THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, DEC. 29.

NEWS OF A WEEK IN CONDENSED FORM

RECORD OF MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS TOLD IN BRIEFEST MANNER POSSIBLE.

AT HOME AND ABROAD

Happenings That Are Making History —Information Gathered from All Quarters of the Globe and Given in a Few Lines.

Washington

Emperor William of Germany has appointed Bernard Von Buelow, a nephew of Prince Buelow, ex-chancellor of the German empire, to the junior attacheship of the German embassy at Washington.

• • •

For the third time President Taft has denied a pardon to Charles W. Morse, the New York banker now serving a fifteen-year sentence in the federal prison at Atlanta.

• • •

President Taft signed the Lodge resolution giving force and effect to his abrogation of the Russian treaty of 1832. The treaty will continue in effect automatically until January 1, 1913. Meanwhile efforts will be made to negotiate a new treaty eliminating the cause of friction which led to the termination of the old one.

• • •

Domestic

A posse at Cairo, Ill., conducted an unsuccessful search for a negro who attacked the wife of Turner Johnson, a negro section hand, and Johnson's twelve-year-old daughter.

• • •

A trolley car carrying 35 passengers, nearly all of whom were prominent residents of Schuylkill Haven, Pa., on their way to Pottsville to attend the performance of a comic opera, jumped Black bridge into the Schuylkill river here, injuring every person on board, some of whom it is feared, will die.

• • •

Adrian C. "Cap" Anson, hero of many a baseball game, distinguished himself as a life saver in Jackson park lagoon in Chicago, when he saved two young boys from drowning. One had gone down a second time and it was necessary for Anson and a companion to work over him an hour before life was restored.

• • •

A runaway trolley car on King street at Toronto killed one woman, injured seven persons seriously and badly bruised 30 others. The motorman, James Moore, lost control of the car it ran at terrific speed until it struck a switch, where it toppled over. The motorman was arrested.

• • •

The real hope of universal peace lies in an inevitable refusal of the masses to be led to war over such pretexts as the ancient one of a beautiful woman's face, declared Bishop Charles D. Williams in a sermon at St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal cathedral in Detroit, Mich.

• • •

A special committee of the St. Louis board of education has decided that "penny" lunch-rooms in the schools are self-sustaining and profitable and they will be established in all the schools.

• • •

Pleas of guilty were made by Sheldan C. Burr, president; Eugene H. Burr, secretary-treasurer; Charles H. Tobey, vice-president, and Edwin Wesley Preston, an official of the Burr Brothers, Inc, stock promoters at New York. Their offices here were raided November 26, 1910, by the postal authorities, the men being charged with using the mails in a scheme to defraud investors.

• • •

Alderman Walter Gibson of Gary, Ind., charged with soliciting and accepting a bribe in the passage of the Dean heating franchise in Gary, was found guilty by a jury in the Lake circuit court at Crown Point after the panel had been out but fifteen minutes. Only one ballot was taken.

• • •

Overruled by Judge Carpenter on every objection they had raised, counsel for the Chicago packers in the government's prosecution were forced to proceed with their defense without further delay. Replying to the government's arraignment, George T. Buckingham, in an address to the jury, disclosed, for the first time, the full outline of the defense.

• • •

A music score was transmitted by wire for the first time in the history of telegraphy at Toronto, Ont. It was sent from New York city at an enormous cost, which purchased the control of a direct wire for the space of several hours.

• • •

A third member of the household may die as the result of the poisoning of the family of Thomas Royster at Henderson, Ky. Three members of the family and two negro servants became suddenly ill after drinking beer.

• • •

Sam McVey, the negro heavyweight, was given the decision over Sam Langford, the "Boston tar baby," at Sydney, N. S. W., on points. The fight, which bristled with hard hitting and clever sparring, went the limit—20 rounds.

• • •

Walter M. S., known by the stage name of Wright Lorimer, actor and playwright, disheartened by poverty committed suicide here by inhaling gas in his apartments in New York city. He had been out of an engagement for some time.

Fire in the center of the business section of Harrisburg, Pa., destroyed the Globe company's clothing store and damaged two adjoining properties, with a loss of $100,000.

• • •

The Illinois supreme court handed down a decision upholding the constitutionality of the commission form of government law.

• • •

The Western Union company announced the abolishment of all excess charges on the delivery of messages in every city in the United States.

• • •

The Potter county (Pa.) grand jury returned indictments against George C. Bayless, president, and Fred N. Hamlin, superintendent of the Bayless Pulp and Paper company of Austin, pa., charging involuntary manslaughter because of the Austin dam disaster, on September 30 last.

• • •

The government hospital on the Fort Peck reservation in Montana was destroyed by fire. The inmates were taken out of the building, but many lost their clothing and personal effects.

• • •

Foreign

The remains of the famous Roman villa owned by Lenio Flaccus, where he often acted as host to his friend Cicero, has been discovered and identified near the seashore at Brindisi, Italy.

• • •

In addition to the recent slaughter of Persians by the Russians at Tabriz, a massacre has occurred at Resht, according to official telegrams from Teheran, received in London. The dispatches say that 500 Persians were killed by the Cossacks at Resht, many of the victims being women and children.

• • •

The Spanish government, it is understood, has finally settled upon the basis for a provisional commercial convention with Cuba. The proposed treaty is not to clash with Cuba's commercial conventions with the United States, its best market.

• • •

Labor unrest in England shows signs of becoming serious. The Dundee strike was settled by small concessions to the workmen, but the threatened universal coal strike shows no signs of being prevented, and workmen at the Thames shipbuilding yards threaten to try to create a general strike in their industry.

• • •

Gen. Rafael Reyes, the leader of the latest revolution against President Madero, surrendered to the federal soldiers at Trevino, Mexico. The revolutionist admitted the defeat of his attempt to overthrow the rule of Madero.

• • •

A bank messenger was murdered and robbed of $100,000 in one of the business streets of Paris in daylight.

• • •

The Persian cabinet has given to the Russian minister, S. Poklevato Koziell, at Teheran, verbal assurances of its intention to comply with the demands of the Russian ultimatum.

• • •

The erection of a tariff wall between Russia and the United States at the expiration of the Russo-American commerce and navigation treaty of 1832 is the object of a bill introduced in the duma at St. Petersburg by ex-President Guchkoff and 113 other signers representing the Octobrist and National parties. These parties constitute the majority in the duma.

• • •

Senor Cuesta, Mexican consul at Douglas, Ariz., conducted a search of the baseball park pavilion and seized more than a thousand rounds of ammunition which had been concealed there.

• • •

The trial of the Camorrists at Viterbo, Italy, has all but collapsed. Witnesses who have been summoned fail to appear, and the authorities have been unable to find them. The jurors have asked the court to discontinue the trial.

• • •

Personal

Arthur F. Griffith of Milford, Ind., known professionally as "the marvelous Griffith," the original levitating calculator, was found dead from apoplexy in bed in a hotel at Springfield, Mass.

• • •

Mrs. James J. Hill has presented to Archbishop John Ireland a costly robe of ermine on his golden anniversary as a priest. The robe has a long train and is fastened in front with a magnificent clasp set in jewels.

• • •

Mrs. Mary B. McNamara, mother of James and John McNamara, confessed dynamiters, is slowly dying at her home in Cumminsville, a suburb of Cincinnati. The confession of her boys, it is said, has broken her heart.

• • •

Former Gov. Ashton C. Shallenberger of Alma, Neb., has filed his application as a candidate for United States senator.

• • •

Admiral Dewey is seventy-four years old. The admiral is in fine health, with his mind active and his physique robust.

• • •

Mrs. Margaret Horton Potter, the novelist, died at Chicago after having taken an overdose of chlorodyne. A coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

• • •

Martha Baker, declared by Sorella, the famous Spanish artist, to be the greatest miniature painter of modern times, is dead at Chicago of peritonitis superinduced by an operation for appendicitis.

• • •

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, author of "In His Steps," and other books, resigned the pastorate of the Central Congregational church of Topeka, Kan., which he has held for 22 years. He will devote himself to a tour of the world, visiting missions and Y. M. C. A.'s.

PERSIANS PREPARE TO RESIST RUSSIA

ARE FRENZIED AT SLAUGHTER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT TABRIZ.

WHITE FLAG IS NO SHIELD TO PERSIANS.

Slavs Continue Invasion After Little Nation Has Yielded to Demands Made on Her by Russia.

Despite the fact that the government of Russia in Persia has surrendered to Russia in the fuss over W. Morgan Shuster, the American, who has been Persia's treasurer, yet Russia's troops continue to infest the country and not only overawe the people, but to massacre them, according to reports received.

A telegram from the vice-governor of Tabriz gives an appalling picture of the situation in that city as a result of Russian aggression. He says:

"I swear before God that innocent women and children are being butchered in cold blood."

The vice-governor estimates the number of Persians killed in Tabriz as 500, and adds:

"The Russians ignore our overtures for the cessation of hostilities."

The regent, Navir El Mulk, acting in agreement with the cabinet, declared the national council dissolved. The war minister sent troops to prevent the deputies from entering the parliament building.

Russians Continue Slaughter.

After a 72-hour slaughter in Resht, capital of the Persian province of Ghilan, in which approximately 1,500 Persian men, women and children were slain by Russian Cossacks, the soldiers continued their bloody work by sending detachments of troops to shoot down the refugees who were fleeing from the city.

Inside Resht the orgy of blood still went on also. Details of the massacre were received by a courier who traveled the 150 miles of country between Resht and the capital by horseback. The messenger brought a plea for aid from the governor of Ghilan. He declared that Russians were killing defenseless men, women and children in Amili, Masula and Arabil as well as in Resht.

GENERAL REYES SURRENDERS

Mexican Leader, Completely Discouraged, Gives Up Revolt.

Defeated and stripped of former arrogance and pride, Gen. Bernardo Reyes, Mexico's one-time greatest military leader and more recently leader of a revolt that threatened to tear the country from border to border, surrendered at Linares, but later received his liberty on his word that he would not leave the city.

He surrendered officially to Gen. Trevino, a personal enemy of years.

The surrender of Gen. Bernardo Reyes at Linares, Nuevo Leon, it is believed, practically put the end of the most serious revolt yet endangering the Madero government. Seemingly all over the country recently have sprung small revolts, and most of them were in the name of the former military leader of the country.

China Republic Near.

Premier Yuan-Shi-Kai has submitted to the regent of China on behalf of Peking the proposal emanating from Shanghai for the meeting of a special national assembly to decide on the future form of government which should be adopted for China. This step by the premier practically means that he asks the court to decide its own fate because the members of such a national assembly would decide in favor of a republic.

If the Manchus agree to adopt the suggestion their decision to do so will be promulgated as an edict.

Pope Can't Stop War.

An offer on the part of the kaiser to enlist the aid of the pope to persuade Italy to meet Turkey half way in the peace proposals which Germany is urging at Constantinople has met with complete failure. In submitting the proposal, the German minister at the Vatican hinted that a word from the pope might influence the king of Italy. The minister is credited with being greatly astonished when the pope shook his head and refused to co-operate in the scheme.

Yuan Opposes China Republic.

The refusal by Premier Yuan Shi Kai to accept a republic is a categorical reply to a communication made to him from Shanghai by his representative, Tang Shao Yi, after the meeting of the peace conference between delegates of the imperial government and revolutionary held in Pekin.

Negro Chopped to Pieces.

King Davis, a negro who shot and killed Frederick A. Schwab (white), at Fairfield, Anne Arundel county, Maryland, was taken from the Brooklyn, Md., jail early and killed by a mob. Davis was chopped to death with hatchets.

• • •

The Ann Arbor railroad has ordered five more gasoline motor engines.

• • •

Washington Hadley, aged 94, who claimed to be the oldest bank president in active service in the United States, died at his home in Whittier, near Los Angeles. He was born in Gilford county, North Carolina, in 1817, and at the time of his death was president of a savings bank.

• • •

Fire Marshal James Horan and 22 of his men who lost their lives with him in the stockyards fire in Chicago one year ago, were remembered by the celebration of requiem high mass at the Holy Name cathedral and the placing of a tablet to the memory of the victims at the door of the fire marshal's office in the city hall.

• • •

The Mexican vice-consul in New York says that the dispatch reporting the sale by the Mexican government to the United States government of a portion of lower California is untrue, because under the Mexican constitution no territory can be alienated.

• • •

Charles L. Hyde, a wealthy real estate dealer of Pierre, S. D., was sentenced by United States Judge Elliot to one year and three months in the county prison at Leavenworth, Kas., on conviction of having used the mails to defraud in connection with the sale of town lots. The judgment was stayed on appeal.

LOSING ON TWINE PLANT

Warden Simpson Shows That Plant Is a Losing Proposition.

At the meeting of the board of control of Jackson prison in Lansing Warden Nathan P. Simpson demonstrated that instead of being a financial success, as has generally been supposed, the binder twine plant of the state penitentiary has in reality been a losing proposition.

The books of the prison show that during the past four years the binder twine plant has paid into the state treasury $53,800, but the warden says that in a private business enterprise labor would be charged against this account, the depreciation of the property and machinery would be shown, interest on the investment and the cost of power and light would be taken into consideration. However, these things have not been charged against the binder twine plant, and had they been, there would have been a loss in the past four years of $3,200.

By a resolution of the board it was decided to transfer $15,000 which is now in the revolving fund to the general fund credited to the institution. This fund has accumulated through money saved by legislative appropriations for new buildings and equipment, and will be utilized to pay running expenses at the big institution.

Gov. Osborn expressed himself as being well pleased with the board as constituted at present, claiming that the members are representative business men in whom he has justified in placing his confidence. Warden Simpson appears to have the solid backing of the board in his efforts to place Jackson prison on a better basis and the board and the warden appear to be working in the utmost harmony.

Admiral George Dewey, the hero of Manilla bay, now on the confidential list of President Taft, members of the cabinet, army and navy officials and friends, the occasion being his 74th birthday anniversary. Admiral Dewey is in the best of health.

THE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK.

DETROIT—Cattle—Market steady; best steers and heifers, $6@6.50; good to choice butcher steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs, $5.75@6.25; light to good butcher steers and heifers, 700 to 900 lbs, $4.75@5.50; best butchers' cat cows, $3@4.25; canners, $2@2.50; common bulls, $4.25@4.50; good shipping bulls, $3.75@4; common feeders, $3.50@4; good well-bred feeders, $4.50@4.75; stockers, $3.50@4.25. Calves—Market for top calves steady and common grades dull; best, $8@8.50; others, $4@7.50. Milch cows and springers, $25@95. Sheep and lambs—Market steady; best lambs, $8; fair to good lambs, $5@5.50; light to common lambs, $4.50@5.50; yearling wethers, $5@6; best butcher sheep, $3@3.25; culls and common, $2@2.50. Hogs—$7.90; market fairly steady; pigs, 10c lower; light to good butchers, $5.90@6; pigs, $5.50@5.60. Light yorkers, $5.75@6; stags, one-third off.

EAST BUFFALO—Cattle—Market dull and steady; prime steers, $7.25@8; butcher grades, $3@7. Calves—Market active and 50c higher; $4 to $9 for choice, $6@9.75. Sheep and lambs—Market slow; lambs 25c lower; choice lambs, $6.25@6.50; cull to fair, $4@6.25; yearlings, $4.50@5; sheep, $2@4. Hogs—Market active and steady; yorkers, $6.50; pigs, $6.10; mixed, $6.25@6.30; heavy, $6.30@6.35; roughs, $5.50@5.75; stags, $5@5.25.

GRAIN, ETC.

Corn—Cash No. 3, 64c; No. 3 yellow, 1 car at 65c; No. 4 yellow, 1 car at 62½c, 1 at 62¾c, closing at 64c bid.

Oats—Standard, 1 car at 51c; No. 3 white, 50¾c.

Rye—Cash No. 2, 94c bid.

Beans—Unchanged; prompt and December shipment, $2.25; January, $2.30; May, $2.

Cloverseed—Prime spot and March, $12.40; sample, 13 bags at $11.25, 8 at $10.50; prime alsike, $10.25; sample alsike, 9 bags at $9.75.

Timothy seed—Prime spot, $7.20.

Barley—By sample, 1 car at $2.40, 1 at $2.45 per cwt.

Feed—In 100-pound-eighth paper sacks, per 100, pounds, jobbing lots: Best patent, $4.75; second patent, $4.50; straight, $4.10; spring patent, $5.50; rye, $4.80.

Feed—In jobbing lots in 100-lb sacks: Bran, $27; coarse middlings, $29; fine middlings, $32; coarse cornmeal and cracked corn, $30; corn and oat chop, $28 per ton.

FARM PRODUCE.

Supplies were quite up to requirements. Butter and eggs ruled steady and a good trade was done in decorations. Dairy stock was firm. Exporters declined 1c. The general tone of the market for dairy products was firm. Potatoes were steady and were dressed 5c higher.

Apples—Baldwin, $2.50@3; Greening, $2.75@3; Spy, $3@3.50; Ben Davis, $2@2.50 per bbl; snows, $2.50@3.

Cabbage—$1.75@2 per bbl.

Hickory Nuts—Shellbark, 2½@3c per pound.

Onions—95c@$1 per bu; Spanish, $1.45 per crate.

Dressed Calves—Fancy, 10c; choice, 8@9c per lb.

Honey—Choice to fancy comb, 16@19c; amber, 14@15c per lb.

Dressed Poultry—Turkeys, $7.25; medium, $7; heavy, $6.50 per cwt.

Potatoes—Car lots, 40@45c per bu in bulk and 90c in sacks, per bu.

Dressed Poultry—Chickens, 10@11c hens, 8@9c; ducks, 16@17c; geese, 14c; turkeys, 18@20c per lb.

Live Poultry—Spring chickens, 10@11c; No. 2 chickens, 8c; hens, 8½@9c; No. 2 hens, 7c; spring ducks, 16@17c; geese 11@12c; ducks, 14c; young ducks, 15c per lb.

Cheese—Michigan, old 15¼@16c, September 15½@15c; York State, September, 16@17c; limburger, 14@15c; domestic Swiss, 17@20c; imported Swiss, 29@32c; brick cream, 15@16c per lb.

Butter—Firm; extra creamery, 35c; first creamery, 34c; dairy, 21c; packing, 20c per lb.

Eggs—Current receipts, cases included, 31c per doz.

VEGETABLES.

Brussels sprouts, 25c per quart; beets, 70c per bu; carrots, 80c per bu; cauliflower, $1.75@2 per dozen; celery, 30@40c per doz; hothouse cucumbers, $1.50@2 per doz; eggplant, $1@2.25 per doz; garlic, 10c per lb; green beans, $2 per box; green peppers, $1.25 per bu; leaf lettuce, 12½c per lb; head lettuce, $1.50@2 per hamper; mint, 30c per doz; parsley, 75c per doz; parsnips, 90c per bu; radishes, 20c per doz; rutabagas, 40c per bu; shallots, 75c per doz; squash, 1½c per lb; turnips, 70c per bu; vegetable oyster, 40c per doz; watercress, 25c per doz.

Mayor Ryne of Benton Harbor has opened a war against the local gas company, with a view of getting a cheaper rate. The rate per 1,000 feet is $1.25, less 15 per cent if paid before the first of the month.

Through the arrest of a woman shoplifter in Kansas City the police say they have learned of the extensive sale of Santo Domingo lottery tickets in Kansas City and throughout the middle west. Fremont Weeks, an employe of an express company, is being held by federal authorities as the Kansas City agent of the lottery.

A competition for architects desiring to submit plans for the new Yale stadium will be announced in a few days. The proposed structure will seat 70,000 persons and will cost $400,000.

While the naval department has not decided the question of which vessels of the Atlantic fleet shall be sent to Havana harbor to bring back to the United States the bodies found in the wreckage of the ill-fated battleship Maine, it is believed that the two newest ships of the navy, the Florida and the Utah, will be assigned.

SEEN AND HEARD IN MICHIGAN

Port Huron.—The announcement has just been made in this city that the board of directors of the Commercial bank and the board of directors of the Port Huron Savings bank have passed resolutions providing for the consolidation of these institutions, to take effect January 1, 1912. In accordance therewith, a meeting of stockholders of both banks has been called for December 27 for the purpose of ratifying the action taken. The banking business of both institutions will be continued under the name of the Commercial bank. Both are old-established banks in Port Huron.

—

Lansing.—The supreme court has handed down an opinion upholding the attorney general in his ruling that John S. Haggerty, appointed member of the board of control of Jackson prison by former Governor Warner to fill a vacancy, and E. A. Phillips of Fenton, appointed under similar circumstances to a place on the Ionia prison board, both lost their offices when the senate entered upon its session the first of this year. The decision supplants Haggerty by Clyde Webster of Detroit, and J. S. Parker of Flint, succeeds Phillips, by virtue of appointments by Governor Osborn.

—

Pontiac.—George Forbare walked into the municipal court and heartily thanked Judge Stockwell for a sentence of 65 days at the Detroit house of correction which he had just completed. Forbare told the court that when he was sentenced he had the cocaine habit, but since his imprisonment he has entirely lost his appetite for the drug. He promised to tread the straight and narrow path hereafter.

—

Lansing.—Governor Osborn has once more refused to heed the pleadings of Mrs. Frank P. Glazier to pardon or parole her husband, former state treasurer, serving a sentence for misuse of funds. Mrs. Glazier arrived in Lansing with about one thousand cards signed by men who asked the governor to free Glazier. After a fifteen-minute interview with him she left, weeping. Eighteen other convicts were given Christmas freedom.

—

Three Rivers.—William Underwood, alias A. G. Stevens, wanted for passing bogus checks at Mendon, Burr Oak and various other places, was captured near Durand by Sheriff Watkins of St. Joseph county and brought to Centerville. Underwood posed as a representative of the Chicago Hassock company.

—

Pontiac.—That Pontiac is again encountering an epidemic of thievery was demonstrated when the home of D. W. Connell, 73 Fairgrove avenue, was entered. A kitchen window being pried open. A purse containing $100 had been left on the kitchen table. The thieves took the money, but disturbed nothing else. A few days ago the homes of Dr. H. S. Chapman, Dr. J. J. Murphy and D. H. Power were entered in a similar manner and ransacked. Besides these thefts there have been numerous cases of clothing stolen from boarding and rooming houses.

—

Parkville.—Four-year-old John Parker, son of H. L. Parker of this place, is dead from eating poison he found in the yard of their home. The boy had been out playing, and after coming in the house he was taken violently sick, dying before a physician could reach their home. The boy before lapsing into unconsciousness told his parents that he had eaten something in the yard, but they have not been able to find out what it was that caused his death.

—

Rochester.—Lee Rose, well-known football and baseball player of Rochester, slipped and fell from a porch, landing on his head on a cement sidewalk. He was rendered unconscious and remained so 44 hours. His spell of insensibility ended as suddenly as it had begun, and Rose is again all right.

—

Grand Rapids.—Fire entailing a loss estimated at $200,000 destroyed the grain elevator, electric lighting plant and coal yard of the Sparta Milling company of Sparta, 13 miles north of here. Several other buildings suffered minor damage. For a time it was feared the blaze fanned by a heavy wind would sweep through the town.

—

Petoskey.—John W. Cook, aged eighty-six, for 35 years a resident of Petoskey, suffered a serious accident when his hair and beard caught fire from a blaze caused by pouring oil on smoldering coke. Mr. Cook would have been burned to death if his daughter had not appeared and extinguished the blaze. His hair, beard and eyebrows were burned off and his cheek and chin badly burned.

—

Lansing.—Police officers raided Clarence Dalrymple's cobbling shop at 538 East Michigan avenue, arrested the proprietor on a charge of running a "blind pig" and confiscated half a barrel of whisky, several bottles of booze and a poker outfit. Mrs. Mabel Mapes entered Dalrymple's place and asked to purchase a quantity of whisky. Instead of selling it, the officers say, the proprietor said that he would be a good fellow and make her a Christmas present of a pint of booze. His arrest immediately followed.

—

Grand Rapids.—Charged with stealing a package containing $3,000 from a rack in the registry department of the Grand Rapids main post office on December 8, Harry F. Kimball, a local insurance agent, prominent in social circles, was arrested. He admitted his guilt.

—

Ann Arbor.—Henry Mill, convicted during the burns of Henry Burns of Ypsilanti and of Arthur Gerberty of Superior, was sentenced to serve two to fifteen years in the Jackson state prison.

MADE A THING OF THE PAST

Physical Culture in Schools Has Done Away With the Old-time Shoulder Braces.

Some things of common necessity have been passing away without notice of their leave taking. Not infrequently, a few years ago, at the breakfast table, the mother of the family, addressing the putative head of the household, would say: "John, I'm really disturbed about Jane. She's growing right up. I've had to take two tucks out of her dress." "Humph! I suppose girls must grow." "Yes, John, but that's not what I mean to call attention to. She stoops awfully, in spite of everything I say she won't stand up straight. And there's Billy, too. He bends over like an old woman. These children need shoulder braces. The sooner they have them the better. It mustn't be put off another day."

In that yesterday every drug store had a supply of shoulder braces. They were advertised in the newspapers in liberal space and there was an active demand for them. Very little is heard about shoulder braces today, and boys and girls seem to be growing up straight enough without such appliances.

The reason for the passing of the shoulder brace for children will be recognized as soon as mentioned. The lack of demand is almost wholly due to the fact that more attention is now paid to physical training in our public schools than was the case a few years ago. The girls are greatly improved thereby. They walk better and carry themselves better. As for the boys, they are encouraged to engage in athletic exercises which tend to better them physically and carry out the old Roman saying of "a sound mind in a sound body."

For the advance that has been made praise is due to the gymnastic training advocated by a large German element here for years before it was given a tardy recognition. When the girls get a little older they will slip into corsets, probably, but even then, no matter how tight fitting, they have been so built up physically that they will not be transformed into hourglass patterns quite as readily as if their bodies had not been given proper care when young. As for the boys, they will grow into lusty young manhood, with bodies fitted to enjoy to the utmost the keenest outdoor sports and athletic exercises.—Indianapolis News.

Those Old Legends.

"Beautiful view here from the veranda."

"Beautiful!"

"This is a most picturesque old resort."

"Oh, very!"

"And the autumn foliage is beautiful."

"Beautiful!"

"Beautiful!"

"You have been here before, I presume?"

"We come up every year."

"There must be some legends connected with this delightfully quaint old place."

"There are."

"Won't you tell us the stories of some of them?"

"Well, that fat woman yonder says her husband is a rich broker; that tall woman says she comes here because she's tired of London and Paris; and that thin girl, the one with the undecided nose, says she's worried to death because her parents want her to marry a dissipated and impecunious duke."

Commerce of China.

The speculation in rubber companies during 1909 and a portion of 1910 absorbed about $13,000,000 of Chinese capital of the Shanghai Stock Exchange, and other large amounts were paid for shares in London companies. Speculation in opium grew with the dominion of supplies and tied up more capital. Money was scarce everywhere and many failures were reported.

Despite these adverse conditions the net value of the direct foreign trade of the empire in 1910 was $450,578,339, exceeding the total of 1909 (the highest hitherto recorded) by $75,390,446. This growth was shared by both imports and exports. Net foreign imports amounted to $302,084,593, which was an increase of $39,648,590 over the year 1909, and exports aggregated $248,493,746, a gain of $35,741,856. Of this trade the United States took $21,068,462 of the exports and sent $16,181,670 of the imports.

—

Why He Kissed Her.

Daniel J. Shern was reminded of a story when he read the verdict in the breach of promise case of a young millionaire in New York.

"I was counsel for the girl in a case once," said the lawyer, "and I thought we had a good case. One of the strongest points was the ardent wooing of the defendant. We could prove at least 1,244 kisses he had planted upon the fair one's ruby lips. Imagine our surprise when the defendant admitted it.

"'That's true, sir,' said he, testifying. 'I had to do it,' he exclaimed.

"'Had to do it?' I roared, hoping to embarrass him.

"'Yes,' he answered, 'I either had to keep kissing her constantly or permit her to sing, and—well, I preferred the kissing.'"

In Mr. Balfour's Early Days.

Apparently Mr. Balfour's powers as a politician did not impress those with whom he came into contact during his early days. According to that famous veteran parliamentarian, Sir John Eldon Gorst, who was a prominent member of the famous "fourth party" to which Mr. Balfour first attached himself, no one expected that Arthur Balfour would one day be a leading statesman and premier. Says Sir John, "He was a good speaker when others inspired him, but we did not take him very seriously. His aesthetic tastes and love of music were something of a joke among us. So much so, in fact, that Lord Randolph Churchill would say:

"'Go and take my wife to a concert, Balfour, while I stay at home and talk real business.'"

LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA, SECURES DRY FARMING CONGRESS FOR 1912.

The term, "dry farming" does not indicate as it that might be implied. It does not mean a system of irrigation, but one where all the rain fall and precipitation is stored up and conserved in the soil, to be drawn upon by scientific and sane processes when it may be required to forward and increase the growth of grain.

In certain sections of the Canadian West as well as in the American West, there is a portion of the country in which the soil is the very best for the growing of cereals, but the geographical locations and relative position to the rain fall seems to not give the advantage that other parts possess in the matter of precipitation.

Agricultural science, however, has been making rapid progress during the past few years, and it is now ascertained that it is not altogether the number of inches of rain that is essential to the growing of crops, but its conservation, and that is the meaning of "Dry farming." "Dry Farming" may well be applied to districts where there is a heavy rain fall and better results will obtain. The education of the public into these new methods, not new exactly, but such as have had satisfactory demonstration, is not alone the purpose of these dry-farming Congresses. One idea is to bring into life and to operation the great areas of splendid land lying within what might be termed semi-arid, without placing them under the restrictive and expansive process of irrigation.

The Congresses are attended by thousands and they bring representatives from all parts of the world. The Province of Alberta, and also of Saskatchewan, has taken a vital interest in the Congresses which have been held in the past two or three years. The province of Alberta has made provincial exhibits, which have shown their products, and last year, several hundred dollars were taken in prizes; this year the Province of Alberta took prizes ten to one in excess of any state in the Union. Alberta has won out on twenty special cups, that province taking one. Lethbridge one, Arthur Perry six, and John Baxter, Edmonton, carrying off one sweepstakes. When it came to a matter of location for the Congress for 1912, the City of Lethbridge, which had put up a splendid fight for it, secured the Congress by a unanimous vote. It is expected that the Lethbridge Congress will be the largest yet held and will be the biggest convention in the history of Western Canada. In emphasizing his invitation to Lethbridge, one of the speakers said he had just received a telegram from Magrath (near Lethbridge) stating that of one thousand acres of wheat just thrashed Hethershaw and Bradshaw had thrashed 47,000 bushels.

Literature sent out recently by the Canadian Government Agents, which will be sent postage free on application, tells of hundreds of splendid yields in all parts at Western Canada.

Her Credit Was Strained.

A young country merchant who had something of a reputation for close figuring was especially attentive to the stage schoolma'am. The young woman had a weakness for candy and at all retiring about making the fact known. Accordingly she hinted to her admirer that a box of chocolates would be greatly appreciated on the occasion of his next visit. Later the suggestion was repeated and again duly heeded. The third time the subject was broached, however, the dispenser of sweets turned a deaf ear to the entreaty.

"I don't know about taking that gift any more candy," he confided to a companion next day. "She's ovin' me sixty cents for chocolates already."—Lippincott's Magazine.

BURNING ITCH WAS CURED

"I deem it my duty to tell about a cure that the Cuticura Soap and Ointment have made on myself. My trouble began in splotches breaking out right in the edge of my hair on the forehead, and spread over the front part of the top of my head from ear to ear, and over my ears which caused a most fearful burning itch, or eczema.

"For three years I had this terrible breaking out on my forehead and scalp. I tried our family doctor and he failed to cure it. Then I tried the Cuticura Soap and Ointment and used them for two months with the result of a complete cure. Cuticura Soap and Ointment should have the credit due, and I have advised a lot of people to use them." (Signed) C. D. Tharrington, Creek, N. C., Jan. 26, 1911.

Itching Scalp—Hair Fell Out.

"I will say that I was a great sufferer with an itching on my scalp for the past few years. My hair fell out in spots all over my head. My scalp started to trouble me with sores, then the sores healed up, and crusts formed on the scalp. My hair came out and left me three bald spots the shape of a half dollar. I went to more than one doctor, but could not get any relief, so I started to use the Cuticura Remedies. I tried one bar of Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment, and felt relieved right away. Now the bald spots have disappeared, and my hair has grown, thanks to the Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I highly recommend the Cuticura Remedies to all that are suffering with scalp trouble." (Signed) Samuel Stern, 236 Floyd St., Brooklyn, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1911. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. 9 K, Boston.

Storm Note.

Little Harold Hilliade looked out of the window at the snowstorm last Monday morning and exclaimed, "Oh, look at the blister!"—Newark News.

A man may be a member of the Elks and wear an overcoat with a fur collar and still not be an ox.