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SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 9, 1902.

ABOUT BAD SPELLS.

At the Northwestern University, which is situated near Chicago, several members of the graduating class failed recently to pass because of their imperfect orthography. This caused investigation as to the spelling abilities of school teachers in the windy city. It is stated that the results were surprising and humiliating. A large proportion of the teachers are reported to have misspelled many of the most common words, when required to fill out blanks which were sent to them for the purpose of making this test. Names of well-known places and persons and simple every-day words were misspelled in a great number of instances.

Editors of modern newspapers are well aware of this deficiency in the education, not only of some school teachers and even principals, but of able and prominent men in the various professions. Such spelling as is not uncommon with doctors, lawyers, ministers and others who have graduated from colleges and universities in the United States, would have prevented their obtaining any degree or certificate from either of the great educational establishments of the old world.

Of course a person may become eminent in a profession in which brains, experience and adaptability are absolutely necessary, and yet be a poor speller of the English language. This has been demonstrated in the career of many very notable individuals. But in literary circles, bad orthography is viewed as a sign of ignorance, and it certainly gives a shock to a trained eye, when blunders in spelling of common words are seen in the hand-writing of "professors" and distinguished persons.

The root of the trouble is evidently in modern systems of teaching orthography. The old-fashioned methods may seem queer to the students and teachers of later times, but they drilled the pupils, by both sight and sound, into a thorough understanding of the construction of words so that misspelling acted like a discord in music. We believe that reform is needed in the manner of instruction in orthography. The defects have become so glaring that the attention of the best instructors is attracted towards them, and there will be earnest searching after an efficient remedy. It may be that the old spelling-match will have to be revived, or the spelling book of former times be reproduced. At any rate, more attention will have to be paid to this branch of common education, and correct spelling be made an essential to graduation in any of our public institutions.

WHICH ROUTE?

The debate in Congress on the Isthmian canal shows considerable sentiment in favor of a thorough investigation of the Panama route, before a final decision is reached. This is natural. For the offer of the Panama people to transfer their property to the United States for \$40,000,000 is of too much importance, from a business point of view, to be ignored.

Much has been said in favor of both routes. The Nicaragua canal would be, it appears, 190 miles long, while the Panama canal would be only 47 miles. The Nicaragua route would be 600 miles shorter than the Panama route, between the Atlantic ports of North America and those of the Pacific, as to the time of construction, it is estimated that the Nicaragua canal would take two years less than the Panama route. But the latter has good harbors at either termination, while the Nicaragua canal would have to be constructed for the Nicaragua canal. Finally, it has been estimated that the Nicaragua canal would be cheaper to construct, by about \$4,000,000, than the Panama canal, but that the relative advantages to commerce would be greatly in favor of the Panama route. It is evidently necessary to sift thoroughly all these various claims, and others that have been made, before engaging in an enterprise of such magnitude.

Those that view the canal, in the first place, as a strategic measure, and regard the advantages it would give to the world's commerce, as of only secondary importance, favor the Nicaragua canal unconditionally. They think the pending bill should pass, no matter what terms the Panama people may offer. On the other hand, those who believe in the supremacy of commercial interests demand that the matter be treated as a business proposition, and decided as any other important business would be settled. And this view ought to prevail. The people want a waterway across the isthmus and they want it constructed on sound business principles. They do not require that the cheapest route should be selected, but that whatever is invested of the people's money is invested to the best advantage. Careful investigations have been made. The data are all available, and Congress can act intelligently on the question, before committing the country irrevocably to either proposition.

A SOCIAL FARM.

In the current number of the World's Work, there is an interesting account of the happy social conditions prevailing on the Brattleford farms, established eleven years ago near New York by Mr. Walter H. Law. The establishment was at first only a small dairy farm, but now it has grown to large proportions. Waterworks carry the best spring water to different parts of the colony, which has a railroad station, a schoolhouse, postoffice, telegraph and telephone stations. It has electric lights and a fine church. Prominent speakers are often invited to talk to the men, and their orchestra furnishes music on various occasions.

Mr. Law has about three hundred workmen, and he takes good care of them. He sells those who desire to buy, a building lot, at a nominal price, and builds them a house that can be paid for in easy installments. For the single men he has a "home," where the cost of living is from \$15 to \$18 a month. The employer often joins his

TRAIN ACCIDENTS.

Within the past month or two, a surprisingly large number of railroad accidents have been recorded in this country, and naturally people wonder how, with all the modern improvements and appliances, disasters of that kind can still occur. Curiously enough, it has been found in some cases that collisions have occurred as a result of the failure of conductors to read orders correctly. If this is true, it merely proves the unreliability of even the best trained human mind. Human faculties are but limited in their capacity. A man may hold his post faithfully and attend untiringly to the thousand and one little details on which the success of his business depends. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred he may succeed, and then—no one can tell why or how—his otherwise keen perception fails, and an error is made. On railroad trains, on street cars, on board ships, on the battlefields, such errors have often been disastrous.

The possibility of doing away with written orders in directing railroad trains is now seriously considered. It has been suggested that a system of continuous electric signals to the engineer in the cab could be adopted, and that that would remove all possibility of misunderstanding. Under this system of signalling, a warning signal would be placed in the cab of every locomotive where the engineer could not fail to see it, and each train would have absolute control over the section of track on which it is moving. It is claimed that the feasibility of this device has been demonstrated on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois road.

But after all, mechanical devices cannot entirely take the place of human intelligence in the operation of the devices of transportation, to which so many human lives and so much property daily are confided. As for the railroads, we presume that accidents cannot be entirely avoided until double tracks are laid over very large stretches, and the traffic does not exceed the capacity of the roads for handling it without too much strain on the operators.

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

The Chicago Tribune has issued a statement showing the number of lynchings and murders that took place in this country during the year 1901. The exhibit is gruesome, but it should produce a good effect.

Our Chicago contemporary finds that lynchings, instead of decreasing, increased considerably, there being 135 last year, 30 more than during the previous year. Of these, 121 took place in the Southern States and 14 in the North. As to the color of the victims of mob murder, 167 were negroes, 26 white, one was an Indian, and one a Chinaman.

The plea that lynchings are resorted to as a remedy against a crime, for which the law is alleged to furnish no adequate punishment, is again disproved by the statistics produced. For they show that only 19 were murdered accused of criminal assault, while 39 were charged with murder, for which crime the law provides ample retribution. Less than half of the lynchings, it will be seen, were for these serious offenses, while the other more than half were for other causes. This shows conclusively that lynchings, so far from being an evidence of a craving for justice in the interest of pure morals, prove that a spirit of lawlessness is possessing the people, and the fact that this spirit is spreading as shown by the statistics, is perhaps the most serious feature.

The legal executions during the year amounted to 115, which is one less than the preceding year. Of these 167 were for murder, nine for criminal assault, one for attempted criminal assault, and one for train robbery.

Judge W. H. Thomas of Montgomery, Ala., some time ago, in charging a grand jury, called attention to the proofs that are given frequently of the "altogether too high regard for human life in Alabama." The statistics referred to above prove that this evil is not peculiar to one state. The judges claimed that if the number of homicides in the Dominion were as great in proportion to the population as they were in Alabama, the Canadian courts would have 526 prosecutions. In the same way, based on proportion, he showed that England and Wales would have 3,423 prosecutions, instead of their present average of 322, and France would multiply her present trials by eight.

It, in this connection, it is remembered that Alabama, which has such an alarming amount of homicides, had fifteen lynchings, a record surpassed only by two other states, it is evident that mob murders do not have the effect of increasing regard for human life. Their effect is the opposite. The more lynchings, the more lawlessness of every kind.

A serious evil confronts the American people. If it is not checked in time, it will surely become a menace to her free institutions, for murderous anarchy and freedom cannot grow and thrive together.

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men in their meals, and good fellowship is always prevailing.

Thus an almost ideal condition is described. It may be necessary to make allowance for the too glowing colors possibly employed by the visitor who has written up the establishment. But there is no reason to doubt that Mr. Law has made a financial success of farming, and at the same time provided that such success is perfectly compatible with philanthropy that aims at the social and intellectual elevation of the tolling wage-earner, and his economic independence. And that should be a valuable object lesson. The chances are that Mr. Law's financial success is largely due to his philanthropic labors. For when contentment, respect and affection inspire laborers, the results are likely to be much more satisfactory, than when labor is performed as if it were only a necessary evil.

PANAMA PREFERRED.

Since the Panama company expressed a willingness to sell out to the United States at a reasonable figure, a great many advantages of that route over the Nicaragua route seem to have been discovered. The Medical News claims that the Panama canal should be preferred from the standpoint of health. "That journal makes these observations:

"At Panama the seasons are divided into wet and dry periods, as is common in the tropics; there is nothing abnormal in the precipitation or temperature. For four months of the year the weather is clear and practically cloudless. Along a large part of the Nicaragua route there is no dry season. Rain falls day or night and often for days and nights together. The rainfall is distinctly abnormal at Greytown. The records of precipitation here are the heaviest yet reported for any point on the American continent. The fall of rain for the year 1900 was over 200 inches and has often been in excess of that figure. Over 12 inches of rain have been known to fall in 24 hours.

"It has been stated that the Nicaragua route has a better history of health than Panama, but any argument which seeks to use the past history of the two routes as an indication of future conditions is specious and misleading. We might almost say that the Panama route is the only one which has a history since early in the sixteenth century Panama has been a favorite route for travelers between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; nearer our own time, probably more people went to and from California during the gold fever than across the continent in any other way. The Panama railroad has been in existence for 50 years during which a vast amount of traffic has passed over its rails, the extensive works of the Panama canal company are here. During all this time the Nicaragua route was a wilderness, imperfectly explored.

"The health of those employed in constructing as well as those who will subsequently use these waterways, is an element of superlative importance and one that cannot be neglected when Congress undertakes the consideration of this great engineering problem."

"Lulu" Gates at the Theater tonight.

Joe Chamberlain has got himself into an "ordeal" mess.

High Priests' semi-monthly meeting tomorrow at 7 p. m.

The fiercer war seems to have developed in a to horse race.

That was an awful twist Von Buelow gave the Birmingham screw manufacturer.

The children of Israel will soon be able to take an electric trolley ride out to Mt. Sinai.

The British have recovered another cannon. Will it be sent home as were Buller and other big guns?

There is no reason why scenes from the Book of Mormon should not be reverently dramatized, as Biblical incidents have been.

What are the American and Japanese officers who guarded the Chinese imperial palace to be decorated for? Aren't they handsome enough?

Colorado papers are making quite a fuss about a man at Boulder who has fasted for thirty days. Plenty of people have done that and they did not have stomach trouble, either.

That tramp who built a fire in the basement of a Salt Lake residence and proceeded to warm himself, evidently had "bold feet" when the fire department arrived on the scene.

Since the Dowager Empress of China has gone on record as issuing an edict against the locomotive whistle, she would undoubtedly be welcomed as a permanent acquisition to the west side social circles of this city.

Judging from the arrest of D. C. Stapleton, general manager of the Playa Del Oro mining company, for issuing aluminum checks to his employees, civilization in the form of the "beer check" has not yet been established in Ecuador.

Herr Barthelmeus of Austria, according to the dispatches, has invented a system for preventing railroad accidents. It is now up to Director Mutsch to complete the good work and compound a specific for the prevention of fog.

The City Council has an undoubted right, when called upon to confirm a removal by the Mayor, to know who is to be nominated to fill the intended vacancy, as well as the reasons alleged for the change. This is so plain that it needs no argument to make it clear.

The fog that has hung over the city for the past seven days, now appears to be about to depart. An "old citizen" claims he can distinctly remember that in 1879 a fog, lasting three weeks, draped the valley in a similar manner. But since then there has been nothing like it.

When the head of an executive department gives orders to a subordinate, and the latter obeys the order, and in doing so neglects a public duty, the responsibility is to some extent shared, but the greater part and the blame will rest upon the head who gave the improper order. The common-sense and justice of this rule ought to be perceived even by the densest mind and rankest partisan.

The official report now shows that the total number of British soldiers killed

wounded and missing since the South African war began amounts to 24,299. Of these 19,439 were actually killed or died of disease. The number of sick and wounded invalided home reaches 43,239. But many of these have recovered and returned to Africa. The Boer losses are not known, as no authentic reports on that subject have reached the outside world.

NEW YORK SUNDAY SALOONS.

Boston Herald.

All the agitation that has been had in New York touching the legalizing of open saloons on Sunday, or any part of the day, goes for nothing, so far as immediate results are concerned. What was desired was a local option on the subject that would enable the people of a city or a borough, or perhaps an assembly district, to have places of resort where they could, on Sunday and drink beer or wine if they desired. Gov. Odell's message announces his opposition to any such plan, unless it shall be first approved by a vote of the people of the whole state.

BALTIMORE SUN.

If Greater New York's liquor law is to be made by people who do not live in the city no saloons will be opened in the metropolis on Sunday, except in the usual illicit places. A Republican politician, who is literally opposed to what he describes as the "Continental Sunday," says the people of the Empire State who are not contented by the influence of wicked Gotham, constitute an overwhelming majority of the voters and will drive out of power and party or administration which permits the sale of intoxicating beverages on the Sabbath. "Try to deprive the cosmopolitan population of this city of the harmless personal liberty to which it has been accustomed," replies the New York Herald, "and the return to power of Tammany two years hence is assured."

BOSTON TRANSCRIPT.

Were this a question that could be decided according to the ideals and preferences of those who now constitute the government of the city, settlement would be easy. The saloons would of course be closed, like other places of business, and our modern Babylon would show a Sunday quiet and profound as that of a New England hamlet; but it is a condition and not a theory that must be dealt with. In his message to the New York legislature, Gov. Odell touches upon this matter in a way that precludes him not in sympathy with the Sunday opening proposition.

MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN.

There is delicate forethought in the plan to permit New York city saloons to open on Sundays from 1 to 11 p. m. That will permit the saloonkeepers to go to church in the morning, give them an hour for dinner, and let them open for business at 1 o'clock sharp in the afternoon.

CUBA'S FIRST PRESIDENT.

Kansas City Star.

Undoubtedly Palma was the American candidate for the Cuban presidency, but only foolish persons and malcontents and extremist anti-Americans believed the United States would resist the election of any other candidate. The election of Tomas Estrada Palma as the first president of Cuba is certainly a case of the reward of merit and promises well for peace and progress and desirable relations with the United States. His ability and strength of character ought to bring about excellent government as to satisfy the Cuban people and win for him the support of all his former enemies who are disposed to be reasonable. The United States cannot but be proud of the splendid example of keeping the national pledge and permitting the Cubans to conduct home government.

SPRINGFIELD REPUBLICAN.

The assured election of Mr. Palma as president of Cuba ought to impress the United States Congress the more favorably the policy of granting to the Cubans an entrance to the American market. Mr. Palma evidently accepts unreservedly the principle of substantial suzerainty which the Platt amendment imposed upon the Cuban government; certainly no one doubts that his election was desired by the Washington administration and Gov. Leonard Wood.

BOSTON HERALD.

It seems somewhat inappropriate that General Palma, whose election to the first presidency of independent Cuba was decided this week, was not in Cuba at the time. We believe he has taken no important part personally in the campaign. Probably there was no need that he should. As it turned out, he was the only candidate, and probably he will have a unanimous vote in the electoral college. But he spent these days of fate with his family in Central Valley, N. Y., where he has lived for eighteen years, during all the time laboring as opportunity offered in behalf of the liberation of Cuba. He says that, although he was given more than thirty years of his life to the cause of his country, political strife is out of his sphere.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In The North American Review for January Maximo Macmillan, the Belgian dramatist and essayist, has a round discourse on "The Mystery of Justice." Joseph Quincy, formerly assistant secretary of state, discusses the "Political Aspect of Cuba's Distress." Albert Halstead shows that the intelligent and tireless work of the American consul in all parts of the world has been "An Unrecognized Factor in Our Commercial Expansion." Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor, writes of the rise and organization of "Consolidated Labor." E. P. Bacon calls attention to "The Inadequate Powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission." Carl Sauer discusses "America's Inferior Place in the Scientific World." T. H. Parde de Tavera, Benito Legarda and Jose Ruiz de Luzuriaga, the Filipino members of the United States Philippine commission, give in three interesting papers "The Filipino Views of American Rule." Yves Guyot, the French economist, describes the present situation of "The South of Europe." M. A. J. de la Roche, a member of the Irish board of agriculture, tells a story of "Ireland's Industrial Revival." W. R. Merriam offers some information about "The Anglo-French Canadian Shore." In the western shore of Newfoundland, in the series on "The National Debts of the World," A. Rafalovich, French agent of the Russian Minister of Finance, describes "The Russian Debt," and Mr. Howells examines and characterizes "Some New Volumes of Verse."—New York.

The opening article in the January Table Talk is entitled, "The Conventional Way of Setting the Table," by Mrs. Burton Kingsland, an authority on etiquette. "Housekeeping in Mexico," by one who resides in the City of Mexico is interesting. "How It Is Done in Rome," by a resident of that country, will tell of odd ways and customs. A valuable article to mothers is one about "Mumps and Chicken Pox" written by a trained nurse. Other practical articles and illustrated dishes continue to keep Table Talk to the front of household magazines.—Table Talk Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Geo. D. Pyper, Manager.

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1. Overture, Egmont.....(Beethoven)

2. a. Arlette from "Romeo and Juliet".....(Gounod)

b. "L'Annee d'Argent".....(Chaminade)

3. "Schweizer-Echo".....(Eckert)

4. "Ave Maria".....(Bach-Gounod)

5. Violin Obligato.....Willard Weihe

6. Piano.....John J. McClellan

7. Organ.....Cal Carrington

8. a. Rose Song, "If I Knew".....(Gaynor)

b. Rose Song, "The Wind Went Wailing the Rose".....(Gaynor)

c. "His Favorite Flower".....(Lowitz)

9. Emma Lucy Gates.

10. Overture, "Cavalleria Rusticana".....(Mascagni)

11. Grand Orchestra.

12. a. "Caro Nome," from Rigoletto.....(Verdi)

b. "Minuet".....(Bocherini)

13. String Orchestra.

14. a. "If I but Knew".....(Smith)

b. "Sing, Sweet Birdy".....(Ganz)

15. Emma Lucy Gates.

16. Orchestral Accompaniment.

17. Conductor Orchestra.....Willard Weihe

18. Conductor Orchestral Accompaniment.....John J. McClellan

19. Orchestration.....Written by Professor McClellan.

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MURRAY & MACK,

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SECURE SEATS EARLY.

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POPULAR PRICES.

SEAT SALE BEGINS FRIDAY, JAN. 10.

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It is essential that

it should be compounded

just as he wishes it.

That is

It should contain the

proper ingredients in

the proper proportions.

We never pretend to know

what your physician wants

as well as he does.

If you don't understand

exactly what we mean