

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

The value of societies to the benefit of the people is of recognized importance; but, aside from the burial of the dead, there should be, in existence, a sturdy purpose for the elevation of the living. There is something of a divine spirit in the human heart which prompts to deeds of charity; but it is somewhat doubtful that our efforts in this respect are actuated by a spirit of love. Various motives are the forces which induce adherence. Curiosity leads some, while others are impelled by a desire for the frivolous. Only a comparative few realize their far-reaching scope of usefulness, and are willing to sacrifice largely for the welfare of their brethren. To the many, the real meaning of such organizations has not occurred; not have they the least conception of the mighty deeds capable of being accomplished by united endeavors. If in fostering the growth of societies, the aim reaches no higher than paraphernalia, grips and signs, then we weave to little purpose the threads of life, and will fail to bring forth fruit worthy of acceptance. Zeal, improperly directed, may lead as far in the wrong as in the right direction; and whatever might be the honesty of purpose underlying the act, the injury wrought is the same. The things most helpful to any people are those which improve their conditions, and remove the hindrances which obstruct their course. Organized bodies are effective means for the accomplishment of such results; but wise leadership and proper discipline are required to bring these things to pass. There is power in numbers, drilled and systematized; but, unwieldy objects are difficult to handle and often produce more inconveniences than the profit they create. Could the negro be made to see the abundant opportunities to be obtained and utilized through the various organizations which he controls, his situation in the commonwealth would be more commanding, and the respect from his fellowman be greater. There is naught to be gained from any pursuit bereft of lofty ideals; and ridicule greets the ludicrous side of any undertaking. It is wise to aim high if you miss the mark; because, then you demonstrate to the world your desire for the noble. In the prosecution of an honorable purpose, there is no disgrace in failure, if you don't surrender to despair. The greatest successes have often been the outcome of repeated failures, and have been won by those who have been beaten. Tenacity prevails; but many who grasp at the good effects of the service in our eager search for trifles. Through lack of understanding, grave errors are committed; and through our blindness even though convinced of the fact, we refuse to correct mistakes. These shortcomings appear to be the inheritance of the sons of Ham; and to a wonderful extent handicap his operations in the march of progress. In his daily intercourse, theory and practice are seldom in accord—even strangely variant, the former often gaining mastery; yet, we boldly proclaim the unity, despite contrary evidence. Through judgment rightly exercised in the fostering of the organized numbers, vast machineries could be moved by these accumulated miles. It is hoped, however, that the negro will not always resist the appeals of his well-wishers to change his tactics regarding his material welfare, lest, through his own neglect, the golden opportunities now opened to him may close their doors forever.—Atlanta Phalanx.

The United Ministerial alliance of the city of New Orleans, by a resolution offered by the Rev. S. J. Channell, denounced the action of the New York court in releasing Ulrich, the culprit who assaulted Dr. Booker T. Washington in the city of New York several months ago. This alliance is interdenominational and is composed of ministers from all of the colored churches of New Orleans, and has an enrollment of more than one hundred ministers. They expressed the greatest confidence in Dr. Washington, declaring that Ulrich should have been fully punished for his wanton attack on the educator. The meeting was held at the Young Men's Christian Association hall, the Rev. John Marks presiding.

The cruel winds of the north have come in, and the cotton pickers are coming from every point, with no more than they had before they left, when the days were warm and pleasant. If you are not profligate by leaving home to go on cotton picks, the best route to protect yourselves is to stay at home.

The lay preacher, as he is known in England, should have greater encouragement in our own church. We have in mind several talented Christian young men who could be of greater service in the communities where they reside if they would aspire to the place of a lay preacher.—Philadelphia Missionary Bee.

The negro race is continually pulling down each other with "wind fam" and through various ways, to which the masses are very sensitive to adhere to. Cease your grumbling and whining and help each other. Help your successful neighbor instead of pulling him down.

The business Master has for us, his accredited servants.—National Baptist Union-Review.

Thank God, we're yet men!—Baltimore Times.

The aroused attitude of the Southern church to its duties and possibilities in the training of the colored people is a hopeful sign. Some of the most significant work in relation to the Negro question today is being done in the Young Men's Christian Association and other organizations in white Southern colleges by well-trained, broad-minded, Christian young men. And the following from the Louisville Courier-Journal is suggestive of the attitude of the best Southern press: "The whites cannot prosper if the blacks languish. We are, whites and blacks, in the same boat, and we must sit fair and row steady if we expect to be happy and to make progress."

Concrete examples of progress are not wanting. Better supervision for all the schools is rapidly coming to the South. In Virginia a special state supervisor of colored schools as an assistant to the superintendent of public instruction has been appointed. And already the helpful influence of his work is being felt in colored schools all over the state. In many sections school authorities are seeking how to increase the interest of both the white and colored people in the Negro schools. And, almost invariably, wherever the colored people come with substantial contributions towards the betterment of their schools, the school officials and private white citizens have met them with extra appropriations and helpful contributions. At Harrisonburg, in Virginia, for example, the colored people have raised some \$400 for their school during the last two years. The city has increased the number of teachers from three to five, and is now erecting a \$10,000 school house for the colored people.—W. T. B. Williams in the Southern Workman.

It is understood that the farmer who farms for a living should raise enough foodstuff for his own consumption, and not wait on other progressive farmers for it; but many of our farmers have failed to follow or practice this method. Some have raised nothing. Most of our farmers in East Texas plant three-fourths of their lands in cotton and the other fourth in corn and a few cowpeas. Looking at this, he plants less staples and more non-staples. When cotton is ready for the market, the farmer has spent eight or nine months in cultivating and gathering the staple; most times holding it several months for prices. Then you will go to your neighbor or to the city, borrow money to get supplies. Suppose you planted truck and several acres of stock feed and, provident, then you could plant several crops of truck on the same land within four or five months, and sell your produce throughout the season at good prices, making a fair profit amounting to about twice that of cotton. Plant some cotton and use the truck money in the summer when times are usually hard with the farmer; then he is not wholly dependent upon his cotton. The great truck campaign is on in Anderson county and the farmers who live near the city will miss it if they do not plant some truck. Truck brings good prices throughout the season. Every farmer should plant three or four acres.—Palestine Plaindealer.

The negro race has amid its great mass more moral teachers, according to its growth and advancement, than any other race. Every third person met is an advisor or an exhorter of some kind; but the main fault of the great number of these teachers of righteousness and goodness is, they do not practice what they teach, and this practice has hurt more professional people and race advisors, as well as the masses, than any other pretended practice. Men of the professions and leaders of the people, be careful that you are sincere and follow what you teach; otherwise fall out of line and let the right man enter who will do the right thing. Our people have been made scrupulous and ridiculers of our leading men who have not lived up to their doctrines. Keep your light of advocacy ever bright that it may shine before your people, undimmed, unblemished.—Palestine Plaindealer.

A New Orleans paper takes great pains to point out the desirability of giving the negro a square deal and refers to many disabilities under which the negro labors in the south and nation. Some injustice may be expected under the circumstances. When it comes to the courts it is better that the negro stay out of them. The sooner the negro learns how to attend to his business and to avoid clashes with any and everybody the sooner he will learn the lesson which present unfavorable conditions are designed to teach. The point is not to be concerned too much about the privileges that are denied and to be concerned about the right use of those which are retained.

Provide for a rainy day by taking out an insurance policy in a reliable company. The prudent man looketh ahead and safeguards his family against want, in the event that death or misfortune overtakes him.—Washington National Union.

The honest, truthful, law-abiding and respectable negro is treated humanely by southern white men, who want him to remain here.

Go from your homes in mind of peace, clear of all wrong for the day, and you will be better off always.—Galveston City Times.

Liberia has made negotiations for her great borrow. She will now start life anew to make a better record in the history of nations.

SOME PARALLELS BETWEEN THE RACE PROBLEM IN POLAND AND IN THE UNITED STATES.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION BEFORE THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

The Twentieth Century club, connected with the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, held its regular monthly meeting in Dorothy hall. Dr. R. E. Park was host and also furnished the discussion of the evening. His subject was: "Some Parallels Between the Race Problem in Poland and in the United States."

The Poles, the speaker pointed out, are one branch of the great Slavic race, which with its principal seat in Russia, has projected itself into western Europe, under different names, from the Baltic in the north to the Black sea in the south. Everywhere that this race has come into contact with the peoples of western Europe there has been a racial conflict and almost everywhere the Slavic race has been conquered and oppressed.

Dr. Park first sketched the political history of Poland from 1796, when Poland was divided between Russia, Germany and Austria. He then turned to the internal history of the three provinces and showed the manner in which each had developed under the influence of the racial conflict between the different peoples brought together when Poland was absorbed by its neighbors.

Poland's political history has been a hopeless and fatal struggle to gain and retain its national independence. Up to 1830, both in German and Russian Poland, a policy of conciliation was pursued. Russian Poland, for example, was given much greater liberty than any other part of the Russian empire. There was complete freedom of the press and at the same time a very large measure of self-government. But the Polish nobility were not satisfied with anything short of a complete independence and a reunion of the different parts of the ancient republic. In spite of the heroic struggle to maintain national existence the insurrection of 1830 failed and every subsequent effort in the same direction has only served to make the subjugation of the country more complete.

After 1830 the nobles and political leaders emigrated to Paris and there retained a sort of revolutionary junta, which sought to direct political affairs in the different parts of their dismembered country. The policy was to take advantage of the political troubles of Russia, Germany and Austria in order that at the right juncture the Poles might throw themselves into the hands of the country which would promise to aid them in re-establishing their national existence.

In all this movement the masses of the people, the peasants, had little or no part. They remained, in a condition not much better than serfdom, on the plantations of the nobility. They were not able to help themselves and every effort that the different governments, particularly Russia and Germany, made to improve their condition was paralyzed by the political intrigues of the nobility. In Paris and elsewhere, whose policy was to sacrifice everything else to the cause of national existence. The situation, Dr. Park said, was something like that in the south after the "carpet-bag government" was expelled and the politicians, who had gone into exile in the north, attempted to control and direct affairs in the south.

After the Franco-Prussian war, when it was found that the Polish regiments were perfectly willing to fight against their old allies in France, Bismarck determined to settle the Polish question. He said, "The Poles would be all right if we could get rid of this factious nobility." So he said: "We will appropriate a hundred million marks to buy out this impetuous Polish nobility and settle good, brave German peasants on the land. In this way we will Germanize the Poles; displace once for all the dream of a restoration of Poland and in time they will become good Germans." This was the beginning of the modern racial struggle in German Poland, which has had, according to the speaker, a very extraordinary issue.

As soon as it was announced that the German government meant to dispossess the Polish nobility of their lands, there was a great outcry. Various plans were suggested for resisting this move. The nobility in other parts of Poland at first proposed to raise money and come to the assistance of every Polish landlord who felt compelled or could not be restrained by patriotic motives from selling their estates. But when it came to the pinch it appeared that the Polish nobility, most of them, had neglected their estates, and were, in any case, poor business men, who could not compete with the Prussian government, and the plan was given up.

At the time it occurred to one or two strong, practical men that if large Polish estates were to be divided up and sold something might be gained if they were divided up and sold among Polish instead of German peasants. So they began establishing little co-operative banks and land companies. Where they found a Polish noble hard pressed they would buy the estate themselves. In this way the land remained at least in the hands of the Polish people and they were not made aliens on their native soil. At other times they would purchase a portion of an estate that was run down or mortgaged. This would

THE COMING CROPS.

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smallest of the past ten years. There is still plenty in sight, when we compare our harvests with those of other nations, and we need not be discouraged.—Washington Herald.

INCUMBENCE.

"No," said Mr. Cumrox, "I don't in the least disapprove of my daughter's marrying a title."

"But you seem dissatisfied."

"I am. What I object to is the fact that she goes with

give the Polish noble enough to pay his debts and still enable him to retain the greater portion of his lands. Very soon there was a network of these banks all over the country with a controlling bank at Posen. Very soon all of German Poland was stirred with a land speculation of great dimensions. The masses of the Polish peasants had been land hungry ever since they were emancipated and now they were not only given a motive for getting land, but it became a patriotic thing to do. For the first time Polish peasant began to have some share in the life of the people. In fact, it was no longer the spendthrift, idle, intriguing, political noble who was to have the Polish nation, but the humble, thrifty and despised peasant. And when it came to a contest with the powerful Prussian government it appeared that the Polish peasant was tough enough and thrifty enough to make a good fight. In fact, it is now clear that the government's policy has failed.

In the first place the Polish peasant was willing and able to live cheaper and work harder than the German peasant who sought to displace him. He was therefore able to bid higher for the land. The result was the price of land went booming. The government had to bid higher and higher for the land they purchased. The millions of money which poured into the country tended to enrich the Polish landlords. Lands which came into the hands of German peasants presently found their way back to the harder and thrifter Poles. Sometimes the German peasant would even connive with the German landowner to acquire the government.

Agriculture revived, trade increased, the whole country began to prosper. German banks began quietly putting their money into the hands of Polish banks for investment. The Polish people ceased talking about insurrection, or they talked about it very softly. They were all intent upon the industrial and economic struggle. While the government was opposing them, private enterprise was encouraging them.

The result has been that, while the government's land policy failed and while there has been a great deal of irritation because of the efforts of the German government to impose their language on the Polish people, the Polish people are now more bound up with the German people than they ever were before. They still keep up the struggle for nationality, but it is very doubtful if the masses of the Polish people would accept a United Poland if it was offered to them. The masses of the people, who are now prosperous and thrifty, would not want to put themselves under the control of the sentimental and impractical nobility of their own race again.

Meanwhile the history of the other divisions of Poland have been very different. While German Poland has become a prosperous agricultural community, Russian Poland has become one of the great manufacturing centers of Europe. It has been able to become this because it is protected by the Russian tariff and has the whole vast Russian empire for its market. If Poland were reunited all this agricultural and commercial property would be destroyed, because both German and Russian Poland would lose their respective markets.

On the other hand, in Austrian Poland where the Polish nobility has had a free hand in the government of the province, where they have had their own language and their own university, and the racial struggle has been rather between the Poles and the Ruthenians, their conditions are pretty much as they were. The peasants have made some progress in recent times, but it has not been due to the influence of the nobility, but rather to the influence of returned emigrants from America.

The point which the speaker tried to make was that the struggle over the language question in Europe, and the struggle for political rights, were at bottom the same; that when you got down to the bottom you saw that it was the struggle of the race at the bottom to rise, to win self-respect and freedom of action, against a race jealousy of its privileges and determined to maintain its place at the top.

THE PRESIDENT ON PEACE.

President Taft cannot be so discouraged as the newspapers affirm about the reception of his arbitration treaties. Here is what he says in the December World's Work on the subject: "Yes, this sentiment, comparatively new in the world, has made enormous strides within the past few years. Wherever I go I find the most eager interest in anything I say on the subject of war and peace. Crowds grow silent as I approach that theme; men put a hand behind the ear and stand on tiptoe leaning forward so as not to miss a word. There is a profound revolution in the popular thought on the subject of wars, a moral awakening to the hideous wickedness of armed combat between man and man, and an economic perception of the wastefulness and folly not only of war but of the great armaments which the present jealousy of the powers makes it necessary to maintain."

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LIGHT WRAPS.

"She wore no jewels," says a fiction writer of the heroine, "save a single ruby set in her engagement ring—anything more would have made her seem overdressed." Speak- ing of light wraps.—Atchison Globe.

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THE GREAT VERNON MAKES A HIT IN FLORIDA

FORMER REGISTER OF UNITED STATES TREASURY ELOQUENTLY ADDRESSED PEOPLE OF JACKSONVILLE.

Doctor Vernon came to Jacksonville upon the invitation of the Pastoral council of the East Florida conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church, whose president is Rev. R. T. Gordon, D. D., and whose secretary is Rev. R. L. Brown. Members of this ministerial organization were present, showing a commendable interest in all that was done and said.

The rostrum was occupied by the speaker, Doctor Atwater, president of the Edward Waters college; Doctor Gordon, Dr. R. B. Brooker, Dr. C. H. Beger, Dr. J. E. Ford, the new representative, and many other persons of prominence. After appropriate introductory remarks, in which Doctor Gordon told his peculiar experience in bringing to the city the man whose name has been on the tongues of many for the past several weeks, and of how he met this distinguished man while on his vacation last summer, and secured from him an engagement to come to the city of Jacksonville and address the people of this city.

Doctor Vernon, in personal appearance, vividly reminds one of the lamented Dr. J. C. Price of North Carolina. Of all other things, he is an agreeable speaker. Discarding manuscript, he came before his audience to speak out of the abundance of his experience, Doctor Vernon spoke wholly on matters that are of prime concern to his race of people. He is no pessimist, painting heaven and earth with all sorts of ugly things, and smearing life's highway all over with the gorges of despondency.

The speaker would have his people to know that their is not unlike the course of all races of mankind that have amounted to anything in this world. To sustain this he traced, with a wonderful faithfulness to real history, man's progress from primeval times. Especially did he deduce the evolution of human freedom, specifying the Magna Charter, the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation proclamation. The strange shiftings of civilization, the tortuous course of strivings after the highest, the best, and that which is most enduring, formed no small part of this address, which was frequently punctuated with applause.

In referring to his race in this country, it was thrilling, the manner in which he told of their having been the burden-bearers both in war and in peace; how at Yorktown black men stood at order arms in Washington's army, while Cornwallis surrendered to the great American general, and how nearly one hundred years after black men stood and died for the Union and their freedom.

Inauspicious from Jamestown to the dawn of the better day, the race has found that its greatest need is simply to be left alone. Never traitors in any war in which they took part, never tried on impeachment charges while lawmakers in the halls of congress, and ever loyal to home, after allowed to know really what that word meant.

The speaker paid a golden tribute to the church and Christian education, citing the many benefits accruing from these two agencies. His tribute to the fathers of human freedom was truly transporting, individualizing the lamented Frederick Douglas.

This powerful lecture found its closing in an appeal to the youths, clinching all that had been said with a masterly appeal to the young to take up what those who have done so well, without the advantages of present day methods. He held up the direful consequences of the boys who live in the streets and have lodging places at home; to girls who do not learn that there is golden opportunity, often, in rags.

The speaker, as he approached the conclusion of his discourse, saliently pointed out what struck all as so many places of danger. In doing this he declared that there is no race problem, but there is a human problem. Adjustment, so as to be of actual value in the solution of this, was another strong point. The relation of duty and rights was vividly brought out, and the conclusion was reached in a broad vein of patriotism that swayed the audience with a captivation as complete as if a religious tidal wave had been set in motion by some of the famous revivalists.

Doctor Vernon sat down amid a storm of applause. All were pleased to the point of being jubilant. Hundreds came forward and shook the hand of the speaker fervently.

EXECUTIVE ABILITY.

"You say Mr. Flubson has great executive ability?"

"Yes," replied the cynical office-holder.

"What makes you think so?"

"Because he manages to hold a job without being competent to do any kind of real work."—Washington Star.

ACCOMMODATING CANNIBAL.

"I am going to win your heart, brother," said the missionary to the cannibal king.

"All right, doctor," replied the cannibal. "That suits me. They say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Would you prefer to be roasted or broiled?"—Harper's Weekly.

SAVED BY A NOSE.

"The wolves were upon us," he related to the girl he was trying to impress. "Their howling penetrated to our very marrow. We fled for our lives. But each second we knew that the ravenous pack was gaining on us. Closer, closer—at last they were so close that we could feel their manes against our hair, so that—"

"And you escaped?"

"I am. What I object to is the fact that she goes with

NEGRO INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION REVIEWED

U. S. Commissioner of Labor Discusses Subject in His Annual Report.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE MADE NATIONAL REPUTATION AND ARE PLAYING IMPORTANT PART IN RACE ADJUSTMENT.

Washington, D. C.—The United States commissioner of labor, in his annual report on industrial education, just issued, devotes considerable space to the negro industrial schools throughout the country. Speaking of industrial education among negroes generally, he says: "Industrial schools for negroes are almost invariably philanthropic enterprises, and their work is usually hampered by insufficient funds. They have also had to face special difficulties owing to the fact that apprenticeships are practically never open to colored workers and hence their students must receive all their preliminary training before leaving school."

"The difficulty negroes find in entering a skilled trade, unless it is one to which they can work independently or as separate groups, limits the scope of their work, and owing to the deficient education of a portion of their students much of their instruction must be elementary. As a further difficulty they have had to counteract the prejudices of their own race who have been inclined to look upon clerical, commercial and professional callings as the only ones which could be considered by the ambitious."

"In spite of all these difficulties the negro schools have done good work. Several have won for themselves a national reputation and are playing an important part in the adjustment of the race to the new conditions in which emancipation has placed them."

The report also devotes several pages to both Tuskegee and Hampton schools and a number of other negro industrial schools throughout the country, including Snow Hill Normal and Industrial school at Snow Hill, Ala., Berean Manual Training and Industrial school at Philadelphia, Watchman Industrial school at Providence, R. I., Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical college at Alcorn, Miss., State Agricultural and Mechanical college at Orangeburg, S. C., and other similar institutions.

Four pages of the report are devoted to Armstrong Manual Training school of this city, of which Dr. W. B. Evans is principal. In speaking of this school the commissioner of labor says: "It is said that graduates from the trade courses of this school are able to hold their own in their respective trades as finished workmen."

TEST OF A GOOD ACTOR.

James Thornton, the monologist, was walking down Broadway one evening when he saw, leaning against a lamp post, an individual who was evidently an actor just off the road. Equally apparent was the fact that the man needed a job or money, says the Popular Magazine.

"How do you do, my friend?" greeted Thornton.

The stranded actor, recognizing Thornton, spoke to him a trifle sadly.

"Need a job?" asked Thornton.

"I do—badly," answered the actor.

"What have you done?"

"A lot of work," explained the other, his face brightening at the prospect of Thornton's taking an interest in him. "I've done all sorts of roles in stock companies."

"Ever play the part of a Mexican?"

"Oh, yes."

"Pretty good at it, weren't you?"

"Well, if I do say it myself, Mr. Thornton, I think I played the Mexican in fine shape."

"That being the case," replied Thornton, handing him tobacco and a cigarette paper, "roll me a cigarette."

The man who had made such a hit as a Mexican made a miserable failure of the cigarette. And Thornton, observing this fact, resumed his stroll, leaving the stranded actor still stranded.

MONKEYS AND GUM.

In tropical countries the natives have many unique ways of catching monkeys. One of them, as explained by a traveler, is this: The hunters walk about in short boots in sight of the monkeys. Then they take the boots off, place some gum in the bottoms and leave them on the ground, withdrawing themselves to a great distance. Presently the monkeys come down from the trees and try on the boots, and when the hunters come after them the boots stick to the feet of the monkeys and they are unable to climb. Thus the imitative little animals are captured.

"Whiffer has bought a very handsome Axminster."

"I'm so glad. Maybe he will take me for a ride."

"I hardly think so. There are no magic carpets these days."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

SOMETIMES.

"The office ever really seek the?"

"Yes, sometimes. For instance, when the cashier skips to Kansas City Journal."

CUTE GIRL.

"How did she manage to get so many of marriage?"

"She had her picture taken with a camera in her hand."—Birmingham

CAN'T BAR ALL THE DIVORCED

Monarchs of Great Britain and Russia Find They Must Modify Their Ideas.

Queen Mary on her husband's accession to the throne caused it to be known that she intended to revive the rules and regulations of Queen Victoria. She even went a step further, says the Metropolitan, and intimated that the men concerned in divorce cases, as respondents or as complainants, would be regarded with disfavor in the highest quarters.

Queen Victoria never visited her displeasures on the men implicated in divorce cases, save in the solitary instance of Sir Charles Dilke. Indeed several of her most famous and most trusted ministers, such as, for instance, Lord Melbourne, Lord Palmerston and the now octogenarian Lord Lansdowne, were mixed up in all sorts of divorce cases, without ever forfeiting either their office or her good will.

Both King George and Queen Mary, however, found that it was quite impossible to put their avowed intentions into practice. They could not exclude divorced women from their court unless they barred therefrom the king's own first cousins, Grand Duchess Cyril of Russia and Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, as well as a host of other royal and imperial foreign personages more or less closely related to them by ties of blood.

In Russia divorce was condemned formerly both by the court and by society. Moreover, it was extremely difficult to accomplish, being granted only on the grounds which would suffice to secure a decree of nullity from English and American tribunals, or else for infidelity. But in the latter case the legal conditions were so exacting and the cost of a suit so expensive that demands for the dissolution of marriage ties were few and far between.

Now, however, the situation has entirely changed. Divorces have become frequent in Russian society, and despite the objections of the emperor and of his Hessian-born but English bred consort, the court has had to open its doors. Thus the wife of General Soukhomlinov, the minister of war, one of the most popular figures at the court of St. Petersburg and in the great world on the banks of the Neva, was first married to M. de Butewitch, with whom her union was legally and ecclesiastically severed in 1909.

Countess Witte, wife of the former premier who represented Russia at the peace conference at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1905, and who is still a minister of state, is also a divorcee and is received at court. Moreover, there are a number of divorces in the imperial family itself, something wholly unknown until the present reign.

Nile and Lake Once Connected.

Geologists are not confined to the testimony of fossils in ascertaining the changes that have taken place on the earth's surface; sometimes living animals are equally good as evidence. In the center of the vast and almost unexplored part of Africa south of the Sahara lies Lake Chad, which just now is the goal of many scientific expeditions. In several parts of this lake there have been found specimens of a fresh water shrimp of a variety found nowhere else except in the Nile. Seeds may be carried by birds for long distances, but the eggs of this shrimp are too fragile for this. The conclusion is that there must at some time, not too far away as geologists reckon, have been a junction between Lake Chad and the Nile or at least that the two must have been close enough so that in time of flood the waters mingled. Now they are separate by many hundreds of miles of desert. This has been imperfectly explored, but it is known that for a thousand miles or more to the east of the lake there extends a series of depressions that might easily be the bed of an ancient arm of the lake. This region is almost flat, and the lake even now has a habit of shrinking for miles from its banks during the dry season. Possibly engineers of the future may reopen the old course.

Questioner Floored.

One of the members of the school committee undertook to sharpen up the wits of the boys by propounding the following question: "If I had a million and should give two-twelfths to John, two-twelfths to Isaac, two-twelfths to Harv, and should keep half the pie for myself, what would there be left?"

There was a profound study among the boys, but finally one lad held up his hand as a signal that he was ready to answer.

"Well, sir, what would there be left? Speak up loud so that all can hear," said the committee man.

"The plate," shouted the hopeful fellow.

The committee man turned red in the face, while the other members roared aloud.

Too Much Continuous Performance.

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

The value of societies to the benefit of the people is of recognized importance; but, aside from the burial of the dead, there should be, in existence, a sturdy purpose for the elevation of the living. There is somewhat of a divine spirit in the human heart which prompts to deeds of charity; but it is somewhat doubtful that our efforts in this respect are actuated by a spirit of love. Various motives are the forces which induce adherence. Curiosity leads some, while others are impelled by a desire for the frivolous. Only a comparative few realize their far-reaching scope of usefulness, and are willing to sacrifice largely for the welfare of their brethren. To the many, the real meanings of such organizations has not occurred; nor have they the least conception of the mighty deeds capable of being accomplished by united endeavors. If in fostering the growth of societies, the aim reaches no higher than paraphernalias, grips and signs, then we weave to little purpose the threads of life, and will fail to bring forth fruit worthy of acceptance. Zeal, improperly directed, may lead as far in the wrong as in the right direction; and whatever might be the honesty of purpose underlying the act, the injury wrought to any people are those which improve their conditions, and remove the hindrances which obstruct their course. Organized bodies are effective means for the accomplishment of such results; but wise leadership and proper discipline are required to bring these things to pass. There is power in numbers, drilled and systematized; but, unwieldy objects are difficult to handle and often produce more inconveniences than the profit they create. Could the negro be made to see the abundant opportunities to be obtained and utilized through the various organizations which he controls, his situation in the commonwealth would be more commanding, and the respect from his fellowman be greater. There is naught to be gained from any pursuit bereft of lofty ideals; and ridicule greets the ludicrous side of any undertaking. It is wise to aim high if you miss the mark; because, then, you demonstrate to the world your desire for the noble. In the prosecution of an honorable purpose, there is no disgrace in failure, if you do not surrender to despair. The greatest sorrows have often been the outcome of repeated failures, and have been a glory and honors to victorious beforements. Tenacity prevails; but many acts grasped should be worthy of the service in our eager search for trifles. Through lack of understanding, grave errors are committed; and through our blindness even though convinced of the fact, we refuse to correct mistakes. These shortcomings appear to be the inheritance of the sons of Ham; and to a wonderful extent handicap his operations in the march of progress. In his daily intercourse, theory and practice are seldom in accord—even strangely variant, the former often gaining the mastery; yet, we boldly proclaim the unity, despite contrary evidence. Through judgment rightly exercised in the fostering of the organized numbers, vast machineries could be moved by these accumulated mites. It is hoped, however, that the negro will not always resist the appeals of his well-wishers to change his tactics regarding his material welfare, lest, through his own neglect, the golden opportunities now opened to him close their doors forever.—Atlanta Phalanx.

The United Ministerial alliance of the city of New Orleans, by a resolution offered by the Rev. S. J. Channell, denounced the action of the New York court in releasing Ulrich, the culprit who assaulted Dr. Booker T. Washington in the city of New York several months ago. This alliance is interdenominational and is composed of ministers from all of the colored churches of New Orleans, and has an enrollment of more than one hundred ministers. They expressed the greatest confidence in Dr. Washington, declaring that Ulrich should have been fully punished for his wanton attack on the educator. The meeting was held at the Young Men's Christian Association hall, the Rev. John Marks presiding.

The cruel winds of the north have come in, and the cotton pickers are coming from every point, with no more than they had before they left, when the days were warm and pleasant. If you are not profiting by leaving home to go on cotton picks, the best route to protect yourselves is to stay at home.

The lay preacher, as he is known in England, should have greater encouragement in our own church. We have in mind several talented Christian young men who could be of greater service in the communities where they reside if they would aspire to the place of a lay preacher.—Philadelphia Missionary Bee.

The negro race is continually pulling down each other with "wind jam" and through various ways, to which the masses are very sensitive to adhere to. Cease your grumbling and whining and help each other. Help your successful neighbor instead of pulling him down.

The business the Master has for us, his accredited servants.—National Baptist Union-Review.

Thank God, we're yet men!—Baltimore Times.

The aroused attitude of the Southern church to its duties and possibilities in the training of the colored people is a hopeful sign. Some of the most significant work in relation to the Negro question today is being done in the Young Men's Christian Association and other organizations in white Southern colleges by well-trained, broad-minded, Christian young men. And the following from the Louisville Courier-Journal is suggestive of the attitude of the best Southern press: "The whites cannot prosper if the blacks languish. We are, whites and blacks, in the same boat, and we must sit fair and row steady if we expect to be happy and to make progress."

Concrete examples of progress are not wanting. Better supervision for all the schools is rapidly coming to the South. In Virginia a special state supervisor of colored schools as an assistant to the superintendent of public instruction has been appointed. And already the helpful influence of his work is being felt in colored schools all over the state. In many sections school authorities are seeking how to increase the interest of both the white and colored people in the Negro schools. And, almost invariably, wherever the colored people come with substantial contributions towards the betterment of their schools, the school officials and private white citizens have met them with extra appropriations and helpful contributions. At Harrisonburg, in Virginia, for example, the colored people have raised some \$400 for their school during the last two years. The city has increased the number of teachers from three to five, and is now erecting a \$10,000 school house for the colored people.—W. T. B. Williams in the Southern Workman.

It is understood that the farmer who farms for a living should raise enough foodstuff for his own consumption, and not wait on other progressive farmers for it; but many of our farmers have failed to follow or practice this method. Some have raised nothing. Most of our farmers in East Texas plant three-fourths of their lands in cotton and the other fourth in corn and a few cowpeas. Looking at this, he plants less eatables and more non-eatables. When cotton is ready for the market, the farmer has spent eight or nine months in cultivating and gathering the staple; most times holding it several months for prices. Then you will go to your neighbor or to the city, borrow money to get supplies. Suppose you planted truck and several acres of stock feed and provender, then you could plant several crops of truck on the same land within four or five months, and sell your produce throughout the season at good prices, making a fair profit amounting to about twice that of cotton. Plant some cotton and use the truck money in the summer when times are usually hard with the farmer; then he is not wholly dependent upon his cotton. The great truck campaign is on in Anderson county and the farmers who live near the city will miss it if they do not plant some truck. Truck brings good prices throughout the season. Every farmer should plant three or four acres.—Palestine Plaindealer.

The negro race has amid its great mass more moral teachers, according to its growth and advancement, than any other race. Every third person met is an advisor or an exhorter of some kind; but the main fault of the great number of these teachers of righteousness and goodness is, they do not practice what they teach, and this practice has hurt more professional people and race advisors, as well as the masses, than any other pretended practice. Men of the professions and leaders of the people, be careful that you are sincere and follow what you teach; otherwise fall out of line and let the right man enter who will do the right thing. Our people have been made scrupulous and ridiculers of our leading men who have not lived up to their doctrines. Keep your light of advocacy ever bright that it may shine before your people, undaunted, unblemished.—Palestine Plaindealer.

A New Orleans paper takes great pains to point out the desirability of giving the negro a square deal and refers to many disabilities under which the negro labors in the south and nation. Some injustice may be expected under the circumstances. When it comes to the courts it is better that the negro stay out of them. The sooner the negro learns how to attend to his business and to avoid clashes with any and everybody the sooner he will learn the lesson which present unfavorable conditions are designed to teach. The point is not to be concerned too much about the privileges that are denied and to be concerned about the right use of those which are retained.

Provide for a rainy day by taking out an insurance policy in a reliable company. The prudent man looketh ahead and safeguards his family against want, in the event that death or misfortune overtakes him.—Washington National Union.

The honest, truthful, law-abiding and respectable negro is treated humanely by southern white men, who want him to remain here.

Go from your homes in mind of peace, clear of all wrong for the day, and you will be better off always.—Galveston City Times.

Liberia has made negotiations for her great borrow. She will now start life anew to make a better record in the history of nations.

SOME PARALLELS BETWEEN THE RACE PROBLEM IN POLAND AND IN THE UNITED STATES.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION BEFORE THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE.

The Twentieth Century club, connected with the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, held its regular monthly meeting in Dorothy hall. Dr. R. E. Park was host and also furnished the discussion of the evening. His subject was: "Some Parallels Between the Race Problem in Poland and in the United States."

The Poles, the speaker pointed out, are one branch of the great Slavic race, which with its principal seat in Russia, has projected itself into western Europe, under different names, from the Baltic in the north to the Black sea in the south. Everywhere that this race has come into contact with the peoples of western Europe there has been a racial conflict and almost everywhere the Slavic race has been conquered and oppressed.

Dr. Park first sketched the political history of Poland from 1796, when Poland was divided between Russia, Germany and Austria. He then turned to the internal history of the three provinces and showed the manner in which each had developed under the influence of the racial conflict between the different peoples brought together when Poland was absorbed by its neighbors.

Poland's political history has been a hopeless and fatal struggle to gain and retain its national independence. Up to 1830, both in German and Russian Poland, a policy of conciliation was pursued. Russian Poland, for example, was given much greater liberty than any other part of the Russian empire. There was complete freedom of the press and at the same time a very large measure of self-government. But the Polish nobility were not satisfied with anything short of a complete independence and a reunion of the different parts of the ancient republic. In spite of the heroic struggle to maintain national existence the insurrection of 1830 failed and every subsequent effort in the same direction has only served to make the subjugation of the country more complete.

After 1830 the nobles and political leaders emigrated to Paris and there retained a sort of revolutionary junta, which sought to direct political affairs in the different parts of their dismembered country. The policy was to take advantage of the political troubles of Russia, Germany and Austria in order that at the right juncture the Poles might throw themselves into the hands of the country which would promise to aid them in re-establishing their national existence.

In all this movement the masses of the people, the peasants, had little or no part. They remained, in a condition not much better than serfdom, on the plantations of the nobility. They were not able to help themselves and every effort that the different governments, particularly Russia and Germany, made to improve their condition was paralyzed by the political intrigues of the nobility. In Paris and elsewhere, whose policy was to sacrifice everything else to the cause of national existence. The situation, Dr. Park said, was something like that in the south after the "carpet-bag government" was expelled and the politicians, who had gone into exile in the north, attempted to control and direct affairs in the south.

After the Franco-Prussian war, when it was found that the Polish regiments were perfectly willing to fight against their old allies in France, Bismarck determined to settle the Polish question. He said, "The Poles would be all right if we could get rid of this factious nobility." So he said: "We will appropriate a hundred million marks to buy out this impetuous Polish nobility and settle good, brave German peasants on the land. In this way we will Germanize the Poles; displace once for all the dream of a restoration of Poland and in time they will become good Germans." This was the beginning of the modern racial struggle in German Poland, which has had, according to the speaker, a very extraordinary issue.

As soon as it was announced that the German government meant to displace the Polish nobility of their lands, there was a great outcry. Various plans were suggested for resisting this move. The nobility in other parts of Poland at first proposed to raise money and come to the assistance of every Polish landlord who felt compelled or could not be restrained by patriotic motives from selling their estates. But when it came to the pinch it appeared that the Polish nobility, most of them, had neglected their estates, and were, in any case, poor business men, who could not compete with the Prussian government, and the plan was given up.

At the time it occurred to one or two strong, practical men that if the large Polish estates were to be divided up and sold something might be gained if they were divided up and sold among Polish instead of German peasants. So they began establishing little co-operative banks and land companies. Where they found a Polish noble hard pressed they would buy the estate themselves. In this way the land remained at least in the hands of the Polish people and they were not made aliens on their native soil. At other times they would purchase a portion of an estate that was run down or mortgaged. This would

give the Polish noble enough to pay his debts and still enable him to retain the greater portion of his lands.

Very soon there was a network of these banks all over the country with a controlling bank at Rosen. Very soon all of German Poland was stirred with a land speculation of great dimensions. The masses of the Polish peasants had been land hungry ever since they were emancipated and now they were not only given a motive for getting land, but it became a patriotic thing to do. For the first time Polish peasant began to have some share in the life of the people. In fact, it was no longer the spendthrift, idle, intriguing, political noble who was to have the Polish nation, but the humble, thrifty and despised peasant. And when it came to a contest with the powerful Prussian government it appeared that the Polish peasant was tough enough and thrifty enough to make a good fight. In fact, it is now clear that the government's policy has failed.

In the first place the Polish peasant was willing and able to live cheaper and work harder than the German peasant who sought to displace him. He was therefore able to bid higher for the land. The result was the price of land went booming. The government had to bid higher and higher for the land they purchased. The millions of money which poured into the country tended to enrich the Polish landlords. Lands which came into the hands of German peasants pressed only found their way back to the harder and thrifter Poles. Sometimes the German peasant would even connive with the German landowner to acquire the government.

THE GREAT VERNON MAKES A HIT IN FLORIDA

FORMER REGISTER OF UNITED STATES TREASURY ELOQUENTLY ADDRESSED PEOPLE OF JACKSONVILLE.

Doctor Vernon came to Jacksonville upon the invitation of the Pastoral council of the East Florida conference of the African Methodist Episcopal church, whose president is Rev. R. T. Gordon, D. D., and whose secretary is Rev. R. L. Brown. Members of this ministerial organization were present, showing a commendable interest in all that was done and said.

The rostrum was occupied by the speaker, Doctor Atwater, president of the Edward Waters college, Doctor Gordon, Dr. R. B. Brooker, Dr. C. H. Boger, Dr. J. E. Ford, the new representative, and many other persons of prominence.

After appropriate introductory remarks, in which Doctor Gordon told his peculiar experience in bringing to the city the man whose name has been on the tongues of many for the past several weeks, and of how he met this distinguished man while on his vacation last summer, and secured from him an engagement to come to the city of Jacksonville and address the people of this city.

Doctor Vernon, in personal appearance, vividly reminds one of the lamented Dr. J. C. Price of North Carolina. Of all other things, he is an agreeable speaker. Discarding manuscript, he came before his audience to speak out of the abundance of his experience, Doctor Vernon spoke wholly on matters that are of prime concern to his race of people. He is no pessimist, painting heaven and earth with all sorts of ugly things, and smearing life's highway all over with the gorges of despondency.

The speaker would have his people to know that their is not unlike the course of all races of mankind that have amounted to anything in this world. To sustain this he traced, with a wonderful faithfulness to real history, man's progress from primeval times. Especially did he deduce the evolution of human freedom, specifying Runemede, Magna Charter, the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation proclamation. The strange shifting of civilization, the tortuous course of strivings after the highest, the best, and that which is most enduring, formed no small part of this address, which was frequently punctuated with applause.

In referring to his race in this country, it was thrilling, the manner in which he told of their having been the burden-bearers both in war and in peace; how at Yorktown black men stood at order arms in Washington's army, while Cornwallis surrendered to the great American general, and how nearly one hundred years after black men stood and died for the Union and their freedom.

Inauspicious from Jamestown to the dawn of the better day, the race has found that its greatest need is simply to be left alone. Never traitors in any war in which they took part, never tried on impeachment charges while lawmakers in the halls of congress, and ever loyal to home, after allowed to know really what that word meant.

The speaker paid a golden tribute to the church and Christian education, citing the many benefits accruing from these two agencies. His tribute to the fathers of human freedom was truly transporting, individualizing the lamented Frederick Douglas.

This powerful lecture found its closing in an appeal to the youths, clinching all that had been said with a masterly appeal to the young to take up what those who have done so well, without the advantages of present day methods. He held up the direful consequences of the boys who live in the streets and have lodging places at home; to girls who do not learn that there is golden opportunity, often, in rags.

The speaker, as he approached the conclusion of his discourse, saliently pointed out what struck all as so many places of danger. In doing this he declared that there is no race problem, but there is a human problem. Adjustment, so as to be of actual value, in the solution of this, was another strong point. The relation of duty and rights was vividly brought out, and the conclusion was reached in a broad vein of patriotism that swayed the audience with a captivation as complete as if a religious tidal wave had been set in motion by some of the famous revivalists.

Doctor Vernon sat down amid a storm of applause. All were pleased to the point of being jubilant. Hundreds came forward and shook the hand of the speaker fervently.

EXECUTIVE ABILITY. "You say Mr. Flubson has great executive ability?" "Yes," replied the cynical office-holder.

"What makes you think so?" "Because he manages to hold a job without being competent, to do any kind of real work."—Washington Star.

ACCOMMODATING CANNIBAL. "I am going to win your heart, brother," said the missionary to the cannibal king.

"All right, doctor," replied the king. "That suits me. They say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Would you prefer to be roasted or broiled?"—Harper's Weekly.

SAVED BY A NOSE. "The wolves were upon us," he related to the girl he was trying to impress. "Their howling penetrated to our very marrow. We fled for our lives. But each second we knew that the ravenous pack was gaining on us. Closer, closer—at last they were so close that we could feel their muzzles against our legs, so that—"

"Ah," sighed the lady, greatly relieved, "how glad you must have been that they had their muzzles on!"

INCUMBRANCE. "No," said Mr. Cumrox, "I don't in the least disapprove of my daughter's marrying a title."

"But you seem dissatisfied."

"I am. What I object to is the fact that goes with it."

NEGRO INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION REVIEWED

U. S. Commissioner of Labor Discusses Subject in His Annual Report.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS HAVE MADE NATIONAL REPUTATION AND ARE PLAYING IMPORTANT PART IN RACE ADJUSTMENT.

Washington, D. C.—The United States commissioner of labor, in his annual report on industrial education, just issued, devotes considerable space to the negro industrial schools throughout the country. Speaking of industrial education among negroes generally, he says: "Industrial schools for negroes are almost invariably philanthropic enterprises, and their work is usually hampered by insufficient funds. They have also had to face special difficulties owing to the fact that apprenticeships are practically never open to colored workers and hence their students must receive all their preliminary training before leaving school."

"The difficulty negroes find in entering a skilled trade, unless it is one to which they can work independently or as separate groups, limits the scope of their work, and owing to the deficient education of a portion of their students much of their instruction must be elementary. As a further difficulty they have had to counteract the prejudices of their own race who have been inclined to look upon clerical, commercial and professional careers as the only ones which could be considered by the ambitious."

"In spite of all these difficulties the negro schools have done good work. Several have won for themselves a national reputation and are playing an important part in the adjustment of the race to the new conditions, in which emancipation has placed them."

The report also devotes several pages to both Tuskegee and Hampton schools and a number of other negro industrial schools throughout the country, including Snow Hill Normal and Industrial school at Snow Hill, Ala., Berean Manual Training and Industrial school at Philadelphia, Watchman Industrial school at Providence, R. I., Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical college at Alcorn, Miss., State Agricultural and Mechanical college at Orangeburg, S. C., and other similar institutions.

Four pages of the report are devoted to Armstrong Manual Training school of this city, of which Dr. W. B. Evans is principal. In speaking of this school the commissioner of labor says: "It is said that graduates from the trade courses of this school are able to hold their own in their respective trades as finished workmen."

TEST OF A GOOD ACTOR. James Thornton, the monologist, was walking down Broadway one evening when he saw, leaning against a lamp post, an individual who was evidently an actor just off the road. Equally apparent was the fact that the man needed a job or money, says the Popular Magazine.

"How do you do, my friend?" greeted Thornton, recognizing Thornton, spoke to him a trifle sadly. "Need a job?" asked Thornton. "I do—badly," answered the actor. "What have you done?"

"A lot of work," explained the other, his face brightening at the prospect of Thornton's taking an interest in him. "I've done all sorts of roles in stock companies."

"Ever play the part of a Mexican?" "Oh, yes."

"Pretty good at it, weren't you?" "Well, if I do say it myself, Mr. Thornton, I think I played the Mexican in fine shape."

"That being the case," replied Thornton, handing him tobacco and a cigarette paper, "roll me a cigarette."

The man who had made such a hit as a Mexican made a miserable failure of the cigarette. And Thornton, observing this fact, resumed his stroll, leaving the stranded actor still stranded.

MONKEYS AND GUM. In tropical countries the natives have many unique ways of catching monkeys. One of them, as explained by a traveler, is this: The hunters walk about in short boots in sight of the monkeys. Then they take the boots off, place them on the ground, withdrawing themselves to a great distance. Presently the monkeys come down from the trees and try on the boots, and when the hunters come after them the boots stick to the feet of the monkeys and they are unable to climb. Thus the imitative little animals are captured.

"Whiffer has bought a very handsome Axminster."

"I'm so glad. Maybe he will take me for a ride."

"I hardly think so. There are no magic carpets these days."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

SOMETIMES. "Does the office ever really seek the man?"

"Well, yes, sometimes. For instance, when the cashier skips to Canada."—Kansas City Journal.

CUTE GIRL. "How did she manage to get so many offers of marriage?"

"She had her picture taken with a crying pan in her hand."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

CAN'T BAR ALL THE DIVORCED

Monarchs of Great Britain and Russia Find They Must Modify Their Ideas.

Queen Mary on her husband's accession to the throne caused it to be known that she intended to revive the rules and regulations of Queen Victoria. She even went a step further, says the Metropolitan, and intimated that the men concerned in divorce cases, as respondents or as co-respondents, would be regarded with disfavor in the highest quarters.

Queen Victoria never visited her displeasures on the men implicated in divorce cases, save in the solitary instance of Sir Charles Dilke. Indeed several of her most famous and most trusted ministers, such as, for instance, Lord Melbourne, Lord Palmerston and the now octogenarian Lord Lansdowne, were mixed up in all sorts of divorce cases, without ever forfeiting either their office or her good will.

Both King George and Queen Mary, however, found that it was quite impossible to put their avowed intentions into practice. They could not exclude divorced women from their court unless they barred therefrom the king's own first cousins, Grand Duchess Cyril of Russia and Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, as well as a host of other royal and imperial foreign personages more or less closely related to them by ties of blood.

In Russia divorce was condemned formerly both by the court and by society. Moreover, it was extremely difficult to accomplish, being granted only on the grounds which would suffice to secure a decree of nullity from English and American tribunals, or else for infidelity. But in the latter case the legal conditions were exacting, and the cost of a suit so expensive that demands for the dissolution of marriage ties were few and far between.

Now, however, the situation has entirely changed. Divorces have become frequent in Russian society, and despite the objections of the emperor and of his Hessian-born but English bred consort, the court has had to open its doors. Thus the wife of General Soukhomlinov, the minister of war, one of the most popular figures at the court of St. Petersburg and in the great world on the banks of the Neva, was first married to M. de Butewitch, with whom her union was legally and ecclesiastically severed in 1909.

Countess Witte, wife of the former premier who represented Russia at the peace conference at Portsmouth, N. H., in 1905, and who is still a minister of state, is also a divorcee and is received at court. Moreover, there are a number of divorcees in the imperial family itself, something wholly unknown until the present reign.

Nile and Lake Once Connected. Geologists are not confined to the testimony of fossils in ascertaining the changes that have taken place on the earth's surface; sometimes living animals are equally good as evidence. In the center of the vast and almost unexplored part of Africa south of the Sahara lies Lake Chad, which just now is the goal of many scientific expeditions. In several parts of this lake there have been found specimens of a fresh water shrimp of a variety found nowhere else except in the Nile. Seeds may be carried by birds for long distances, but the eggs of this shrimp are too fragile for this. The conclusion is that there must at some time, not too far away as geologists reckon, have been a junction between Lake Chad and the Nile or at least that the two must have been close enough so that in time of flood the waters mingled. Now they are separated by many hundreds of miles of desert. This has been imperfectly explored, but it is known that for a thousand miles or more to the east of the lake there extends a series of depressions that might easily be the bed of an ancient arm of the lake. This region is almost flat, and the lake even now has a habit of shrinking for miles from its banks during the dry season. Possibly engineers of the future may reopen the old course.

Questioner Floored. One of the members of the school committee undertook to sharpen up the wits of the boys by propounding the following question: "If I had a million dollars and should give two-twelfths to John, two-twelfths to Isaac, two-twelfths to Harry, and should keep half the pie for myself, what would there be left?"

There was a profound study among the boys, but finally one lad held up his hand as a signal that he was ready to answer.

"Well, sir, what would there be left? Speak up loud so that all can hear," said the committee man.

"The plate," shouted the hopeful fellow.

The committee man turned red in the face, while the other members roared aloud.

Too Much Continuous Performance. Little Midge contracted appendicitis, and had to be sent to the hospital to have an operation performed. She bore it all very coolly and pluckily. When she became convalescent, the surgeon came to remove the stitches that had been put in the wound. The child's plea of dignity was very much upset, and she demanded, indignantly: "Do you s'pose I come here to be all stitched up and then unpicked again?"

Sounds Made by Fish. The skate, when caught, grunts, groans and gasps pretty much after the manner of a human being in distress. Carp and gold fish frequently utter curious sounds, but hardly sounds in the meaning of the term here used, inasmuch as their sounds are produced by approaching air in bubbles until a rippling noise is heard.

The Main Reality. Critic—How the public flock to that play! And yet there is nothing real in it.

Manager—Oh, yes, there is. There's real money in it.

The Farm

MANAGING THE INCUBATOR.

If the incubator is in a room where the temperature changes no harm will result, provided the operator watches the lamp flame and does not allow too much heat to accumulate. The hot water incubator (no lamp) must be kept in a warm place, if possible, in order to avoid loss of heat at night.

LOSS FROM WEEDS.

While no farmer can exactly estimate his loss from weeds, the fact remains that it cuts quite a hole in the net annual profits. This is indicated by the heavy dockage which so much grain undergoes at the elevator. All the dockage has been made at the expense of plant food and labor, and the farmer who can adopt a rigid plan for keeping down weeds will add to his income and be adding value to his farm at the same time.

FIX UP THE GRINDSTONE.

When a grindstone gets out of true, says the Prairie Farmer, "a quick rod of soft iron held to the stone like a turning chisel while the stone is turned will true it up nicely." This is not at all hard, a spade with the handle against the ground and the edge like a turning tool will soon put the stone in good shape. If an sulphuric acid will cut the glazing down to the grit.

ABSOLUTE CLEANLINESS.

Plum of all kinds causes lice. The mites will breed in the droppings. Bad nest eggs are a favorite source, and the heat from the body of the hen hatches them. Every crack and crevice contains them. Look on the birds for the large body lice, as they never leave the fowls. Rub a little melted lard on the head of the fowls; also on the neck and dust the bodies with insect powder. There is, however, no use in doctoring the fowls unless the premises are thoroughly cleaned, and kept clean and sanitary.

POINTS IN FEEDING.

The most common method of feeding throughout the poultry world today is to give a wet mash of some sort to the fowls once a day, whole grain being fed in the morning and evening. Some people prefer to feed the mash warm and some cold, and some feed it in the morning, some in the middle of the day and others at night. It is best to feed the mash at noon in winter, for the reason that it is best to make the hens exercise for the whole grain in the early morning. At noon the mash is given, rather than at night. The chief objection to the evening mash is that a full crop of it will not last them during the long winter nights, as well as whole grain. Care should always be exercised when feeding a wet mash.

PROFIT IN POULTRY.

What are the profits in poultry? Is the question most asked by the beginner. In the poultry business, like all other lines of business, there is no stated profit. It depends wholly upon the knowledge the beginner has, the location of the plant, large or small, soil conditions, nearness to railroads and markets. There are many successful poultry raisers, but few profits are seldom just alike, due to different conditions, the skill of the operator, etc. There is a good profit in poultry for the money invested, to anyone who is willing to work and learn. The average poultry raiser, large or small, commercially is making a net profit of \$1.50 to \$2.50 per fowl. There are exceptions and these make a higher average.

FIGHTING LICE.

Lice are natural to all kinds of fowls, and they can and must be kept in check by thorough drenching of the poultry houses with kerosene emulsion will rid the house of them, provided the fowls are first removed and treated for lice. Warm climates are favorable to lice. Warm climates are favorable to these pests, and there more work is necessary. Twenty drops of pennyroyal in an ounce of lard is an excellent application for the bodies of the fowls. Kerosene oil is too severe for the bodies of fowls. Many poultry raisers understand how to combat lice, but the fact is, they will not believe lice are present, and ascribe the results of the work of lice to some disease, thus doctoring the fowls unnecessarily. If the houses are kept clean and a dust bath provided the hens will drive the little mites away, but it is not so easy to get rid of the large ones.

STERILIZING EARTH AROUND POSTS.

Patent post holes have long been humorously referred to in connection with machines for grinding smoke, kerosene wheelbarrows and other imaginary inventions. It has remained, however, for a Buda-Pesth inventor to make what is probably an important improvement relating particularly to post holes, seeking to thus preserve the wood of the posts. Instead of applying preservatives to the

LIMBERNECK.

In answer to an inquiry for remedy for limberneck, would say that this disease is an affliction that is usually caused by fowls eating diseased meat full of maggots. Some say it is also a result of ptomaine poisoning. The remedy is turpentine and the following is a good treatment: Mix a tablespoonful of turpentine in an equal amount of warm water and pour into the crop. Follow by filling the crop with warm water, and then, holding

wooden posts, railroad ties, sleepers or other wood exposed to the action of the earth, he treats the earth which surrounds the wooden post in such manner as to destroy all insect, germ and fungus life by soaking the earth with a suitable sterilizing liquid. The process is termed "peristerization," and is claimed to be especially useful in rural and other remote districts in which it is inconvenient to obtain wood which has been treated with creosote or similar preservative.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR SERIALIZING MILK.

According to a daily consular report by Consul Mahlin of Amsterdam, a local periodical refers to the effect of ultra-violet beams on bacteria and to the fact that such beams are abundantly developed by mercury incandescent lamps, and relates that through this medium milk may now be sterilized in a few minutes. An apparatus has been constructed, it is explained, whereby the milk flows in a thin stream along an electric light. Demonstrations were first made with water infected with different kinds of bacteria, and it is said that the water was purified in a few minutes, without appreciably increasing its temperature. The result is attributed to the ozone formed under the influence of the light, but the demonstrations must be conducted where there is sufficient room for the light to burn freely. This method of sterilization, without heating or adding preservatives, is believed to have great hygienic value in respect to nursing children.

FIGHTING FOREST FIRES.

An old fire department ladder truck which had been discarded by the department of Natick, Mass., has been turned into an apparatus for fighting forest fires, and its operation has been attended with considerable success. The ladders were removed and replaced with tanks for carrying water. Over these tanks for ten men have been placed, and there are also provisions for carrying buckets, brooms, portable extinguishers and similar essentials. Another novelty of this character is to be witnessed at Springfield, Mass., where a three-horse team on a water tower has been displaced and the places of the animals taken by a tractor, which is a powerful motor. The front wheels of the tower have been removed, and without any further alteration or changes the front end of the apparatus secured to the tractor. In order to effect short turns the front wheels of the tractor are mounted so close together that the two have the appearance of a single heavy wheel.

HABITS OF RABBITS.

German natural historical periodicals are calling attention to an interesting change in the habits of wild rabbits, especially in the western parts of Germany, as, for instance, Westfalen. The animals in question, says the Scientific American, are giving up their ancient habit of burrowing, and have commenced in great part to imitate the hares, which, as is well known, nest only above ground. The hares themselves were once burrowers, and gradually went through the same change in habits in this particular that appears to characterize the rabbits at the present day—at any rate, in Germany. In woods where the undergrowth is thick, and which are therefore especially suitable to the rabbits, they find hiding places in plenty for their nests; and even in open country, unwooded—and the rabbits seem to be taking more and more to the open—they take refuge in board piles, brick kilns, drain pipes and ditches that are overgrown with weeds. The female makes little fortresses for her young, to protect them from the cannibalistic propensities of the male; she lines the nest warmly with fur from her own breast, visits them secretly at night, and perhaps suckles them once or more during the 24 hours; but each time that she leaves them she carefully piles rubbish before the opening which leads to her defenseless family, and defiles the obstructions with ordure.

PROFIT IN BEES.

A person can begin with one swarm of bees and in a few years have fifty. The hive, supers and other things cost about \$3 for each swarm. As a single stand has been known to put up over 60 pounds of honey in a season, it can be seen that bees are certainly profitable. They can pay 100 per cent. profit the first year and vastly more than that in succeeding years, always providing, of course, that the season is all right, which, unfortunately, is not always the case in this arid region. No mistake, however, can be made by getting a start with bees. Besides being profitable, they are beneficial to fruit trees, and there is no heavy work in tending them. A good living can usually be made from a few hives. It is doubtful if any other stands will pay so well for the time spent and the investment, but it all depends on the season—Denver Field and Farm.

the fowl by the feet, gently work out the entire contents of the crop. When thoroughly cleaned give a tablespoonful of castor oil and allow the fowl to remain quiet by itself until recovered. Of course, it is obvious that unless the source of the trouble is removed the fowls will still eat the diseased meat and become ill again, therefore a careful inspection of the surroundings should be made to see that no dead and decaying animals are lying around as a breeding place for maggots.—Kansas Farmer.

The Sunday School Lesson

Sunday School Lesson for January 7, 1911.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST FORETOLD.—Luke 1:5-23 (Read Luke 1:1-4.)

GOLDEN TEXT.—Without faith it is impossible to please him.—Heb. 11:6.

The Lesson Explained.

Verses 5-7: People of Pity. The relations between Jesus and John are more fully brought out by Luke than by the other evangelists, in these preliminary stories which we are to study during January. He thus gives the life of Jesus a more human setting. Herod the king was an irreligious and infamous man, though his name is associated with the rebuilding of the temple. Zacharias literally means "remembered by" Jehovah; his character is well exemplified by his name. The course of Abia—There were twenty-four courses or classes of priests, each of which served for one week in the worship of the temple (1 Chron. 24). The order of their service was determined by lot. Elizabeth was, like her husband, of priestly descent, but, unlike many in the priesthood, they were both devout and honorable people. Righteous before God—in deed and in truth; they were walking as an habitual practice in all the commandments and ordinances. They kept the law of God in such a way that they were regarded as blameless by the people. Had no child—This was considered a great misfortune where the idea was a large family (Psa. 128); and where, as among the Jews, every family desired to have the Messiah born within it. Well stricken in years—Being of advanced age, all hope of a child had been destroyed.

Verses 8-17: An Angel's Announcement.

There were so many priests in attendance that it was not possible for everyone to have the privilege of burning incense within the holy place; and no one was permitted to do this twice. It was therefore a memorable day in the life of a priest, when he drew the white stone which announced that he had been honored to enter the sanctuary on behalf of the people. The incense was burned twice a day, at nine in the morning and three in the afternoon; and lots were cast among the priests twice every day to decide who should engage in this important service. We cannot say at which hour Zacharias was performing this honorable duty. Praying without—This was in the sacred enclosure, but it was outside the sanctuary which was entered only by the priests, while the Holy of holies was entered only by the high priest on the Day of Atonement. Zacharias was now alone; his two assistants had performed their part and retired. As he was offering the incense, which was a symbol of supplication, there appeared an angel of the Lord. This was a solemn hour in his life; it was fitting that a climax should be reached, that would seal with divine approval his devotion to God during these many years. The divine messenger came with happy tidings which he delivered standing on the right side of the altar—This was the place of honor worthy of a representative of the Most High God. Troubled—fear—He was seized with feelings of agitation and of fear, as a sense of the unseen became vivid to him. But he was soon set at ease by the glad news that his prayer is heard—This may refer to his supplications for a son in which his wife had joined with him; or to his supplications for the redemption of Israel through the coming of the Messiah, which all pious Israelites had always offered. Jehovah had surely remembered his faithful servant who was to be greatly honored by becoming the father of Messiah's herald. The birth of a son was the signal for joy and gladness with exultation; more so it was to be in the case of John who was to be "the gift of Jehovah" to many people. Great in the sight of the Lord—Therefore truly great in the possession of moral and religious excellence. He will be a man of abstinence, which was a token of the intense consecration of his life. Filled with the Holy Ghost from his birth, and sustained by spiritual power for his great mission. The nature of his prophetic career is suggested by the reference to Elijah, who was preeminently a preacher of repentance for conversion to God. When parental and filial duties are faithfully performed, society will be prepared for a religious revival.

Verses 18-23: A Sensational Event.

The reality so far exceeded the expectations of Zacharias that he hesitated on the very threshold of fulfillment. Whereby shall I know this?—His want of faith was the less excusable, because he knew of illustrations from the life of Abraham and other Old Testament saints how God had been true to his promises. I am Gabriel—This is the angel of God's presence—the "man of God" as the name means—who ministers to men from God. Thou shalt be dumb—The dumbness was both a punishment and a sign; the penalty was remitted as soon as the sign was fulfilled. They marvelled—It was the custom to remain within the sanctuary just long enough to burn incense. This long delay, therefore, caused anxiety. They perceived—On his inability to pronounce the benediction (Num. 6:24-26), led the people to infer that he had seen a vision. What excitement must have prevailed and how many would have been the questions, which however could not then be answered. He departed—When his term of official service had expired, Zacharias returned to his home in the hill country; and there he awaited the fulfillment of the times in silence and submission before God, being encouraged by the faith and loyalty of his wife.

Verses 24-26: The Birth of John.

When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. Life's struggle great and arduous has been the lot. When powers great relaxed still urged me on. To duty and bathed in anguish try I would. To better the cause, some sweets with many a thorn. To soothe the care; comes o'er the path in measure full. Testing the strength of powers weak, when nature sounds the tocsin let me rest.

When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. Though weary soul in anguish tries to rest. What depths of soothing troubles come our way? When from the bottomless pit of earthly woes Comes forth the bitter dose, though man assay. To stay what in, he spurns the debt he owes. And whips to duty all that's in him bent. When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest.

When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. The world without can never bring to rest. The world within, though treason be the claim. And bring to counsel what as human lie. Protests or bickerings with a name. That brand us cowards, too weak, too afraid to die. Escape from duty has never for one blessed. When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest.

When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. What indescribable joys would in invest could I but check the onward tide Of nature's call, I am but a wealthy man. Resting fate. Is duty, nothing vile? It's brave to fight, tighten, not loose the bands. Or what seems inevitable, thy claims be less. When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest.

When nature sounds the tocsin let me rest. What scenes in life roll o'er my troubled breast? In sprightly youth my powers were mighty spent. To be destroyed like wood—in crumbled earth. Or cankerous iron, much worn, so easily bent. After years of wearing, my soul durest.

FASHIONABLE BOOKMARKS.

A woman who reads a great deal and who always keeps two or three books going at the same time, hit upon the notion of using fashion paper ladies for bookmarks, the modish little personages being clipped from a fashion magazine that uses a heavy cream paper for its pages. This idea proved so successful that now she makes paper doll bookmarks for her friends, providing each little paper lady with a back of white cardboard.

POETRY

of and by Our People

"WHEN NATURE SOUNDS THE TOCSIN LET ME REST."

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CLEANING WOOLEN SKIRT.

A small amount of soap tree bark will easily clean a black woolen skirt. Put the bark into a gallon of water and set it on the stove, allowing it to boil ten minutes; then strain and pour the strained water into a tub containing sufficient amount of warm water to wash the skirt. Rub thoroughly in this water. Do not use a board, but rub the garment between the hands.

Put the bark strainings back on the stove with cold water and heat it just warm enough for rinsing water. Rinse the skirt in this and hang out to dry. When it is almost dry take it from the line and iron it on the wrong side while it is still damp.

A bit of old kid glove or old canvas sewed under the bands of the skirt just where the hooks and eyes are to be placed will prevent the bands tearing away.

Wildcat caps are being sold for motor wear; they are very shaggy and of two shades of color, brown and a tawny yellow or black streaked with gray. In the front of a smart wildcat cap three clips covered with velvet are arranged, and it is the office of the clips to keep in its place the veil of shaded colors that is to be posed over the cap.

Novelties in motor wear are attracting a great deal of attention just at present, and one of them is the paleot dress built of three furs of diverse appearance. A strange and sensational model is carried out in seal skin, ermine and Persian lamb, the seal skin providing the yoke and sleeves, the ermine a bordering to both, and the Persian lamb the rest of the closely fitting wrap.

Fancy suitings and broadcloths continue to hold their own. Brocade velvet wraps are considered high style this season. Bandings and galloons have lost none of their usefulness from a fashion standpoint. Draped skirts are as yet only moderately successful on this side of the water, though their popularity in Paris is very great.

This is said to be a great season for topcoats and dresses, but fewer suits are seen. Silk volles with pekin stripes of velvet are among the superb fabrics for afternoon toilets. Among the new fabrics for fall is a voile that has a heavy rib in it, like serge or ottoman silk. Velour delaine, vicuna and camel's hair weaves are notable among the new coats. For suits and coats the new shades of blue, brown, green, mustard and black are the dominating colors. Grey meteor is the recognized favorite of the season, both for simple little dresses and dinner gowns. Homespun and tweeds in double-faced weaves are most correct for severely tailored runabout and traveling suits.

Of Interest to Our Women

WHAT THE MATRON WILL WEAR.

Velvet, lace and fur are the materials in which many of the season's smartest toilets are developed for the matron. The velvets in pretty neutral colorings are plain, the fur being used as edgings on the skirt hems and sleeves, while the lace is used of softening the bodices at the throat.

Some of the most successful dresses for the matron are in gray velvet, with bodices of gray chiffon over white lace, and the long coats of velvet have touches of fur on the edges and large fur collars and dyers. The lace in some cases is reversed, and it drapes the skirt in simulated peplum style, being hidden when the coat of velvet is worn.

A favorite combination in materials for the matron is panne and satin. Satin is used for the bodice and upper part of the skirt, while panne forms the deep hem and is used for the cloak which accompanies the dress. Sometimes the waist on the day gown is touched with a little delicate embroidery, but it is in the evening frocks that ornamentation makes it appear more fully.

In tailor made frocks for the woman of middle age there are smart designs arranged in cloth or fine navy serge. They are long and semi-fitting, or short with straight collars touched with velvet and finished with narrow lines of color. Blue, for instance, has a line of dull cerise on the edge of the collar, and emerald is used with good effect in the same way.

FADS AND FANCIES.

We are now how particularly annoying it is to have a new frock badly spotted with rain, and to know that we must go about with that frock rain-spotted to the end of its days. Try this plan if such a calamity befalls one of your garments and you will be delighted with the results:

Wring a clean cotton or linen cloth out of cold water. Have the gown carefully spread over an ironing board. Place the damp cloth on the right side of the material and iron, thoroughly and quickly over the wet cloth, always taking care to wring it out of water when a fresh part of the gown has to be ironed.

It is well to go all over the frock—the skirt at least, even should it not all be spotted. It will freshen it, and will not damage the most delicate color or fabric if carefully done.

This is also a good way of renewing navy blue or black serge costumes. A few drops of ammonia may be added to the water in which the cloth is wrung out. Brush well and shake the garment before ironing it. Another way to revive navy blue serge is to sponge it well with strong indigo blue water and iron after it has dried a little.

FOR MOTOR WEAR.

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SOME NEW IDEAS IN HOUSE DECORATION.

In one of the popular plays of the day the woman who is artistic will get an idea well worth following as to house decoration. In one of the scenes a room is decorated with gray curtains.

Why, says the artistic woman, has she not thought of gray curtains before? Why adhere to blue and brown, rose and white, when gray makes a frame for the outside world that is inimitable? It softens the garish brightness of an azure sky, and drapes the sad day with sympathetic harmony. Moreover, a gray tone with any room is never obtrusive, does not weary the senses, is dignified, charming and picturesque. It is, in short, a perfect choice.

Gray curtains made of chintz, China silk and sheeling, or the sumptuous brocade and satin, are the ideal accompaniments of the house where every color scheme is kept in low tones. The result is a habitation very soothing to the eyes and nerves and one of which nobody wears quickly.

White walls go well with gray curtains and they should be hung with engravings. Steel fenders and fire-irons complete the picture and the electric light fittings match. The mahogany furniture shines and the damask and silver that deck the table at meal times are at once simple and splendid in design. Solid comfort is the motto of the home, and curtains of gray will carry out this motto.

A PURPLE GOWN.

An admirable new winter model is of plum purple, with a straight narrow skirt, trimmed below the knees with a deep fold of the material, piped with black satin; there are two swinging panels at the back, which give a broad effect across the waist at the back; this, by the way, is one of the dominant features of this winter's styles, and will be seen on every kind of gown.

The coat is quite large and does not follow the slim, straight lines that all the tailors made conspicuous last summer; it has a black satin cord across the back a little above the waist, which holds the material in, and a peplum, or lower part, which fits the hips snugly and reaches half way to the knees.

There are two buttons to fasten it above the waist line in front, and a voluminous collar, square across the back and running to points at the waist. This is made of French gray broadcloth, finished off with a band of the material, and with an Egyptian design in tubular black braid in the middle of the back.

CHIFFONS.

The new little empire coats are being made with picturesque waistcoats of embroidery or brocade. The skirt accompanying the coat is of nylon, the coat itself being carried out in taffetas.

Navy blue maintains all of its old popularity, and in silk, satin or serge is effectively trimmed with bands of highly colored hand-made embroidery. The favorite house frock of the young girl is of cashmere pleated or gathered to the waist with the guimpe or silk lightly embroidered, and an undergumple of lawn.

Cameos are returning to the light of day after their long retirement from the world, and they are worn now either in place of buckles at the waist or on black velvet neck ribbons instead of the more usual paste ornaments.

COMFORTABLE HOUSE DRESSES.

Work dresses, those worn about the house, are really models of comfort and neatness this season. They are new on the market, and the garments are taking the place of the old-time Mother Hubbard wrappers.

The sleeves of these dresses are three-quarter length, so that they will not have to be rolled up or pinned back, giving freedom in the use of the arms without fear of getting the dress soiled. Many of the dresses have regular roll collars or those of the Dutch variety.

EGGLESS FRUIT CAKE.

Two cupsful sugar, two cupsful butter, one pound seedless raisins chopped fine, four cupsful flour, one-half cupful butter, one tablespoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water; spices to taste; a cupful of rich preserves of pears or strawberry jam adds to the good fruit taste so well liked by many. Bake in a slow oven.

HELPFUL HINTS.

Add a teaspoonful of powdered charcoal to the water in which flowers are placed and the flowers will last as long as though they were still on the plant without any risk of changing the water.

Cross stitching is being done as much as ever. Among the novelties are infants' bibs, with designs of roosters and other animals. Other cross stitch designs for pillow covers, squares, scarfs and centerpieces are carried out on heavy linen crash. The latter material is also much used for the popular French knot embroidery. In this work particularly bright color combinations are used.

To keep children's ears of any kind on and over the ears in cold weather, and also to keep mischievous playmates from pulling them off, sew elastic on one side. Let it extend around under the chin to the other side. Pull cap down to desired place, measuring your elastic for length.

Allow enough for a loop and sew a button on the side where you make the loop. The cap will stay on and stay in place and is also much easier to put on than it would be to slip the cap on with elastic sewed fast on both sides. Use buttons the color of the cap if possible.

Visiting Katherine

"What's the matter, George?" asked Bleeker when he and Wadley met at the same cafe table last Tuesday noon. "You look like the last run of shad. Have you been sick?"

"No, I've been up in the country," said Wadley. "You know Katherine Morgan's people have a cottage at Sunset lake. Well, Katherine invited me to pass the week-end there. She said it was a quiet, restful place, so I decided to break away from the business grind for two or three days, if I lost my job for it."

"You did right," declared Bleeker. "Everybody needs a change once in a while."

"Well, I had a change, all right," said Wadley, dismally.

"Didn't it agree with you? Was it dull?"

"Dull! I'll tell you what Katherine, the adorable, the untiring, absolutely indestructible Katherine, arranged for my pleasure."

"It was 8:30 Friday evening when my train arrived. Katherine was at the station with a carryall full of young people, who welcomed me most warmly. We drove to the cottage, where supper was awaiting me. After I dispatched that and was looking longingly at one of the porch hammocks Katherine announced that we were all to go down the shore a half mile to a marshmallow roost."

"If there's anything sicker sweet in the name of food that I particularly detest it's marshmallows, but, of course, I expressed my delight at the roast and away we went. After about ten pounds of marshmallows had been consumed and the beach fire was getting low Katherine suggested that we have a few lively games to warm ourselves. Although I was really too tired to move, I joined in the romps and tore back and forth across the beach like a schoolboy for a half-hour or so."

"At 6:30 the next morning a rap at my door woke me from a sound sleep. 'Aren't you going for a dip?' called Katherine, garbly. 'I take a swim every morning before breakfast.'

"In about five minutes I joined Katherine on the pier. She dived into the water and I followed, my teeth chattering. She struck out across the bay. It was only by superhuman efforts that I managed to keep up with her. I had not been in swimming before this year, and I never was a strong swimmer. I proposed that we run home on the beach and Katherine bet me a box of candy that she could beat me. She won."

"After breakfast she challenged me to tennis. We played six sets before lunch. I was too tired to eat, I longed to stretch myself in a hammock, but Katherine said she was as hungry as a hired man, and she knew I must be starving, so I sat down at the table and was making a fairly good meal when Katherine told me to hurry, for she had arranged a foursome at golf with two friends of hers. 'It was 5 o'clock when we finished playing golf and Katherine said we should just have time for a swim before dinner. When I was dressing after the swim Katherine knocked at my door and told me to put on my dancing pumps, as we were going to a hop in the evening.'

"We went to the hop. Katherine was as blooming as a rose. She introduced me to every girl there and I danced every dance on the program and six extras. I don't know how I managed to walk the mile back to the cottage without falling by the side of Katherine, who appeared to be doing a Marathon, so briskly did she walk."

"I hope you got a rest Sunday," said Bleeker, sympathetically.

"A rest! Katherine had planned a walk around the lake. It was just seven miles, and we got home in time for a 1 o'clock dinner. I was determined that I should sleep all the afternoon in a hammock. But it was not to be. Katherine asked me to row her to the far end of the lake to pick water lilies. We got into weeds where I could hardly move the boat an inch without breaking my back."

"In the evening Katherine had a crowd in for a Welsh rabbit and I was allowed to cut up four pounds of cheese. It was hard work. One of the girls came unscathed and Katherine and I rowed her home across the lake at midnight and walked a half-mile to her house and back."

"It didn't seem more than ten minutes after I got into bed when Katherine knocked on my door to see if I was ready for my morning swim. I answered brightly that I had already been in. Then I began throwing my things into my suitcase. At breakfast I inquired about the first train to town."

"But George," Katherine protested, 'I thought you were going to stay over today. There's a lot of things I want you to do. We were going to play indoor baseball and—'

"I'm terribly sorry, I interrupted, 'but it's imperative that I return to my office this morning.'

"It was imperative. I knew that if I didn't regain the rest and quiet of my desk telephone immediately I should be a total wreck. I fled and Katherine's last words to me were an invitation to return for my vacation in September."

"Will you go?" asked Bleeker.

"Not unless I've been to a rest cure first."

Could Keep Up With Them. One of the re-appointed being asked how he contrived to keep his place under successive administrations, replied that administrations must be smart that could change often than be could.

To the Various Federation Clubs Throughout the Several Districts:

Greeting: Another year presents itself to us another year teeming with opportunities for sowing seeds of kindness. Let us sow these seeds in reality, not in name only. Let the sowing be actual, not a dream. Let the seed be kind words for others, kind thoughts for others, consideration for others, more harmony, more love, more honesty, more charity, more self-respect, more race pride, more unity, and more altruism; less discord, less hatred, less jealousy, less immorality, less cynicism, and less selfishness.

Let us carry out the guiding principle of our Grand Federation in real practice. Wishing you a prosperous year and a successful life. I am, yours, in "Sowing Seeds of Kindness,"

Mrs. J. B. Rush,
Pres. I. S. F. C. W. C.
Des Moines.

Women's State Federation, CLUB NOTES.

Mrs. L. W. Norris has resigned her office as president of the A. I. P. club of Sioux City on account of ill health. We are sorry to lose her for the present we are preparing to entertain the Iowa State convention of federated clubs in 1912, and also expect our State President, Mr. J. B. Rush to visit us in the near future.

Mrs. C. M. Coats.

EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION.

(Special to Bystander.)

Ogden, Iowa, Jan. 1, 1912.
Dear Editor Bystander:
For the first time in the history of Ogden, Iowa, the Emancipation Proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, was celebrated today. The weather was disagreeable to some extent, still a good crowd turned out. The program was indeed interesting and inspiring. The meeting was called to order by Mr. C. C. Ballard, the master of ceremonies, after declaring the meeting open for business, introduced Rev. J. W. Morton, the pastor, who conducted the devotional services. The first speaker was Rev. L. G. Garrett, whose subject was "We are not like we used to be." His words were full of thought. Next was a male quartet: "Nearer My God to Thee." Revs. J. W. Morton, S. S. Sullivan, Mr. Bradford and Mr. J. McKerson. The address, subject, "Lift a Standard for the People," by Rev. S. S. Sullivan was inspiring as well as instructive. Mrs. A. B. Bell read a beautiful selection entitled, "The Great Revival Period." This portrayed the early religious practices of the late emancipated people. Next was a paper, subject, "Progress of the Race Since Freedom," by Mr. H. Wilcox. It was well prepared and delivered with interest. As this is a new year, Mr. M. J. Bradford read a paper on New Year's Greeting, which seemed to have captured the audience. Mr. W. B. Howard gave some interesting suggestions and pointed out many important facts in the race's advancement. Before, D. W. Gergen read a valuable paper on Intemperance, which seemed to have been both the time and place. Prof. C. W. Rodgers was introduced, who delivered a most wonderful address, showing the progress of the emancipated people of America. And it seemed that his words were like live wires to the people. He advised the people to be content with themselves that they could be numbered among the best citizens of Boone county, Iowa.

When buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is most effective for colds, croup and whooping cough, and that it contains no harmful drug. For sale by all dealers.

MT. PLEASANT NOTES.

The Presiding Elder Daniels conducted the first quarterly conference of the A. M. E. church; after the sermon the sacrament was administered. Then came the business and reports. Miss Grace Harris acting as secretary. The following reception was given in his honor by the stewards and was greatly enjoyed by all present.

Thursday evening the non-Christian men of the city gave a most elaborate supper for the benefit of the minister of the A. M. E. church.

A fine time was reported and the neat sum of \$10 was cleared and presented to the pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas.

Saturday evening the A. M. E. Sunday school gave its usual Christmas entertainment. The faithful members of the school were all remembered by Santa Claus. Every one had his share and was happy.

There were quite a few out to the Sunday morning Christmas services. The spirit of one whose honor they had assembled with them.

Rev. Thomas led the endeavor meeting Sunday evening, the subject being the gift that transformed the world. This was an interesting and happy meeting. The principal service of the day was the evening sermon, preached by Rev. Thomas. The Christmas sermon, the Babe of Bethlehem.

Monday, December 25th, Second Baptist Sunday school gave a very pretty and interesting program as the Christmas entertainment was better than usual. We certainly feel proud of the children to whom we feel much credit is due, and we feel special mention is due Miss Genevieve Watts, who sang such a beautiful solo; and also little Hethel, who displays such sweet musical talent, who played for her sister Genevieve.

Mrs. Carry who has been sick for some time is not improving as her many friends hoped for.

Mrs. Harry Burneier son Claude and daughter Martha Angeline left Tuesday for a visit with her sister Mrs. D. Baumer, in Des Moines, Iowa. Filadine Greece, who has been sick for a week or more is not so well at this writing.

Mr. Clifford Logan attended a dance in Monmouth the 25th.

Mrs. Myrtle Gratus left for her home last week at Ames, Iowa, after a pleasant visit at the home of her parent, Mr. and Mrs. Sam McCracken.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Wicks, of Eldon, Iowa, spent Christmas in the city visiting at the homes of their parents Mr. and Mrs. Reed and Mr. and Mrs. J. Wicks.

Mrs. Vera Burneier entertained at Kennington last Thursday the 28th after a display of some very pretty needle work of which seems to take much interest, we will not fail to mention a beautiful pillow cover made by Mrs. Julie Bartlett Hills of Chicago, was very much admired by everyone present, after which a dainty luncheon was served that every one greatly enjoyed.

But last if not least, was a little surprise, Mrs. Burneier had in store for each member, when she presented each one with a little needle book and scissors holder. We are only sorry Christmas does not come more often.

STOMACH TROUBLE CURE.

If you have any trouble with your stomach you should take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Mr. J. L. Klotz of Edina, Mo., says: "I have used a great many different medicines for stomach trouble, but find Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets more beneficial than any other remedy I ever used." For sale by all druggists.

CLARINDA ITEMS.

The A. M. E. church members have organized a Christian Endeavor and Literary society which is very interesting for the young people of the church. The G. T. club gave a reception at the L. W. Williams' cafe last Thursday evening. Music, dancing, games and conversation were the features of the evening, after which a delightful luncheon was served by the members of the club. Out of town guests Messrs. Fred Reeves of Glenwood, Jno. Franklin, Fred Johnson of Gravity, Percy Lense of Sioux City, Mrs. Lottie Williams of Creston and Miss Pearl McClain of Des Moines. All report a delightful time.

Miss Susie Lee visited in Des Moines during the holidays.

Mr. Wm. Stevens of Red Oak, was a Clarinda visitor last week. He returned home Sunday evening accompanied by Miss Eva Parker who visited in that city a few days.

Messrs. Fred Johnson and John Franklin of Gravity visited in this city Sunday.

Mrs. Lottie Williams and daughter Helen, who has been a guest at the E. B. Comes home, returned to Creston Saturday.

Rev. J. W. Evans and family visited in Bedford during the holiday week.

When given as soon as the croupy cough appears, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will ward off an attack of croup and prevent all danger and cause of anxiety. Thousands of mothers use it successfully. Sold by all dealers.

Medicines that aid nature are always most effective. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy acts on this plan. It attacks the cough, relieves the lungs, opens the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Thousands have testified to its superior excellence. Sold by all dealers.

A. M. E. church will begin revival meetings this week, and continue for several weeks and they expect to have a large increase in the membership of that church ere the meetings close.

The Moslem Temple, A. A. N. M. S. gave their annual reception at the Masonic Temple, Tuesday night of last week. The attendance was good. The first part of the program consisted of short addresses by the members of the order, vocal, instrumental solos, etc. The second part included a grand promenade. At a late hour, cabs were seen conveying the guests to their homes.

From the number of diamonds and rings that are being worn by the young ladies since the holidays we suspect some wedding announcement will be in the near future.

Mrs. Geo. W. Walker of 609 N. Third street who has been visiting relatives and friends in Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati, Ohio, for about two about two months is expected home in a few weeks.

Prof. and Mrs. D. E. Taylor 2207 Charles street entertained a few friends at dinner last week.

A number of people attended the services at the churches Sunday night where midnight services were held to welcome the New Year.

Do you know that fully nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism are simply rheumatism of the muscles due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism, and require no internal treatment whatever? Apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely and see how quickly it gives relief. For sale by all druggists.

When you feel any temptations "comin' along," said the friend and adviser, "you must say: 'Get thee behind me, Satan!'"

"That's what I done said," answered Mr. Erasmus Pinkley, "an' den I 'magined I hyus Satan answer me back: 'Da's all right. We's both gwine de same way, now, an' it don't make no difference to me which leads de subcession!'"

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HIGH CLASS HAIR GOODS.

MODERATE PRICES

Send sample of hair with a few particulars; we will make an artistic selection and guarantee satisfaction. We send the hair to you prepaid on approval. If you find it perfectly satisfactory and a bargain remit the price. If not return at our expense.

We offer a 22 inch switch, like cut, of natural wavy human hair to match any ordinary shade. \$1.98

THE OLIVE HAIR CO.,

608 Nic. Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

ST. JOSEPH (MO.) NOTES.

Mr. Wm. Coffey, one of the U. S. meat inspectors at Swifts Packing Co., spent part of the holiday visiting his brother and other relatives at Nebraska City, Neb.

The public school resumed their work again last Tuesday morning after a weeks vacation. The school board decided to allow them only one week for the holidays, and week vacation in the spring, hence the teachers and pupils will get their usual two weeks vacation ere the school closes for the summer.

Most of the students who are away attending the different Universities spent their vacations with their parents and friends, have returned to resume studies.

Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Dundan spent part of the Xmas holidays with the latter's mother at Bedford, Iowa.

William Humley was out of the city last week to purchase some good driving horses, as he is an excellent judge of horses. A number of the wealthy people when in need of equestrians ask him to secure them.

The Messrs. Sam Alexander and Mat Evans are the only Afro-American who own automobiles in this city at the present time.

In a few weeks the white politician will be shaking hands very cordially with the colored voters as the mayor and other city officers will be elected this spring, as we have no Afro-American on the police force nor in the fire department, and no clerical position in the city or county.

We think colored voters it is time for us to have at least two or three positions in some of the city or county offices, when the candidates ask your support, ask him if he will support an Afro-American for a position other than janitor work and carefully note his reply, and you will know if he is worthy of your support.

CLARINDA ITEMS.

Mrs. Fannie Oliver who has been assisting Rev. Rivers in carrying on revival services at the A. M. E. church will leave for her home in Buxton, last Thursday morning. The meeting has been in great progress during her stay here. There has been 37 members added to the church, which now makes an enrollment of eighty members. We feel as though we have been greatly blessed.

The A. M. E. S. S. gave their Xmas program Monday evening, under the direction of Mrs. Phalpa Pemberton.

Miss Faria Jones is still on the sick list. We hope for her speedy recovery.

Miss Pearl McClain of Des Moines is in our city, called here by the illness of her sister, Mrs. Jeffers.

Miss Florence Howe, who visited in Forest City and St. Joe, returned home Thursday. She was accompanied by Miss Laura Galden who left Friday for Blanchard.

Miss Jessie Parker is on the sick list. The Second Baptist S. S. will give their Xmas program, Monday, under the auspices of Mrs. E. B. Cook.

FEVER SORES.

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by all druggists.

Willing to Oblige.

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Children and Christmas in Many Lands

HE little folks of all the world do not keep Christmas as the children of this country do. In fact each land has its own peculiar ways, and our people, being drawn originally from almost every clime, have introduced into our celebration of the day a bit of the Christmas features brought from mother countries. We have the Dutch Santa Claus, the German Christmas tree, the English plum pudding and carols and our own peculiarly lavish gift making.

The boys and girls of far distant countries are spending the day in such different ways that it may prove of interest to young and old to hear something of the distinctive Christmas customs.

HE English Christmas is not unlike ours, save that we do not have their pretty custom of "bringing in the yule." In almost every family in England the boys and girls gather about the burning log on Christmas eve to sing carols and tell Christmas legends. Often the children who live in the country assist at the dragging in of the huge log.

An English child would not feel it was Christmas if there was not a bit of mistletoe hanging in the hall, under which the unwary are kissed soundly. Little and big eat the rich and blazing plum pudding, and all join in the singing of Christmas carols and church-going.

CHRISTMAS in Holland is the gala day of the year for the children. They have a pretty custom of ushering it in. Just at midnight on Christmas eve, the men and boys dressed in fancy costume, march through the streets in long procession, holding aloft a brilliantly lighted star, as they chant the "Gloria in Excelsis." The little girls clad in white stand at the windows and bow to the star as it passes.

PERHAPS the finest Christmas of all, if not the most lavish, is spent by the children of Germany. It combines the Christ child—which we Americans are prone to forget—and Santa Claus.

The whole day is full of cheer; families feast and go to church; presents are simple, but in every home is a blazing tree hung with cakes, colored candles and gifts. It is a pretty sight to see the children march in to see their tree, singing as they go, "O, Tannen Baum" (O, Fir Tree), to the air of "Maryland, My Maryland."

In many German towns just as the bells ring to usher in Christmas, every window in every house is quickly lighted. Then the children are up bright and early, even the tiny babies, to go to six o'clock church. Often each child bears a candle to illuminate the church.

The German Kris Kringle has one PLEA FOR SELF-RELIANCE.

Charles G. Dawes' Good Advice to Young Men in Business.

This is a hard world in business. I always has been and always will be. There are many good and generous men in it. There are many who will lend a helping hand to you in your adversity, but in the time of need you will not find them among the men who tried to get you to embark in speculation with your little surplus and to sell you something "which would help you to 'easy money.'"

Be self-reliant. Make your own investment into investments. When you cannot, put your money in a good savings bank. Distrust the financial demagogues as you distrust the political demagogues. Keep your hand on your pocketbook as you travel life.

First, to give always in proportion to your means to those who are poorer; second, to hold from those who would take through force or fraud what you need for yourself and yours. You will then, writes Mr. Dawes in the Saturday Evening Post, have your hand where most of the other fellows have only their eyes. In this alone you will have the advantage of them.

When we first began our wonderful work of growing all kinds, all qualities, all lengths, and all conditions of hair, even to the growing of hair on bald places of the head, many persons scorned the idea that such a thing was possible; but we have grown the hair for hundreds; rapidly achieving success. The proof of the value of our work is that we are being imitated and largely by persons whose own hair we have actually grown and the farther fact that they have very frequently mentioned us when trying to sell their goods (saying that theirs is the same or "just as good") or referred to PORO.

We advise you to use only PORO Hair Grower, (the oldest and best of its kind.) See that the name PORO is on every box, not genuine without it. Prepared only by Mrs. A. M. POPE.

Be aware of imitations. Call, or address mail to MRS. A. M. POPE-TURNBO, St. Louis, Mo., 3190 Pine Street.

MRS. MOLLY WHITNEY, 726 WEST 10TH, Des Moines, Ia., AGENT FOR PORO

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horrid habit that our jolly old St. Nick would scorn. He generally leaves in the stockings a bunch of switches in case they should be needed before his next call.

HE Serbian children have a strange custom. On Christmas Eve the father of the family goes to the wood and cuts a straight young oak, which he drags into the room where the family awaits him, saying as he does so: "Good evening and a merry Christmas!"

Then the children shout back: "May God grant both to thee and mayst thou have riches and honor." With this they stow their father with corn and the tree is thrown on the fire to burn until Christmas morning, when it is greeted with pistol shots.

HE French children rarely have a tree. Sometimes they hang up slippers to be filled, instead of stockings, and there is great chanting of "Noel, Noel," the Christmas song.

Like the Scandinavian children, little French boys and girls never forget the birds, but instead of placing sheaves of grain on long poles, they are hung along the eaves of the houses.

HE children of Belgium on Christmas Eve are dressed in gay colors and form a procession, which marches through the streets, led by an orchestra and singing carols. Each child holds aloft either a Christchild in a manger or a crucifix.

Would Seem So.

Crawford—Do the rich know how the other half live?

Crabshaw—After taking their money from them they must be able to turn some idea of how they are compelled to live.—Puck.

THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER is the oldest Afro-American journal published in Iowa. It was established in 1894, and is read by nearly all the colored people of Iowa. We have correspondents in the following towns:

Albia.....Miss May Davis
St. Madison.....Miss Lulu Williams
Oskaloosa.....Luella B. Franklin
Washington.....N. L. Black
Burlington.....Mrs. J. E. Johnson
Moberly, Mo.....Mrs. M. Etta Bolden
Mt. Pleasant.....Miss Maudie Burnhough

Monmouth, Ill.....Georgia Norwood
Galesburg, Ill.....Mayme Richardson
Peoria, Ill.....Miss Bell Lee
Davenport.....Mrs. C. H. Marshall
St. Paul.....Mrs. Q. H. Hicks
Minneapolis.....H. K. Gibbs
Keokuk.....A. J. Fields
Rock Island.....Mrs. W. H. Moore
Moline, Ill.....Miss Mable Tarter
Sioux City.....Miss Etta Grant
Clinton.....A. A. Bush
Ottumwa.....Miss Lorena Vincent
Cedar Rapids.....Mrs. H. Horne
N. B.—Correspondents: Please mail your letters that contain news for publication not later than Tuesday night to insure publication for the current week; and sign your name, not for publication, but that we may know who writes the news.

BOSTON MARKET Co. Greatest Variety in the City of Choice Meats, Fish, Poultry and Delicacies. We Strive to Please with the Best of Goods and Prompt Service. PHONE 765 Des Moines, Iowa.

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We Grew Our Hair Now Let Us Grow Yours with PORO TRADE MARK REGISTERED.

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Iowa State Bystander

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