sonoma to proceed at once from New York "to assist in the tow." The Vermont is struggling along with crankshafts broken and able to use only the left shaft to a very limited degree.

THE AMERICAN HOME

WILLIAM A. RADFORD, EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 178 West Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

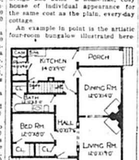
The word "bungalow" is an Anglo-Indian term, meaning in India a species of rural villa, a house of light construction, usually of unbaked brick with a thatched roof. The bungalows which are the residences of Europeans in India are of all styles and sizes, according to the taste and wealth of the owner. In its earlier use by white men, the word "bungalow" was taken to denote a lightly constructed habitation, not exceeding one story in height, and presumably designed for temporary occupation. But during the past few years bungalows have been built in both the United States and Canada as all-year residences, and are constructed with every regard for permanency.

They are built with heavier studding and bracing than the bungalows in California, and are sheathed solid outside and covered with heavy building paper and siding shingles. Many of them are provided with open fireplaces, although the old-time significance of the word contemplated an unplastered building with no facilities for heating, since it was designed, presumably, for summer occupancy or tropical habitation.

In America, the bungalow idea first took root in Southern California where the mild and even climate is particularly well adapted to this type of house in its elementary forms. Here it has undergone its most extensive development, although other sections of the United States are now crowding the favorite regions of the Pacific coast in this respect.

It may be said, in all frankness, that any prospective home builder will do well to study carefully the advantages of the bungalow for his home which he is to build the coming spring. For those desiring a small and inexpensive house, particularly, the bungalow offers great advantages. The original ideas of arrangement, as well as the unique ornamental schemes that are characteristic of bungalow work, make it possible to design and build a home-like, cosy house of individual appearance for the same cost as the plain, every-day cottage.

An example in point is the artistic four-room bungalow illustrated herewith. This has been built many times for $1,500—a surprisingly low cost—no more, in fact, than one would have to pay for a plain ordinary cottage of the same size which would not meet so ready a sale nor as good a figure when the time comes to sell.



Floor Plan

Remember this: It is always possible to sell a bungalow when a plain house or the same cost would find no sale. This is the most important factor financially, concerning the subject of homebuilding. Too often home builders construct houses that lack style; and when a rainy day comes and they want to sell the house, there is no buyer because the house is "like thousands of others."

The reason why a house will not sell, in nine cases out of ten, is because it has no individuality. The bungalow has individuality; it has something that makes passers-by turn after they have passed the house and say "How cosy!"

A glance at the floor-plan and perspective shown herewith will show desirable and attractive features of this plan. From the broad entrance porch, one enters a good-sized hall, connecting, by means of wide cased opening with attractive column grille work, into a large living room, 12 by 19 feet, bright and cheerful, having broad window spaces, a built-in seat, and a practical fireplace. A cased opening connects the living room and dining room, making practically one room, and giving exceptional spaciousness in a cottage of this size. The arrangement between the kitchen and dining room is very good for convenient housekeeping and few steps. There is also direct connection between kitchen and front hall—a very good feature. Too many houses are so arranged that the living room has to be chased through every time one has occasion to answer the front door bell, which not only disturbs those sitting there, but also dirties this room unnecessarily and makes too many steps.

The bedroom is of good size, opens off the front hall, and is supplied with a large-sized clothes closet ventilated and lighted by means of a good-sized window. There is also a lighted clothes closet for hanging coats and hats, just beside the front door. The bathroom has an inconspicuous location, and is at the same time convenient. It, too, has a large closet for linen, etc.

Although the second floor of this house is not important, still it furnishes a space for storage purposes, is well lighted and ventilated, and serves to keep the first floor cool. Some people have objected to the bungalow on the ground that it is too hot, but, with an attic space of this size, well ventilated, no trouble of this kind will be experienced.

The exterior treatment of this house is in a very appropriate bungalow style. Rough boards are used, stained with creosote oil. The foundation courses, from grade to window sills are covered with wide boards with horizontal batten strips. Above this the boards are lapped like the beveled siding, but with wider lap. A wide-extending, openrafter cornice completes the design. Brown walls, with green roof, and sash painted white, make a very typical and artistic color arrangement for this cosy little bungalow.

Possible Cancer Cure.

Great popular interest has been demonstrated in Germany in the use of mesothorium as a cancer cure. Rich persons are solicited to give money with which to secure this material for charitable institutions, and in other places various means are resorted to for the securing of funds. This material is secured from the thorium waste of the gas mantle industry, and, while it seems to have been very beneficially used in therapeutics, the physicians say that it is too early to put entire faith in the remedy. For the therapeutic use a tiny particle is inclosed in a silver covering pierced with minute holes; the box is placed upon the part affected with cancerous growth, and is said to slowly, but surely, eradicate the disease.

Statistics of Electric Motors.

The total horsepower of electric motors in use in the United States in 1909 was 4,817,140, as compared with 492,936 in 1899, or an increase of nearly a thousand per cent., while the number of electric motors increased from 16,891 in 1899 to 388,854 in 1909. The increase in the number of gas engines in use in the last five-year period was nearly twice as great as in the first half. Total horsepower of manufacturing establishments was 18,680,776 in 1909, as compared with 13,487,707 in 1904 and 10,097,893 in 1899. Ninety per cent. of the horsepower in 1909 was that of motors owned by the manufacturing establishments, and 10 per cent. was rented power, most of the latter being electric.

How Could He Know?

"King Lear is a great character," remarked the friend. "Yes," answered the actor; "I suppose you remember my performance last season?" "No, I must confess I have never seen you in the part." "Indeed!" was the rejoinder in a tone of gentle surprise. "Then, how on earth did you know it was a great character?"

Seven Futile Cures for Baldpate.

The barber at the second chair had finished shaving, anointing and powdering the patron and began a tentative massage of of the semi-exposed scalp. "A little tonic or something on the hair?" the barber asked. "Yes," replied the man. "Give me the Seven Cures for Baldpate."

Making Tomorrow's World

By WALTER WILLIAMS, LL.D.

(Dean of the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri)

INSURING A NATION.

London, England.—"An Act to provide for Insurance against Loss of Health and for the Prevention and Cure of Sickness, and for Insurance Against Unemployment"—such is the comprehensive title of the most ambitious measure for social reform yet attempted in Great Britain. It will make over the United Kingdom, declare the Liberals and their allies, who enacted it into law. It will ruin the nation, assert in public the Conservatives, who opposed its enactment. In private all parties appear committed to acceptance of the general principles of the National Insurance Act, as it is popularly called, though as to some of its practical workings there is fierce contention. It does not appear probable that the act will be repealed, though it will doubtless—to quote Bonar Law, the Conservative leader—be "drastically amended," if his party, turning out the Liberals, is placed in power at the next general election.

The insurance act became a law December 16, 1911. It was a government measure presented and supported by the Liberal government. "Such a scheme," said Worthington Evans, M. P., one of its most vigorous critics, "could never have been brought in except by one with the pluck of Mr. Lloyd-George, and with the help of those connected with insurance." In many respects the original measure was crudely drawn, showing the marks of haste in its preparation. Some of the crudities have been corrected by supplementary legislation.

Compulsory Insurance Against Sickness.

What is the purpose of the insurance act and what are its practical workings since it has been British law? While the act was passed in December, 1911, the insurance features became effective only in July, 1912. Under the act, every employed person from sixteen to seventy years of age, whose income does not exceed $800 a year, is compulsorily insured against sickness, in whatever manual or other occupation engaged, with certain rather unimportant exceptions. Those earning more than $800 a year by manual labor alone are also compulsorily insured. In a British population of 45,000,000, the act includes, approximately, 14,000,000 in its provisions. The act also provides that other persons, not included in the compulsorily insured class, may join under certain conditions.

"18 Cents' Worth for 8 Cents."

The insurance fund is derived from three sources, the worker, the employer, the national treasury. Here arises one of the strongest criticisms of the act, both employer and workman claiming his contribution to be too large. The weekly subscription of the workman earning more than $3.75 a week is 18 cents, of which the workman pays eight cents, the employer six cents and the national treasury four cents or its equivalent. In addition, the state pays the cost of central administration and large grants towards hospitals and medical benefits. When a workman's wages are less than $3.75 a week, he pays a less proportion to the insurance fund and the employer pays more. Insured women pay one-fourth less than insured men. The workman thus buys 18 cents' worth of insurance for eight cents. Those whose wages are less than $1.75 a week are insured without cost to them. Contributions are not paid by the workman during sickness or unemployment and cease entirely when he reaches the age of seventy years. The act makes it illegal for the employer to deduct his own proper contribution from the worker's wage; he must deduct only the worker's share. A special provision modifies contributions in cases where employers maintain their workpeople in sickness. Men and women of all ages up to sixty-five years are treated alike in respect to contributions. Insurance cost is no more at forty years of age than at sixteen. The age handicap, necessarily imposed by private insurance companies, is entirely absent from the British scheme.

What are the benefits?

The member of parliament from Northampton, H. B. Lees Smith, and the managing director of a great wholesale establishment of London, Wilkie Calvert (brother of Dr. Sidney Calvert, professor of chemistry at the University of Missouri), summarized these benefits:

Sickness and Other Benefits.

The workman pays eight cents a week or less. His benefits are the same whatever he pays. These benefits include free medical attendance and free medicine, sickness benefit, disablement or invalidity pension, maternity benefit, sanitarium benefit. Free medical attendance and free medicine are provided to the worker who becomes ill. This provision has been sharply attacked by the British doctors. The sickness benefit varies in amount. Ordinarily it is $2.50 a week for men and $1.75 a week for women for 26 weeks. Sickness benefits cease at seventy years of age, when the old age pension becomes payable. If sickness continues longer than 26 weeks, $1.25 a week is paid during the remainder of the sickness, however long it may be. Provision is made for certain reduction in benefits when members are in arrears with their contributions, but no one is suspended from medical, sanitarium and maternity benefits until more than 26 weeks in arrears. Insured women, married or unmarried, and the wives of insured men, whether insured or not, receive a maternity benefit of $7.50 in addition to sickness benefit, and relief from payment of contributions. It is estimated that when the scheme is fully at work a million mothers in Great Britain will each year receive this benefit at a cost to the nation, on this account alone, of $7,500,000. Under the sanatorium benefit the state provides for free treatment and care, in sanatoriums or at home, of persons who contract tuberculosis. The insurance commissioners may schedule other diseases also for institutional treatment. These are the minimum benefits. Other benefits, possible with prudent management of the insurance funds, include larger old age pensions and higher sick, disablement and maternity pay and convalescence allowances.

Administered Through Fraternal Societies.

The administration of the act is through the government, which utilizes the friendly societies, trades unions and other approved organizations—and through the postal savings bank for deposit contributors whom no friendly society would insure. The friendly societies correspond, to a degree, to mutual insurance companies in the United States. The insured thus control the working of the scheme. The act makes safe and solvent the fraternal or friendly society and increases its benefits, provided upon repeated examination the society or lodge shows approvable management.

But how does the insurance act benefit the employer? What does he receive in return for his contribution of six cents a week?

"Anything which keeps the worker in good health and good heart," said Mr. Smith, "which relieves him from the necessity of working when he is physically unfit to work and frees him in the case of illness from worry as to the future, must increase the efficiency of labor. In no way can this be done so cheaply as by a scientific system of insurance such as the act provides. The increased efficiency of the worker will be far in excess of the total cost of insurance under the scheme. As employers pay only a small part of the cost, it may be anticipated that they will in the long run receive benefits far out-weighing their contributions.

Relieves Undeserved Poverty.

"In judging the act," continued Mr. Smith, "you must not consider it as a final measure. It is only a start—though a good start—in the campaign for establishing a minimum standard of living and comfort below which no Briton shall fall, unless it be through deliberate fault of his own. To properly judge this act you must regard it as part only of a wider program for dealing with the preventable causes of poverty and unemployment and raising the standard of living for the working classes in this country. Poverty and unemployment have existed and still exist in every country and under every form of government. Like disease and death, they cannot be wholly banished by act of parliament. The insurance act strikes at certain causes of poverty and unemployment which are preventable. In conjunction with the workmen's compensation acts, the old age pensions act, the public health acts, and the factory acts, all measures of social reform, which seek to make tomorrow's world better than our world today, the insurance act endeavors to remove poverty and distress due to accident, sickness, infirmity, old age, insanitary workshops and unhealthy dwellings. It attacks the slum owner, penalizes the sweater and makes the health of the people the first care of the state. It lays broad and firm the foundations of a new social policy—a policy of mutual help and good will among all members of the community, based upon a recognition of the fact that the undeserved poverty or undeserved unemployment of the humblest member of society is something which closely affects the general well-being of the state."

And Mr. Calvert, who represents not a Liberal-Labor constituency, but the city which employs labor, gave emphatic assent.

270,000 Get Sick Benefit Weekly.

Some things are certain in regard to the act's workings. About 15,000,000 persons in Great Britain and Ireland are now insured against sickness, when before the act there were about 6,000,000. The act raised the first year $130,000,000. Of this amount the workmen contributed $55,000,000. Twenty thousand doctors are employed to give free medical treatment and nine thousand chemists—who are the British druggists—furnish free drugs, prescribed by these doctors. To the poorest workingman is given the same medical treatment and the same pure medicines and drugs as the richest duke can afford. About $25,000,000 has been paid during the year to doctors and $5,000,000 to chemists. Sickness benefits are paid weekly to 270,000 workers. The men get $2.50 a week and the women $1.75 a week, because they pay less.

Maternity benefits amounting to $2,500,000 have been paid. The birth rate has at least not been discouraged. For tuberculosis sanatoriums has been set aside $8,000,000. Twenty-five thousand workmen have been treated under the act, 13,000 in sanatoriums. These are the figures, but for the real facts as to the benefits brought by the act one must note the changed conditions in the workingmen's homes, see the cures wrought, the shadows lifted. No man or woman in the United Kingdom need lack, under this act, insurance against sickness, unemployment or the unmerited poverty which, to the underpaid, so frequently comes with old age.

But is this not queer business for a great empire?

Let the best-hated and best-loved statesman in Great Britain, the author of the national insurance act, David Lloyd-George, make reply:

"Adds New Glory to Empire."

"Since 1908, when we had old age pensions for the first time, we have had a great empire for the first time taking a direct interest in the condition of those aged, those infirm, those sick, and those broken. The old theory was that this was beneath the dignity of an empire. The concern of an empire was to see that the machinery of human slaughter was perfect. That was the concern of an empire. To tax the food of the people, that is thinking imperially; but to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, these are thoughts fit only for a parish beadle. There was a great emperor once who added to the luster of his fame by visiting the wounded after the battle. Now we have got this great British empire for the first time walking the hospitals, visiting the sick, inquiring how the infirm are getting on, helping them to mend and curing and assisting them. You ask me if this is not queer business for a great empire. Why, it is adding a new dignity and glory to the British empire. It is the beginning of a new era in the history of imperialism, the newest imperialism and the best."

In a certain old Book it may be read: "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

And of the Great Exemplar of this high duty of man to man it is recorded that his empire shall have no end.

(Copyright, 1913, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

Cheapside, London.

Man's Best Years.

What are a man's "best years" depends largely on what his youth was—the time for laying the foundation. It also depends upon the nature of his work and something of his stamina or staying powers; also, as to whether he has mastered his environments or allowed them to master him. Hugo Munsterberg places the high-water mark at 50 years; Dr. Wiley thinks a man's best work should be done after he is sixty; while Dr. Osler claims that little original and valuable work is done after the age of forty. As for my own humble opinion, I am quite thoroughly convinced that a man does not reach his prime of intellectual strength and lucidity until he arrives at the halfway house—threescore and ten.

The life problem is very much like a marathon, and should be decided accordingly. On the one hand, it is not a question of years, but of condition—mentally and physically. How did he pass the seventieth milestone, old and decrepit or vigorously? On the other hand, it is not a question as to the time he made, but what was his condition? Did he collapse or did he finish strong?—Los Angeles Times.

New Lock.

Two tramps, arrested for vagrancy, were set free by G. Porter, a constable, because the lock on the town jail had become so rusty that he couldn't open it. Some of these fine days Porter will have a murder case, then the town will be compelled to buy a brand new lock.—Youngstown Telegram.

BEST SEASON FOR PRUNING IN ORCHARD

The Low-Down Uniformly Pruned Tree Will Produce More Fruit, and of a Quality Superior to That of the Tall Tree.

(By M. COVERDELL.)

[illegible]st step in order is the pruning [illegible], as the season's growth of wood [illegible]w thoroughly ripened and there [illegible] be no "bleeding" from the pruned branches, nor will there be any checking of development among the branches, both of which often comes as a result of spring pruning, since one is apt to put off doing this work till the sap begins to rise, or neglects to do it at all.

Next year's fruit crop depends largely upon the efficiency with which the pruning is done at this time. The uniform distribution of branches, height of the trees, and the health in general of all parts of them left for bearing fruit—all have their influence. Branches should not be left so long and slender that they will not support a goodly burden of fruit.

As a rule, all water sprouts, those straight shoots running directly upward from the main branches, should be removed. Limbs that are seen to be partly dead or decayed should be cut back until one is sure no part of them is left, as it would but invite further decay, and the sustenance drawn by them would be a useless drain on the vitality of the trees.

All tall, thick, or top-heavy trees demand close and careful pruning. Fruits which are reared high in mid-air are not as exempt from the action of the wind as if they were lower down. The top of the high tree itself is very apt to be caught in the high wind and damaged, perhaps ruined, by being broken down or torn up by the roots.

The low-down uniformly pruned tree also will produce more fruit, and of a quality superior to that of the tall tree, while the ease with which the fruit is picked from the low trees recommends them to all.

The ends of all low-hanging branches also should be pruned back, so that one can pass under them on foot, or with a vehicle in harvesting the fruit crop, which not only makes the picking handier, but avoids damaging the trees by peeling and breaking up the limbs.

After the pruning is completed, all pruned limbs should be removed from the orchard, the smaller ones being utilized for filling up washes about the farm, the larger ones being hauled to the wood pile and used for fuel. Where limbs of considerable size have been sawed off, the stub should be given a thick coat of paint, which will guard against the wood cracking during some of the very warm days that usually come before winter sets in.

Then this paint serves to hold the wood together during the severe freezing weather of midwinter.

Where it has been necessary to cut down whole trees that were dead or badly diseased, a note of these should be made so that one can fill in their places next spring with new, young trees of the same varieties.

It is also well to remember here that the old and diseased trees not only take up valuable space in the orchard, but they are liable to spread disease among the healthy trees, and they always harbor pests that are injurious to the entire orchard.

COATING MIXTURE FOR FARM TOOLS

Recipe for Preparation With Which to Treat Pieces of Steel or Iron Machines.

Do not get in such haste when putting tools away as not to look after any that may need repairs. If this cannot be attended to at the time of storing the tools, place the piece in the workshop until more leisure time is available, and then attend to it. A great saving of time will be effected in this way, and will help along when the time comes when there will be a half dozen jobs, or more, to be attended to at the same time.

Here is an old recipe for a preparation with which to coat pieces of steel or iron machines to protect them from rust: Melt together one pound of lard and a lump of rosin as large as a walnut. Heat the lard and add the rosin, which must first be reduced to a powder. Any piece of machinery that is coated with this mixture will be sufficiently protected from danger of rust.

Machines that have the proper care taken of them will last for years and give satisfactory service. And the owner will not be compelled to waste time in getting them repaired at some critical time when every minute counts so much; nor will he have to replace them with new ones every few years.

CARE OF POULTRY IN COLD WEATHER

Better to Have Small Flock in Good Condition Than Larger Number and Less Eggs.

The time is nearly here when the hens will have to be kept in the house out of the cold and storm. Remember that you must not try to keep too many hens in one house. Better a small flock in good condition and laying well, than a large flock with fewer eggs and twice the expense.

Leaves are good for the litter, and now is the time to save some for the hens to scratch this winter. Rake them up while they are plentiful, and store them somewhere under cover so that they will be ready for use.

Save a barrel of dry earth for the hens' dust bath this winter. Mixed with some wood ashes, and dampened just a little, it will be a great help to the hens in keeping them free from lice. If a box of it is placed in a sunny part of the hen house, the hens will enjoy bathing in it, and you will not need to use the insect powder so often.

"Shorts."

"Shorts," according to Webster, is the "bran and coarse parts of meal, in mixture." In some sections of the country bran is known as "shorts," and in other places, middlings bears that term.

SUCCESSFUL TRANSPLANTING OF TREES

The great demand for immediate effect in landscape work has been met by the successful transplanting of large trees. Care should be taken in the transportation of some. Photograph shows a tree ready for shipment.

Profitable Horse Breeding.

The most profitable horse breeding in France, Belgium, Scotland, England and America is done on the intensive plan on farms of moderate or small size by farmers who are good, common-sense horsemen with a taste for doing things well. There is ample room in the United States for much more horse raising on this plan, and we have always had too many inferior brood mares, too many cheap stallions, and too many cheap horses hunting buyers.

Currants in an Orchard.

We grew over 30 tons of currants last year. They were produced altogether among the fruit trees, and were rather helped than injured by the shade. Among the Verseilles, Cherry, Fay's Prolific, the latter seems to be most productive. The cultivation is all done with a cultivator. About a ton of dry blood per acre is used for fertilizer. The plants live 20 years or more if the old wood is kept cut out. Picking costs about one cent a pound.

The ELECTRICAL WORLD

POWER PLANT FOR A CIRCUS

Electricity in Any Amount Is Available for Use in Illuminating Huge Tents in Evening.

Illuminating the "big top" for the evening performance of a large circus has taxed the ingenuity of circus men for many years. Now two of the largest circuses in the world have decided to carry along their own private electric light plant and to illuminate everything, from the big top to the side shows, with electricity.

The circus electric light plant consists of a gasolene engine and electric dynamo combined and mounted upon a suitable wagon. This plant is really very small, considering its power, and requires but an ordinary circus wagon for its transportation. A gasolene engine is mounted in the same frame, and upon the same shaft, with a power electric generator, or dynamo. When the gasolene engine is started electricity is instantly available in any amount required for the circus illumination. Of course the plant is in duplicate, in case anything should happen en route.

The tents are all wired for electric lights. This wire is arranged so it can be easily and quickly put in place and as easily taken down when the evening performance is over. A large and heavily insulated cable carries the current from the dynamo to the main tent. The current is controlled and directed from a small switchboard mounted upon the wagon with the plant. The operation of this plant is very simple. The gasolene engine runs automatically without attention, being governed to produce only the amount of power required to whirl the dynamo for the various lamps as they are turned on.

TO DISPLAY ELECTRIC BELLS

Considerable Time Is Saved in Making a Sale to Have Noise Makers Mounted on a Board.

The way we show a customer electric bells in our shop is to have one bell of each kind and size mounted side by side on a board. A wire connects with the left hand binding post of every bell and with one pole of a dry battery. The other pole connects with the arm of a switch having as many contacts as there are bells. Then there is a wire from each of these

Demonstrating Electric Bells.

points to the right hand binding post of each successive bell. In order to show the customer the ringing powers of any bell, all we have to do is to move the switch to the contact corresponding with that particular bell, writes Marshall S. Loke in the Popular Electricity. This saves considerable time in making a sale and is very satisfactory.

ELECTRICAL NOTES

Electric ovens are coming into use in the city bakeshops.

* * *

Four wireless stations are being erected on the island of Borneo.

* * *

China's first hydroelectric plant is being built by German engineers.

* * *

Dust on electric light globes robs them of their light-giving efficiency.

* * *

Electricity has been adapted to 42 different purposes about a household.

* * *

An Omaha inventor has patented an electric alarm for refrigerator drip pans.

* * *

Electricity aids bloodless surgery by coagulating the blood wherever electrodes are placed.

* * *

The sky reflection of the lights of London has been seen in favorable weather 50 miles distant.

* * *

An electric automobile tractor and trailer with a capacity of 12 tons of coal is transporting fuel for a Detroit electric plant.

* * *

The experience of German railroads has been that the maintenance cost of electric locomotives has been less than that of cars fitted with individual motors.

Big Men and Little.

The man who is big enough to get toward the top in any line of work usually is built on a big scale. Petty things are beneath him. He isn't interested in getting small advantages. You can be sure of him in all your dealings. It is the small man who bears watching.

Born of Courtesy.

The appellation "Reverend" is purely born of courtesy. There is no legal warrant for its use.

BLOCK FOR ELECTRIC STOVE

Piece of Metal Stores Up Heat at All Times—Has Big Advantage in Using Little Current.

The electric cooking block is a substitute for the stove in that it performs a great many of the offices of the stove in a very satisfactory manner, but from the standpoint of the electrical manager it has the additional advantage that it does not make its demand for current during the hours of the greatest load. On the contrary the general adoption of the block would make a constant call for current which is what the electrical companies are desirous of cultivating.

The stove consists of a block of iron imbedded in heat insulating material. Within this block is an electrical heating unit. The surface of the iron block forms a smooth plate on which a cooking utensil amy be placed. But normally, when the stove is not in use

Electric Cooking Block.

it is covered by a lid, also filled with heat insulating material. As there is practically no outlet for the heat generated by the heating unit, the iron block is steadily heated and rises in temperature until the cover is removed for a cooking utensil to be substituted. After one dish has been cooked the cover is applied to the stove again and it is permitted to store heat until the next dish is to be cooked. As compared with the ordinary dish stove the heat-storage stove uses very little current.

HEATLESS LIGHT IS SOUGHT

French Scientists to Investigate Humble Glow Worm in Hope of Solving Perplexing Problem.

The humble glow worm is to be investigated by French scientists in the hope that it will serve to solve the problem of discovering a "cold light." The great objection to all present forms of electric lights is the heat they give off.

In his address to the National Society of French Electricians, President Daniel Berthelot says the glow worm as a machine for the production of light is perfection itself. For every 100 units of energy expended the glow worm, with its cold, dry light, gives 100 per cent. of illumination, as against 1.2 per cent. by gas, 1.5 per cent. by electric light and 14 per cent. by the sun. This, according to M. Berthelot, is due to an "electro-capillary apparatus in the worm, constituted by thousands of cells."

TELEPHONE OUTFIT FOR DEAF

New Style Handbag Contains Necessary Batteries and Receiver—Handy for Sensitive Women.

Sensitiveness of women hard of hearing often keeps them from using an ear trumpet, especially in public places. This new style handbag contains the necessary batteries and receiver for a telephone outfit so that

Outfit for Deaf.

the only obvious indication of the use of the instrument is the receiver, which is small and can be easily held in the hand, and the cord.

Telephone Facts.

Of the more than 12,000,000 telephones in the world at the beginning of 1912 nearly 8,500,000, or more than two-thirds, were in the United States. Europe, on the other hand, had only 3,153,000 telephones, or one for every 126 of the population. Denmark had a telephone for every 24 persons, Germany one for every 56, Great Britain and Ireland one for every 65, France one for every 150, whereas Austria had only one telephone for every 298 persons. There were 101,500 telephones in Australia, or one for every 44 persons, 36,000 in Africa, and 88,000 in South America, but the huge population of Asia made use of only 205,000 instruments.

New Disinfectant.

Electrolytic hypochlorite, a by-product of electric lighting plants, is claimed in Europe to be one of the most effective and least expensive disinfectants.

Lucky.

Turkish women wear the same kind of trousers that the men wear. It's lucky for Dr. Mary Walker that she wasn't born in Turkey, observes a New Orleans paper. She would never have emerged from obscurity.

Ad Hominem.

Man with the Bulbous Nose—One or two baths a week. I tell you, are about all a busy man has time to take. Man with the Bulging Brow—How do you know?