

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Addresses to the educated and progressive classes of France, signed by university professors, historians, men of letters and intellectuals generally, protest vigorously against any attempt to jam through as "emergency" measures the proposed laws for a three-year term of military service, increased defense expenditures and additional taxes.

The students of Paris and the provinces are standing by these leaders of opinion, and Premier Briand has admitted that there is no necessity for feverish haste. There is no crisis in Europe; there is no occasion for panic; Germany and France are equally pacific at bottom, and both can take plenty of time for a sober study of the situation.

How important the discovery of the virus that produces infantile paralysis, announced by Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Scientific Research, may be must be left to the doctors to determine. It seems likely, however, to result in means of curing or controlling this dreaded disease, judging from previous discoveries concerning other diseases. Similar important results may follow the demonstration of Dr. Hideyo Noguchi of the presence of treponema pallidum in the brain of general paresis, which points to relation between one of the worst of diseases and paresis.

The Flexner discovery is confirmative of previous statements by Dr. Flexner himself and other investigators. Two years ago it was known that infantile paralysis was caused by an extremely minute organism, so small that it could not be discovered by the microscope. French observers found the virus in the salivary glands; the Harvard experiments completed a few months ago proved that the disease could be transmitted by the common stable fly. A virus is not a disease germ; it is, according to the Century Dictionary, "the contagion of an infectious disease; a poison produced in the body of one suffering from a contagious disease; and capable of exciting the same disease when introduced into another person by inoculation."

Infantile paralysis in the last three years has become widely epidemic. The mystery about it has added to its terrors. Treatment of it has been largely empirical in the absence of knowledge. There is reason to hope that it will soon be conquered as effectively as diphtheria, formerly another great scourge of childhood, has been conquered.

HOTELS PROTECT GUESTS.

Their Operation Entails Strict Attention to Details.

In a modern hotel properly operated there are scores of specialists employed for the sole purpose of protecting the health, property and lives of the guest. The personal safety of the guest is the first and foremost consideration. Each floor is operated as if it were a separate hotel. The floor is in charge of a woman clerk, and it is so organized that all the details of the guest's personal requirements have immediate and satisfactory attention.

No one can step on to the floor by way of either the elevator or the stairs without being seen by the clerk. Any one desiring to call upon a guest must first obtain from the floor clerk the information whether or not the guest is in and wishes to see him. A record is kept of every access to guests' rooms. The employees whose duties require them to enter the rooms are before employment thoroughly and carefully investigated. Each one is well recommended and furnishes a bond.

HIS MAJESTY INVITED OUT

PEN PICTURE OF AN EVENING IN OUR RULER'S LIFE.

How He Is Guarded From The Time He Leaves The Palace Until He Returns.

His Majesty dines out to-night. Not at a great dinner-party, but at the house of an old friend. It is to be quite a quiet, informal entertainment, as is evident from the fact that the King is not wearing Court dress, but an ordinary dress-suit and white waistcoat.

It is 7.30, and his Majesty is going through his short toilet in his dressing-room. The chief valet unlocks a very heavy, solid old gold jewel-case, selects from a treble row of sleeve-links a pair of old purple enamel, gold-framed. These are perhaps the most valuable links his Majesty possesses.

At 7.45 the King leaves his dressing-room and passes into the King's Room, where the equerry who is to be in attendance on his Majesty for the evening is engaged in conversation with a slightly-built man of medium height, dressed in a dark-grey suit. His eyes are keen, and the mouth firm and well-cut. He is listening attentively to the equerry, and occasionally jots down a few notes in a pocket-book.

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Our Sovereign's Safeguards.

"Thank you, sir," says the detective, shutting up his notebook, and then rushes off. He is at the telephone in another couple of minutes, and ere the King leaves the Palace every policeman on duty in the streets through which the King will drive that night has been notified to expect his Majesty; and a minute or two later the King's chief detective himself will follow the Royal carriage on a bicycle, and will enter the house of the King's host a minute or so after his Majesty, and will not leave it until the departure of the Royal guest.

Guests of Distinction.

Whilst the King is reading these messages, the equerry has pressed the electric button on the King's desk, which summons a clerk on night-duty in the private secretary's department. The equerry hands him the letters and telegrams, and they will be sorted, opened, and got ready for the King's inspection on his return to the Palace, and, if necessary, any that require immediate attention will then be answered; otherwise the replies will go into the morning's correspondence.

Twenty minutes later the King is seated at a round dinner-table, beautifully decorated with crimson roses and white carnations. The room is filled with an exquisite soft light, thrown from a myriad of little rose-shaded electric lamps with which the beautifully-painted ceiling is studded.

The butler of the King's host stands behind his Majesty's chair, and it is he who attends on the King during the meal. To the right of the King sits his host, and on his Majesty's left the Russian Ambassador. The other guests, who number but six, include a well-known figure in the political world, a distinguished French artist, a peer who is a famous shot, and two members of the Royal Household.

Direct From the Premier. After coffee and a cigarette, the

TRIP TO MOON IN 48 HOURS!

French Engineer Says It May Be Done at No Distant Time.

A stir was caused by a paper read recently before the members of the French Physical Society by Robert Esnault Pelterie, the brilliant young engineer, on how to get from the earth to the moon in forty-eight hours. M. Pelterie insists his idea is practicable, based on scientific calculations, and not reminiscent of Jules Verne's romance.

The vehicle for the first travelers to the moon will be, he says, a closed vessel of extreme lightness provided with a motor of great power, a combination which the astonishing advances of locomotion during the last hundred years brings well into sight.

Since there is no atmosphere in the space between our planet and the moon, no system of propellers would be of any use, and the only possible means of driving the vehicle forward would be an adaptation of the rocket principle, which, he says, works as well in a vacuum as in air.

The motor then would work a kind of continuous rocket, and M. Pelterie has made calculations of just how much power the engine must have to carry the vehicle along the 240,000 odd miles between the earth and its satellite.

For a vehicle weighing one ton the motor would have to be of 414,000 horsepower. For added weight the force power must be proportionately increased. When this combination is realized the journey would be divided into three parts. The first would be to drive the vehicle with increasing speed until the sphere of the earth's attraction was passed. During the second the vehicle would continue its journey by inertia until it reached the point where the moon's attraction began, while the third would be the simple matter of dropping onto the latter surface, no motive force being necessary.

The first of these phases, according to the lecturer, would last twenty-four minutes and nine seconds; the second phase, forty-eight hours and fifty minutes; the third, three minutes and forty-six seconds, giving a total of forty-nine hours, seventeen minutes, and fifty-five seconds.

During the first 4,000 miles, he says, the passengers would have the sensation of weighing one-tenth more than usual, but afterwards they would cease to weigh at all and have the sensation of falling indefinitely into space.

To remedy the bad physical effects which might result from these phenomena, special appliances, says Capt. M. Pelterie, might be installed.

When a customer comes with a penny, in covers the ladle and comes up full of savory broth and chunks of meat, odds and ends, that the butcher has had left over. And what comes up the customer has to take. One can imagine how anxiously the hungry urchin or the mother of seven must eye the inexorable ladle and how a pretty girl might get another draw from the butcher's boy.

At any rate "to take potluck" means to take what you get and say nothing whether the pot is in Limoges or in the flat of the man who eagerly invites a friend of his youth to dinner.

Lawless River Population. The river population of Canton, China, and vicinity is computed at 500,000. Rapid breeding and constant recruiting from the pirates of the West River further up keep pace with the high death rate. They have no schooling, no religion, no morals, no hope. Until three years ago not even Christian missionaries noticed them and their efforts to-day lacking adequate support from the homeland, are like throwing bird-shot against Gibraltar. These river rats are of necessity piratical and lawless. A body floating unnoticed and uncared for down the stream some bright morning tells the tale of a fight or treachery the night before or perhaps days ago.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MARCH 30.

Lesson XIII.—The God of our fathers.—Review. Golden text, Psa. 22. 4.

QUESTIONS FOR PUPILS.

Lesson I.—The Creation.—Who lived before the world was created? How did God create the universe? How many stages of creation were there? What was the first thing God created? What was the work of the sixth day of creation? What did God say of everything he created? What did God do when the creation was finished?

Lesson II.—Man the Crown of Creation.—In whose image was man made? Of what did God make man's body? What did God do to place the first man? What did God give man to do? Whom did he give man for a helper? What were God's intentions for man?

Lesson III.—Man's First Sin.—What was the only prohibition God gave Adam? Why did God give him any prohibition? Who tempted Eve to do the forbidden thing? How did the cause Adam to sin? How did they feel when they had sinned? How did they try to escape from God? How did God punish them? What hopeful prophecy did he give them?

Lesson IV.—Cain and Abel.—Who were Cain and Abel? What were their occupations? What sacrifices did they offer to the Lord? Why did God accept Abel's and reject Cain's? How did Cain feel toward Abel because of this? What did Cain do to Abel? How did God punish Cain? How did he protect him from the revenge of his fellow-men?

Lesson V.—The Flood.—Who was Noah? Among what kind of people did he live? What did God determine to do to these people? How did God plan to save Noah? Whom did Noah take into the ark? What happened when Noah had entered the ark? How long did it rain? What became of the earth's inhabitants?

Lesson VI.—God's Covenant with Noah.—How long did Noah remain in the ark? How did he know when it was safe to leave the ark? What did he do as soon as he came out of the ark? What did God give Noah to do? What promise did he make Noah? What was the token of this covenant?

Lesson VII.—The Call of Abram.—Where had Abram been born? Where did he emigrate with his father Terah? What did God call him to do when Terah died? Where did Abram go? Whom did he take with him? Where did they build an altar to God? For what purpose did he go down into Egypt?

Lesson VIII.—Abram and Lot.—How did the wealth of Abram and Lot increase while they were in Egypt? What caused strife between their followers? What did Abram think it was best for them to do? What did he offer Lot? Why did Lot choose the cities of the plain? Where did Abram make his home?

Lesson IX.—God's Covenant with Abram.—For what did Abram earnestly wish? What did God promise him as to his descendants? How was his race to affect the world? Where were they to make their home? How did God change Abram's name? What did the change of name signify?

HIS TEACHING IS SIMPLE

The Language of Our Saviour Is Always of the Commonplace Character

Jesus saith, Peace be unto you.—John xx. 19.

This was the common salutation of the Jews and meant no more to them than "Good morning" or "Good evening" means to us. From the lips of Jesus it meant all that the words implied, and this was a characteristic of His life, to put a meaning into the commonplace.

His days were just like those of anybody else who has to work for a living and upon whom the support of a family depends. His life was full of routine and commonplace. His teaching is remarkably simple. His figures of speech are of the commonest kind, and when He instituted His sacraments He used most commonplace things—water and bread and wine. His very name was an ordinary one.

A great deal of our lives is commonplace, with little or nothing that is sensational or spectacular. The same routine of business or home work awaits us to-morrow morning, and a number of to-morrow ahead. We plan great things, but routine keeps us from carrying out our designs. The tendency of our modern industrial life is all to increase this and to make machines of us. What shall we do? The example of Jesus is the answer—put heart and meaning into the commonplace. So few do it that the field is large. A choir will strive after an anthem and neglect the singing of a hymn. Like Micawber, men will wait for something to turn up, and not only let pass the things that do come, but unfit themselves for the opportunity when it arrives. It takes years of service and application to win a battle. But this is the way to success. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much, and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." To put this meaning into the humdrum of life and to encourage us in it was a reason of Jesus' coming.—Rev. William M. Horn.

FROM ERIN'S GREEN ISLE

NEWS BY MAIL FROM IRELAND'S SHORES.

Happenings in the Emerald Isle of Interest to Irishmen.

Margaret Hayes of Little Corporation Street, Belfast, has died from the effects of a burning accident. Patrick McNamara, for 43 years a member of the post-office staff in Athlone, has just retired. While fishing in Athy, Constable Dunne, of the Royal Irish Constabulary, hooked a pike weighing 16 lbs.

While attending to a crusher Thomas Jones, Ballinglen, was caught in the machinery and severely crushed. A link with the Fenian movement has been snapped by the death of Thomas Crowe, Blackboy Pike, Limerick.

Lurgan rural council has secured a loan of \$51,000 for the erection of laborers' cottages in the district. The Rev. Robert Carroll, rector of Goleen, County Cork, has died as the result of injuries sustained in a driving accident.

In consequence of a severe epidemic of measles in Newry, several of the Public schools have been closed for the present. Mr. J. C. Ryder, chief clerk of the Postoffice, has been promoted to the position of postmaster at Wexford.

Cookstown rural council have decided not to consider any tender for building a laborer's cottage when the price exceeded \$750. In taking a fence while out with the Westmeath Hounds, Alfred Curtis, the second whip, was thrown from his horse and fatally injured.

The stores owned by Mr. D. Jamieson, wholesale confectioner and tobacconist, Conway Square, Newtownards, have been practically destroyed by fire. At Cookstown rural council, Mr. Bole mentioned that portion of the Kildren old churchyard wall had fallen and the ends of coffins were exposed.

The death has occurred of Mr. John Reilly, Red Bog, Belturbet, at the age of 101, one of the best-known devotees of cock-fighting in the north of Ireland. Miss Anastasia Kelly, the Quaker, Ennisceorthy, has been appointed school attendance officer for the portion of the district at the western side of the Slaney.

The Oughterard Board of Guardians have adopted a resolution urging that all old-age pensioners in the workhouse and all entitled to pensions be discharged. Mr. John Redmond, M.P. for the city of Waterford, opened the new bridge, stated to be the largest of its kind—a ferro-concrete structure—in the United Kingdom.

A well-known farmer of Castle-town, near Thurles, Thomas Maher, has died as the result of injuries sustained through his horse bolting near the hill of Loughgulla. The death is announced of the Rev. Dr. P. J. Kain, a Protestant minister, who was a member of the Fenian organization and one of the Erin's Hope expedition in 1857. The staff of the Dunragran and district post-office have presented Mr. R. E. Brennan with an illuminated address in recognition of his 50-years' service as postmaster of the town.

New Baby Brother. Doris was radiant over a recent addition to the family, and rushed out of the house to tell the news to a passing neighbor. "Oh, you don't know what we've got upstairs!" "What is it?" "It's a new baby brother!" And she settled back upon her heels and folded her hands to watch the effect. "You don't say so! Is he going to stay?" "I expect so," very thoughtfully—"he's got his things off."

Young Folks

Happy Hoppy's New Home.

When Happy Hoppy woke from her long winter nap, she felt so drowsy that she snuggled down in her warm burrow to take another nap. She closed her eyes contentedly, and thought that when the sun climbed a little higher she would hop out and take a look at things. Thump! thump! What was that? An earthquake? Happy Hoppy's eyes popped open. What do you think had happened? She had been shovelled up with a load of loam, hauled into the city, and dumped into a back yard—such a back yard! It was so small that she could cover it in three good hops. She looked round scornfully. "Not a bit of grass, not a tree was in sight!"

Do you wonder that Happy Hoppy longed for the big garden patch where daisies and clover grew? Happy Hoppy was sure that she would starve to death. Where were the nice fat cutworms, and the busy black-and-yellow cucumber-bugs? She would have to depend on house-flies, and she saw only one crawling about! Think how many flies it takes to keep a healthy toad from hunger—three hundred a day!

Happy Hoppy tried every corner of the yard to see if there were a hole big enough for her to crawl through, but there was not. That made her so unhappy that she hid herself way down in the loose earth as far as she could go. She was so preoccupied with her troubles that when some one came to rake the earth she neither heard nor felt him.

But one warm day she was so hungry that she had to come out to find something to eat. She was just in time to see three people coming out of the door—a man, a woman, and a pale-faced boy who sat in a strange-looking chair that moved on wheels. Happy Hoppy was too much surprised to move; she sat quite still and blinked her eyes in the strong sunlight.

"This is such good, rich loam!" the woman was saying. "Look how the things have started already! Why, the ferns are beginning to uncurl, and the clover is in bud!" "I can see the tiny buds," the boy said.

"Seems clover! What can they mean?" said Happy Hoppy, and stretched her short neck, blinked hard, and looked about, "winked enough! There were ferns, tender, green shoots, curving up from the earth to make, by and by, the coolest of umbrellas to sit under on hot days; and there were big bunches of clover, just the thing to attract moths; and Solomon's seal stood up as if it had always grown there. Happy Hoppy found that she had done a great deal of worrying for nothing.

Happy Hoppy was puzzled. She did not understand until the big man explained to some one who looked down from one of the windows. "You see, Willie could not go to grandmother's this summer, so we are trying to make the country come to him."

Ah, that was it! Happy Hoppy had never heard of such a wonderful thing, but right then and there she made up her mind to keep the bugs out of Willie's garden. She hopped from her hiding place in full sight of them all, rolled her eyes wisely, and snapped at a beetle.

"Mother, father, look! Just see that toad! Where do you suppose it came from?" "Why, how lucky!" said Willie's mother. "How lucky!" said his father. "Now your garden is complete; I was going to hunt for one and bring it here. It's a sort of partnership, isn't it? I am to find the flowers and keep the weeds down, and the toad will kill the worms and bugs, and you and mother can watch things grow."—Youth's Companion.

A Man to Avoid. The man who can laugh at a funny story after hearing it the third time should not be trusted. He is a hypocrite. "Pop, what is the difference between an artist and an artisan?" "An artisan, my son, can usually make at least \$3 a day."

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Its flavour and strength are preserved unpaired in the so lead packet.

HOW ARABS FISH FOR

A Record of Five Minutes Water Has Been Established. The pearl-fishery is an that still retains the flavo tiquity. None of its metho been modernized; neither for the trust has yet it. A pearl-diver gives Youth's Companion this des of the way the Arabs fish ters of the Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf, and of the ba that follows when they di the "catch."

A pearl-fisher's boat may as many as eighty Arab fish. Every two or three minute of the men dive, made fast that their companions be only apparatus they use lone clip that is pressed trills, and least fingers protect them from sea cuts the fisherman is habile. carries a small basket in him, and a stone is tied to help carry him to the A dive usually lasts fro three minutes, although for five minutes has been lished. When the divers the surface, they are ghaunted; often they are cated. However, after a five minutes they are red again.

Most of these intrepid try an amulet supposed to them from fish, but they bitten. At night they hav of rice and dried dates. D fourteen hours of their w they take only an occasio coffee.

Many of the fisherman deal, and it is seldom th continues at the business years. In the evening they open ters, among which it is r a pearl of value. But w happens, the joy in the great. Pistol-shots amon news, which spreads fro boat along the whole leng fishing-bank, and finally mainland, where nothing of except the water, shape or of the newly-found pri

On his return to his us age, the master fishman of the pearls he has take man who has allowed him credit. This man, in tur pearls in the Gulf market Bombay. Here the Arab takes a hand. In the pr the buyer and the vendor, up a prayer to Allah. compliments the owner of t compares his voice to t nightingale, and praises h and his intelligence. So sation drags on. For worth \$2,000 the broker hesitate to ask \$10,000 week, if necessary, he k client in sight; he eats a with him. Finally, they terms. The dealer embu after, creeps over him, as a seal upon the bargain, a prayer. In the course of tation he never quotes a handkerchief over his hat from prying eyes the move his fingers that indicate b a white man, unaccustom way of doing business, h robbed accordingly.

Old Coins Broken. They had an ingenious meeting a shortage of sma in the old days before cop existed. Until the reign of I, the silver penny was the coin minted in England, great inconvenience of the purchase of the period. difficulty was to some ex cover by the issue of pennie with a deep cross. The could then be broken in pennies and farthings. C real copper coinage only d 1672, and until the time of VI, farthings of silver wer growing smaller and small value of silver increased. Chronicle.

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