

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL. THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

A much-needed rain has fallen at many points in the Northwest. Mounted guards have been introduced at the Kingston Penitentiary.

The population of Waterloo is 3,485, an increase of 222 since last year.

J. B. Allenby of West London was killed by lightning while asleep in bed. The military contingent for the Yukon sailed from Vancouver on Sunday morning.

Alexander Smith, a farmer living near Peterboro', was trampled to death by a bull.

The British Columbia general elections will be held probably in the early part of July.

A London lad named Corp fell against a barbed-wire fence, destroying the sight of one eye.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards, of Ottawa, are expected to visit Quebec on Dominion Day.

One man is dead and three are missing as a result of a landslide in the Crow's Nest Pass.

The wholesale hardware firm of Letang, Letang, & Co., Montreal, has gone into voluntary liquidation.

Mrs. Wetmore, Brantford, dropped dead at the grave side as the remains of a friend were being interred.

Two men and two variety actresses fell through the ice below Lake Bennett on the way to the Yukon and were drowned.

Prof. Farmer of McMaster University was elected President of the Baptist Union of Ontario and Quebec in session at Hamilton.

James Wishart, a son of the late Duncan Wishart, of Welland, was killed in a railroad accident at St. Louis, Mo., on Saturday.

Greenwood, B. C., had a narrow escape of destruction by fire recently, but the volunteer brigade fought nobly and finally won.

A. Baker, engineer and J. Smith, fireman, both of Moose Jaw, were killed by the wreck of a C.P.R. freight train near Dunmore, N. W. T., on Friday.

War is having a bad effect on the sale of Rat Portage mines. A number of deals that were under way when the unpleasantness commenced are yet in abeyance.

Robert A. Laurie, aged 23, who died of Bright's disease at Regina recently was the first white child born at Winnipeg after the incorporation of that place as a city.

Reports at Victoria, B. C., state that two Japanese have been arrested by the Russians at Port Arthur with sketches and maps of fortifications being erected there.

Street Commissioner McGovern, of Port Arthur, has a young and handsome wife who looks after the condition of streets and sidewalks when he is out of town.

Ernest Sandberg, of Victoria, rushed into a saloon with his throat cut and complained that he had been assaulted and robbed. The police believe that he did the cutting himself.

Mr. Timmermann, general superintendent of the Canadian Pacific, has been in Kingston negotiating with Mr. Jamieson in reference to building a million bushel elevator for the C. P. R. at St. John, N. B., this summer.

Sir Louis Davies, Minister of Marine and Fisheries has received a message from Sir Julian Pauncefote, British Minister at Washington, asking him to be there on Wednesday to begin negotiations between Canada and the United States for the settlement of outstanding differences.

At Montreal Archbishop Bruchesi received a deputation representing the Dominion Alliance, which asked his Grace to give the assistance of the Roman Catholic Church in the plebiscite struggle. His Grace replied that while he favored close restrictions on the sale of strong intoxicants, he thought beer and wine should not be prohibited.

UNITED STATES.

Four jewellery factories, occupied by sixteen firms and valued at \$750,000, were destroyed by fire at Attleboro', Mass., on Wednesday.

A freight war from Chicago and the west is the probable result of the Canada Atlantic fast grain line's competition with the G.T.R.

A report from Peking to Washington states that a contract to build a railroad from Hankow to Canton has been awarded to ex-Senator Washburn, of Minnesota.

Dr. J. R. Dickson, of Ogdensburg, N.Y., has sold his island, Rob Roy, Chipewa Bay, to John Englis, Brooklyn, N.Y. The consideration was \$3,000. Dr. Dickson purchased the island ten years ago for \$200.

Charles Warren Spalding, president of the Globe Savings Bank, Chicago, was on Saturday taken to Joliet prison, where he will serve an indeterminate sentence. His crime was the embezzlement of \$40,000 worth of bonds belonging to the University of Illinois endowment fund.

GENERAL.

The wheat harvest of Queensland amounts to 1,009,000 bushels.

Some men can take a drink and leave

TEN CAPTAIN GENERALS. HOLD THE HIGHEST RANK IN THE SPANISH ARMY.

Characteristics of Dominguez, De Rivera and Cassola—Nearly Nine Hundred Generals on the Rolls.

However deficient Spain may be in naval officers, of whom she does not possess a sufficient number to equip the fleet of auxiliary cruisers which she proposes to put into commission, she is certainly not lacking in field officers for her land forces. There are nearly 900 Generals, some of them belonging to the reserve forces, but most of them on the active list and drawing full pay. In fact, Spain possesses a sufficient number of Generals to command the combined armies of all Europe. There are Colonels, Majors and Captains in proportion, and, in fact, there is no power in the world, not even Germany, that possesses such an extraordinary number of commissioned officers in relation to the size of the army.

At the head of the list are ten Captains Generals, whose rank is equivalent to that of field marshal in other foreign armies. In several instances this grade is of a purely honorary character. It is held by the young King, who is a boy only 12 years old, and likewise by his grandfather, the old ex-King, Don Francis of Assisi, the husband of Queen Isabella. He is a dwarf in stature, and only a little taller than his grandson, King Alfonso XIII. Indeed, it is difficult to conceive anything less warlike than the spectacle presented by King Francis, when arrayed in the gorgeous gold-embroidered uniform of a Captain General, his squeaky falsetto voice being quite as much out of keeping with the military profession as is his appearance. As regards the boy King, the Queen Regent, who is a sensible woman, has turned a deaf ear to all the suggestions to the effect that he should appear on state occasions in the uniform of a Captain General, and, instead, she has him always garbed in the trim, natty, and exceedingly simple uniform of a cadet of the military school of San Idelfonso, which has not an atom of gold lace about it, the only emblem of his royal rank being the insignia of the Order of the Golden Fleece, which peeps forth from the collar of his tunic. Among the other Captain Generals are Gen. Blanco, Marquis of Pena Plata, who is now in chief command in Cuba, and who is too well known to need more than passing mention; Martinez Campos, who, as one of his predecessors at Havana, is equally familiar to people in this country; Gen. Primo de Rivera and Gen. Lopez Dominguez.

SPAIN'S FOREMOST GENERALS. It is Gen. Dominguez who is generally regarded at Berlin, Paris, Vienna and other military centers as the cleverest and strongest of all Spain's generals, and who in any grave emergency is likely to be invested with the chief command of the Spanish army, or else with the portfolio of Minister of War. He has been justly described as a mixture of the celebrated Russian General Skobelev and the French General Chanzy, and like them he is the idol of the rank and file of the army to which he belongs. He is a nephew of the late Marshall Serrano who rose from the humblest beginning to be Dictator, Regent and President of the Republic of Spain. He has been the author of nearly all the reforms that have taken place in the last twenty years, and in consequence has come to be looked upon as the soldier's friend. If he has been kept in the background of late years it is because Ministers and even the court dread his popularity and his ambition, and fear that the latter in a moment of crisis might lead him to avail himself of the former to secure such dictatorial power as that repeatedly possessed by his uncle, Serrano.

THE INTRIGUING PRIMO DE RIVERA. Infinitely less popular in the army, but more liked at court, is Capt. Gen. Primo de Rivera, the very type of the polished scoundrel, who by his smooth tongue and talent for intrigue has managed to win to a marked degree the confidence of the Queen. Indeed, she has apparently forgotten the circumstances which led him to be shot at some eight years ago and severely wounded by one of his officers, a Major who had been subjected to persecution of the most incredible character at the hands of the General at the instigation of a demi-mondaine whose anger the Major had incurred, and who the General completely under her sway. The Major, who was driven by desperation to the act, was sentenced to death and executed, leaving a wife and children in a penniless condition, while the General seems to think that the General was shot at and severely wounded while in the performance of his duty, and therefore, possesses a claim upon her good will. Even Weyler, with his brutality is preferable to Primo de Rivera, for while Weyler will have a man hanged or shot, giving the order for his execution with a gross oath or coarse gibe, Primo de Rivera will order the most fiendish tortures

while. Only those who have been out in the far East, and who have knowledge of the atrocities committed by his orders and under his very eyes when he was viceroy of the Philippine Islands can realize the true character of this man.

CASSOLA, THE DISCIPLINARIAN. Another General who is likely to make his name known abroad in the present war lasts sufficiently long is Cassola, one of the few officers who have never been implicated in any pronunciamento. He has sometimes been called the Spanish Moltke, owing to his ceaseless and indefatigable activity and to his remarkable silence and reserve. This peculiarity in a country where loquacity and gesticulation are the order of the day is sufficient to cause people to look upon him as a kind of rara avis. He is a stern and upright soldier, who, to quote one of his own rare remarks, "wants to make the army loyal to its King and country, with its face to the enemy and its back turned upon political struggles."

Cassola is so strict a disciplinarian that while Minister of War he actually placed old Capt. Gen. Martinez Campos under arrest, besides severely reprimanding him, for having refused, in his capacity as Captain General of Madrid, to take the countersign from the Princess Eulalie in the absence of the Queen from the capital. Martinez Campos took the ground that, inasmuch as Don Antonio, the husband of Princess Eulalie, was a mere Captain of cavalry, forming part of the Madrid garrison, it was ridiculous to expect him to make his daily report and to take the countersign from the wife of one of his subaltern officers. Martinez Campos, indeed, made such a fuss about the matter that the Queen returned to the sorrow and dismay of the army, over 10,000 officers of which thereupon joined in a subscription to present him with a magnificent sword of honor as a testimonial of their esteem and regard.

Men of the same type as Cassola are Gen. Correo, the present Minister of War, and Gen. Azarraga, who became Premier on the assassination of Canovas. Azarraga, it may be remembered, while Prime Minister, had the rank of Captain General, to which he was entitled by seniority, pressed upon him by the Queen. But he declined to yield to her arguments, taking the ground that it was not in moments of a national crisis, such as the Cuban trouble, which Spanish arms had failed to solve, that one ought to think of creating new Captain Generals.

HER MAJESTY'S CANES. Since the infirmities of Queen Victoria of England made it necessary for her to use a walking stick, she has been the recipient of many canes. Her friends, relatives and subjects have seized upon every possible occasion to present her with a new cane. One entire room in her private suite is stocked with these special gifts. Whenever she expresses her intention of attending a function, like a royal wedding or christening, interested parties consider it fitting to send her another cane. Every anniversary she is forced to acknowledge a score or so more.

Here is a collection of priceless value. There are solid gold sticks, silver sticks, exquisitely engraved; sticks that are a marvel of the carver's art and sticks that contain jewels that would move even a New York opera patron to envy.

Queen Victoria has leaned more heavily on her stick of late years, using it to cross the room even, instead of only on long walks about Windsor Castle, and after a long, tiresome ceremony. She always places it against her chair, and when she rises it is the duty of the highest court official present to hand it to her.

The story of the prank played upon her by the son of the Duke of York has never appeared in print before. The queen, who is not fond of court ceremonies when she is in retirement, was at Windsor, and had dismissed her attendants, who had withdrawn to an arbor near by. She was very much interested in her favorite pastime, knitting socks for the Prince of Wales, when that small embodiment of mischief, her great-grandson, slipped away with her cane and "played horse" with it over the lawn.

He had to be captured before the queen could enter the house. There her majesty proceeded to teach him that even the future King of England cannot tamper with the dignity of the present powers that be.

Of recent years her subjects have hoped in vain to see her use their gifts. She has used only one cane. It is one of great historic value, having been presented to King Charles II. by one of his merry court. Very properly it was cut from an oak tree. When Charles accepted the gift it had plain gold head, which was round and apt to hurt the hand if the cane was called upon to support much weight.

It was whispered about court recently that her majesty used no longer the historic stick. This is not true; only the top has been changed. An idol, which graced the temple of an ill-fated Indian prince, has been added for a handle. This is an exquisitely wrought affair in ivory, on an infinitesimal pedestal of alabaster. The eyes and forehead are jeweled, and on the tongue is the rarest of rubies.

Cheshire cheese owes its excellence partly to geological causes. The red sandstone and boulder clay, with its immense salt deposits, of which the

The Home

THE CARE OF OIL LAMPS.

It is not necessary to enlarge upon the discomforts caused by a lamp that is irregularly filled and improperly cared for. Such a lamp, redolent of the fumes of kerosene, is a most unpleasant and unwholesome object.

Good lamps are cheap, and there is no excuse for using a poor one. It is generally conceded, says an exchange, that the softness of lamplight is much greater than that of gas or electricity. The lamp has now an established place on the library table, even in houses lighted by electricity or gas, while it is certainly the general dependence of country homes.

The best lamps of porcelain, pottery or any material that is liable to be broken, are fitted with metal oil fonts, which do away with the danger of their being broken; all those that do not have these metal fonts should be rejected as dangerous.

Some of the new kinds of oil fonts, besides being made of metal, are also fitted with valves that close when the lamp is upset and prevent the oil from running out and the flame of the wick from spreading. An overturned lamp is the usual cause of so-called "explosions."

But there are few accidents of this kind in these days of high-test oil. A little presence of mind and common sense will ordinarily avert a disaster. The flames of kerosene are easily extinguished; a rug or woollen carpet, a shawl or almost any such object can be used to smother the flame, and this is the only way of putting it out.

The most important thing is to "keep cool." If there is nothing else at hand even cotton is not to be despised, as a heavy cotton rug or cloth will answer every purpose if pressed close over the flames; but sand or earth is better than anything else. The mould taken from a pot containing a growing plant is often valuable in an emergency, and will be found much better than water, which in fact, unless used in large quantities, only serves to spread the fire.

The most essential thing in securing a good light from a lamp is cleanliness. Keep the oil in a close can or bucket, where dust cannot reach it. Keep the fonts of the lamp and all parts of the tubes that hold the wicks, as well as the burners, clean.

A stiff little brush, abundance of clean cloths kept for the purpose, and a bottle of alcohol should be kept on hand to clean lamps. A few drops of alcohol are better than water and soap for brightening the chimneys and removing the oily soot that accumulates on them and around the burners.

Polish the chimney with a soft cotton cloth. Brush the burner and all parts of the lamp free from bits of wick and dust. Wipe all crevices, and do not tolerate any lamp which contains convolutions of metal or porcelain that cannot be properly and easily cleaned out. Kerosene oil, even of the best quality, is all penetrating. It forms a film even on the outside of metal fonts; thus must be daily removed.

The best way to trim lamp wick, as every one now knows, is to remove only the charred portion of it without using the scissors. If this is done, the best way to trim a lamp wick, being uneven. Lamps in regular use should have the charred part of the wick removed at least three times a week.

All lamps should be wiped off and filled daily. No burners should be allowed to become incrustated with dust and oil, and they will not get in this condition if they are attended to every day.

The best way of extinguishing the flame of a lamp or oil stove is to turn the wick down until it shows only a blue flame, when this flame will flicker a short time and go out. By this process one avoids the unpleasant odor which accompanies the blowing out of a lamp. This odor is caused by a gas which is consumed when the lamp is turned down to a blue flame and allowed to go by itself.

VARIOUS RECIPES. Strawberry Ice.—Remove the stems from several boxes of strawberries equal in weight to one pound or more mash them, mix with them the juice of a lemon, one tablespoonful of orange flower water and three pints of water. In the course of four hours' time strain the juice off the strawberries into another basin, pressing them to extract as much of the juice as possible. Add to the juice one pound of double-refined sugar and stir it until the sugar has dissolved. Then strain and pack it in ice for an hour.

Strawberry Shortcake.—To make strawberry shortcake prepare a dough precisely the same as for the fingers. Roll this into a sheet an inch thick, cut it into an oblong shape, brush it with milk, and bake in a quick oven for 15 minutes. When the cake is done pull it gently into halves; butter each half a little; put the lower half on the serving dish and cover it thickly with strawberries. Put the remaining strawberries over the top. Serve at once with cream and powdered sugar.

To Cook Asparagus.—The proper way is to cook asparagus erect, covering the blanched stem with water and leaving the green tender tips to be cooked by the stem. In this way the entire system is completely cooked at the same time.

Oatcake.—Make medium-sized oatmeal into a stiff paste with boiling water, roll it out thin, and bake in a slow oven, but do not let it get brown.

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Good Advice.—My son, a politician, it is better, especially when you are talking about the "good" words, to use only the "bad" words. They are the only words that should occasion any attention. A shoemaker says we should have two inches of shoe leather on a pair of boots that we would not have with a pair of shoes.