

## PARCEL POST IS GREAT SUCCESS

### First Day's Business Shows Benefits of New System.

#### Many Use Insurance Feature—Special Delivery Also Helps—Common Stamps Don't Go.

Washington, D. C.—The inauguration of the parcel post system in Washington was an unqualified success. Owing to the number of substations it was impossible to tell with accuracy the volume of business in the city during the first day, but the number of packages handled at the main office seemed to warrant the statement that the public has quickly adjusted itself to the new service and will make much use of it.

No reports from postoffices throughout the country were received indicating any material difficulty in caring for the new business. Here in Washington all patrons complied with the rules in regard to the size and weight of packages and none had to be refused.

By the payment of an additional 10 cents senders of parcel post packages may have them insured and about 10 per cent of the packages were so insured. At the main postoffice the receipt of packages averaged about 17 an hour. There was large business in the sale of parcel post stamps, many being taken by collectors.

It is expected to show wonderful growth when its success is demonstrated to the people and they come to a full realization of what it means to them in the saving of time as well as in cost of transportation.

The parcel post system worked without a hitch during its first 24 hours in New York. There was little rush, due to the holiday, and the clerks were able easily to cope with the business. It was said that the first full day's business there would show a total of about 350 packages.

Postmaster Morgan received on an early train from Washington the silver loving cup sent by Postmaster General Hitchcock to inaugurate the service.

Six fresh eggs, mailed from St. Louis to Edwardsville, Ill., early in the morning, were returned at night made into a cake. The eggs were mailed at the main postoffice at 12:05 o'clock a. m., and the cake was delivered at 7 p. m. Edwardsville is about 20 miles from St. Louis.

A four-pound piece of side pork, mailed from Addison, Mich., was the first package received by parcel post in Detroit. The second was a broken horse collar which a farmer at Peck, Mich., sent in for repairs to a wholesale harness dealer.

A brisk business marked the opening of the parcel post service in Boston, more than 100 persons waiting for the signal inaugurating the system at midnight.

One of the first packages was a small pot of Boston baked beans, sent to Mayor Fitzgerald.

Chicago's New Year resolution to make use of the nation's gift—the parcel post system—was initiated the first day by the sending of approximately 2500 packages of merchandise. A mail-order firm deposited 450 packages for delivery.

One concern alone bought \$17,000 worth of stamps.

#### Dog Is Sent By Parcel Post.

Yonkers, N. Y.—A brindle bulldog was the first parcel post package mailed in Yonkers. It was in a box addressed to William Trier, of 30 Woodworth avenue. Although live animals are not accepted for transportation through the mails, Postmaster Warren made an exception, as it was the first parcel, and had a carrier deliver it. The postmaster went in his private carriage to deliver personally a six-pound roast from New York addressed to a Yonkers housewife, so it might be in time for dinner.

#### Rate Advance Delayed.

Washington, D. C.—The Interstate Commerce commission has suspended until May 2 the proposed advance in class and commodity rates between Pacific Coast terminals and points in Iowa, including north of Council Bluffs and extending into Minnesota to St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The railroads proposed to advance first-class rates from \$3 to \$3.20, second-class \$2.60 to \$2.85 and third-class \$2.20 to \$2.35, with a corresponding increase on lower classes and numerous commodities.

#### Power Wires Shot Down.

Mexico City—Rebels are said to have shot the power transmission lines from the poles carrying them from the River Necaxa, in the State of Puebla, to the capital. A his reason is given for the failure of the electric power service of the city, which caused the stoppage of the streetcar lines for several hours. The lines were disconnected at a distance of 20 miles from the city. A partial service of light and power was re-established.

#### San Jose After Record.

San Jose, Cal.—Residents of San Jose are hoping that for New Year's day they will hold the country's record for quantity of parcel post packages handled. To this end and for the glorification of the Santa Clara valley prune, two carloads of prunes, done into small packages, were sent out by parcel post to addresses all over the country. Directions for proper cooking of the prunes were on each package.

#### Rebel General Defiant.

El Paso, Tex.—"We will respect all foreigners respecting us; none others," says a proclamation signed by General Inez Salazar and 18 rebel generals, copies of which were distributed along the border. It also is declared that the rebels will not

## SNOWSLIDE CRUSHES TRAIN

### Rain, Wind and Snow Do Immense Damage to Property.

Ellensburg, Wash.—Snowslide crushes 15 freight cars into kindling.

Seattle—Boiler on rotary snow plow on Great Northern road explodes, injuring five, two fatally.

Aberdeen—Traffic and wire communication badly hit by storm—landslide throws two houses from foundations—shipping tied up.

Falls City, Or.—Heaviest rain and wind storm ever recorded.

Newport—Rain heavy and wind blows a gale, but no shipping damage reported.

Dallas—Telephone lines down and bridges washed out with La-Creole river flooding adjacent land.

Chehalis—Chehalis river on a rampage for two days. Big log jam likely to break any time.

Vancouver—Several Clark county bridges and roads washed out and rainfall of Sunday 1.92 inches.

Centralia—Surrounding country flooded—citizens fear inundation in business district.

Ellensburg, Wash.—The Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound eastbound freight, which was stalled in a drift one mile west of Laconia, in Snoqualmie Pass, Saturday afternoon, was wrecked late Monday by an avalanche that swept down the mountain just when the train was almost free from the first drift.

Two locomotives were knocked off the track and wrecked, 12 cars loaded with Oriental imports were smashed into small bits and 23 other cars were buried under the snow, part of which is 15 feet deep.

Roadmaster W. R. Hunt was caught in the slide and severely injured.

Snow conditions in the Cascade mountains are the worst in 20 years, according to railroad officials here.

The Milwaukee was completely tied up by slides. The Northern Pacific refused to handle Milwaukee trains over the mountains. Snow plows at Easton and Lester were wedged in the snow.

A plow stationed at Ellensburg, with a 15-foot double fan, released one imprisoned plow. A locomotive left the rails at Easton and turned on its side.

A wrecking outfit left here by special train, with 95 laborers following. A foot of snow an hour was reported at the summit. Lower down rain fell and then froze, forming a heavy crust on the snow and making conditions much worse.

## 33 CONVICTED DYNAMITERS

### RECEIVE THEIR SENTENCES

Indianapolis, Ind.—Imprisonment in the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., was imposed as a punishment upon 33 labor union officials convicted of having engaged in the destruction of property by dynamiting over an area stretching from Boston to Los Angeles.

As the head of the union whose strike was given as the motive for promoting the dynamite plots, Frank M. Ryan was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, the heaviest sentence of all. He is president of the Ironworkers' International union.

Of the 38 men convicted as conspirators and aiders in the McNamara dynamiting schemes, eight other men affiliated with Ryan were each sentenced to prison terms of six years, two men each were sentenced to four years, 12 men were each sentenced to three years, four men were sentenced to two years each, six men to one year and one day each, and six men, including Edward Clark, of Cincinnati, a dynamiter who pleaded guilty, received their liberty on suspended sentences.

The elimination of those who received suspended sentences left 33 who are to go to Leavenworth, where the shortest sentence will be one year and one day.

#### Municipal Carline Pays.

San Francisco—In the first day and a half of its operation, San Francisco's new municipal railway line returned to the city a profit of \$632.75. The first car was sent out Saturday noon and the receipts for the half day were \$748.75. Sunday's receipts were \$910, making a total of \$1658.75 for the day and a half. The estimated operating expenses of the road are \$450 a day and the fixed charges on the bonds \$234 a day. There is an owl service with cars running every hour between 12:30 and 5:30 in the morning.

#### Painters Fall to Death.

San Francisco—Falling six stories down a light-well in the Whitney building and crashing through a skylight into the rear room of a store below, John N. Crawford and Edward J. Hannan, painters, were instantly killed. Both bodies were badly mangled and it was with difficulty that they were extricated from the tangled ropes and debris which held them. The men were at work 70 feet above the skylight when one of the ropes on which the hanging scaffold was suspended gave way.

#### Arms Stored at El Paso.

El Paso, Tex.—At least 4000 rifles and untold quantities of ammunition, in shipments of from 5000 to 50,000 pounds each, have been received here within the last three months, official figures show. That the arms and cartridge boxes were not all sold to sportsmen is self-evident. Some months ago enforcement of neutrality was removed from the Department of Justice's secret agents along the border and turned over to the War department.

#### Greeks Lose Naval Battle.

London—A naval battle between Turkish and Greek forces occurred off the island of Tenos, in the Aegean sea, on Saturday. The Greeks suffered severe losses and a news agency dis-

## 38 CONVICTED IN DYNAMITE CASES

### Every Count of Indictment Is Upheld by Jury.

#### All But Two Are Members of Ironworkers' Union—Two Accused Men Cleared.

Indianapolis—The United States government with stern and decisive swiftness took into its possession 38 union labor officials, convicted of conspiracy, of promoting explosions on non-union work throughout the land, of aiding in the destruction which brought loss of life in Los Angeles, and of carrying on a "reign of terror" declared to be unparalleled in the history of the country.

Almost the entire executive staff of the International Association of Bridge & Structural Iron Workers was convicted. Only two officials of that union now remain out of jail.

At the head of the list of those convicted stands Frank Moran, the president.

It was of this union, with 12,000 members, that John J. McNamara was secretary-treasurer while he conducted the dynamiting out of which the present convictions grew.

The convictions, coming on a scale unprecedented in a Federal court, were an aftermath of the killing of 21 persons in the blowing up of the Los Angeles Times building on October 1, 1910. McNamara and his brother, James B., the Times dynamiters, are convicts in California, and his fellow officials, former associates of McNamara, are Federal prisoners here, awaiting sentence.

Two of those convicted were not affiliated with the Iron Workers' union, but they were found guilty of joining with the Iron Workers' officials in promoting the conspiracy. One of these is Olaf A. Tviemoe, of San Francisco, a recognized labor leader on the Pacific Coast, the testimony against whom was that he aided in causing explosions in Los Angeles, wrote letters about them and referred to them as "Christmas presents" after the fatal explosion in Los Angeles, and that he aided in concealing evidence wanted in California. He is secretary of the California Building Trades Council.

#### GALE SENDS BARK ON BEACH

### British Four-Masted Is Wrecked—Crew of 30 Saved.

Aberdeen, Wash.—Heroic work by the Westport lifesaving crew was all that saved the officers and men, 30 in all, of the British four-masted bark Torrisdale, which went ashore half a mile south of the jetty near the entrance to Grays Harbor early Saturday.

It was the fate of the vessel's crew to realize that they were drifting to a most certain death for several hours before the Torrisdale finally struck. Seven hours' work in a lifeboat in one of the worst seas ever known along the coast was the form of Providence that saved Captain Collins and his men.

The Torrisdale lies a total wreck on her beam ends and with waves dashing over her, not more than 800 yards from the high water line. Her back is broken, and her crew aver that she was leaking badly when she finally lay over.

#### Chicago Drinks Less Beer.

Chicago—Chicago and surrounding territory consumed 224,945 fewer barrels of beer in 1912 than in the preceding 12 months, according to a report filed recently by S. M. Finch, collector of internal revenue. Brewers explain the decrease by the cool weather in the early part of last summer, which decreased the consumption of the product. The amount of spirituous liquors consumed showed an increase. Taxes collected this year on spirits in this district amounted to \$451,500 as against \$414,626 last year.

#### Rare Art Sale Probable.

London—Negotiations are in progress which may lead to one of the most sensational sales of art treasures that has ever taken place in London. It is the public auction of the wonderful treasures from the imperial palaces in China. The Chinese palaces are vast storehouses of art treasures. The late dowager empress was an assiduous collector, for she used to receive on her birthdays quantities of bronzes, black pearls and gold ornaments of rare workmanship from loyal subjects who wished to buy her favor.

#### Chinese Asks for Baby.

Los Angeles—A petition bearing the signature of a Chinese seeking the adoption of an American baby has been placed on file in the Superior court. The child, at the age of one day, was found three years ago by Lute W. Jimmie, the Chinese petitioner, on the porch of a neighbor's home, where it had been abandoned. Lute is an American-born Chinese and conducts a flourishing mercantile business. His wife is a Caucasian.

#### Darrow Trial to Begin.

Los Angeles—The second trial of Clarence S. Darrow, the Chicago attorney who was chief counsel in the trial of James B. McNamara and who was indicted by the county grand jury a year ago on two charges of jury bribing, will be begun here January 20. John D. Frederick, district attorney, said the conviction of the 38 union men in Indianapolis would have no effect upon the Darrow case.

#### City's Carline Running.

San Francisco—The Geary-Street Municipal railroad, running from the center of the business district to the ocean beach, was formally declared in operation Saturday. Mayor Rolph paid the first nickel taken in. The road is 6 1/2 and a half miles long and the estimated cost of construction and equipment is \$1,543,721.

## COURTS PRAISED FOR WORK

### Speaker Declares Rights of People Are Fully Protected.

Omaha—Frank B. Kellogg, of St. Paul, speaking before the meeting of the Nebraska State Bar association, vigorously defended the integrity of the American judiciary and condemned what he said was a disposition of these days to criticize the courts.

He said that of all the branches of the government, the judicial, in his opinion, is the least subject to the exercise of arbitrary power, to scandal or to improper influence. Kellogg said he believed it to be a fact that the Supreme court of the United States is the most progressive and liberal branch of this government and that it has always been solicitous of the rights of the people.

Kellogg argued at length against attacks on the judiciary, because he said he felt that the reiteration of these unfounded charges has had a prejudicial effect upon the public mind. He continued:

"The people (few, I am glad to say) who are denouncing the Supreme court as reactionary and the 'last resort of the vested interests,' should remember that but for the decision of that court, commencing with those written by John Marshall and ending with the latest decision under the commerce clause, the nation would have been powerless before the greatest combinations of wealth and power that any age has ever seen."

#### WILSON EXPECTS TO FIGHT

### President-Elect Believes, However, in Retaining Manners.

Staunton, Va.—President-elect Wilson, by birth a Virginian, but by adoption a son of New Jersey, proclaimed the hope that his administration might mean the final obliteration of everything that in the past divided the North and South.

"I suggest an added significance to the occasion," said Governor Wilson, in presenting the greetings of New Jersey to Virginia, "because it is a son of the South who brings the greetings of the North."

Standing on the porch of Mary Baldwin Seminary, in the chapel of which he was baptized, the president-elect spoke to a great crowd gathered from far and wide on the occasion of his return to his native town on his 56th birthday anniversary. While Mr. Wilson spoke with feeling of his hopes for a spirit of reunion that would recognize "neither region nor section, nor North nor South," he talked significantly of his future course in politics, with particular reference to the conduct of business.

The presidency, the governor said, he regarded "as an office in which a man must put on his war paint," but he added that his visage was such that he "did not mind marring it, for a man can keep his manners and still fight."

#### POWER CLAIMS ARE HELD UP

### Secretary Sees Plan to Block Government Control.

Washington, D. C.—By the joint action of the War, Interior and Agricultural departments, extensive land patents of the International Power & Manufacturing company of the state of Washington were held up, because of the belief of Secretary Fisher, as expressed in a statement, that the company was trying to "free itself from all control by the government by securing patents to lands under the guise of mining claims or by railroad scrip filings in combination with a special dam license."

The company was planning to build a series of power plants which, it was estimated, would produce 200,000 horsepower, having a value of \$5,000,000 to \$8,000,000 a year.

The power site is in the so-called "Z" canyon of the Pend d'Oreille river, situated partly in the Kanikun National forest and partly in a private reserve set aside by President Taft.

#### Christmas Cost Carnegie \$75,000.

New York—Andrew Carnegie's merry Christmas to his friends and relatives cost him \$75,000. This amount of money was sent out in checks especially engraved with a border of holly in amounts ranging from \$50 to \$1000. Altogether about 500 persons had the Christmas brightened and made a bit more merry by Carnegie's remembrances. He did not give any amounts larger than \$1000, and it was charitable organizations for the most part that received more than \$500 of the \$75,000.

#### Larger Park Fund Urged.

Washington, D. C.—In order to have the national parks of the West in shape to care for tourists expected during the year of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, Secretary of the Interior Fisher estimates that an expenditure of \$733,000 will be needed in addition to the \$228,000 that congress granted for use this year. "The parks," says the secretary, "constitute ideal recreation grounds for thousands of people, but the development and use of the parks are seriously retarded by the lack of adequate roads and trails."

#### Herrin's Position Secure.

San Francisco—W. F. Herrin, vice-president of the Southern Pacific company, who arrived here for a five-day visit, said that the recent merger decision of the Supreme court would not affect his position with the railroad on that of President Spruille. "It will affect such positions as the chairman of the board of directors," said Herrin, "director of maintenance and way and other positions on the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads."

#### Home Left for Museum.

Paris—The will of the late French battle painter, Edouard Detaille, leaves his residence as a museum of historical costumes. One floor of the house is to be devoted exclusively to uniforms of the French army. Detaille also bequeathed \$40,000 for the purchase of the house, so as to

## YOU CAN MAKE WASHING EASY

### There Will Be No After Aches If the Tubs Are Only Placed High Enough.

The washday is often spoken of as a "blue Monday" because it is usually a day of hard work followed by days of recovery from such aches as you can think her due. Now, it has been definitely proved, says J. Howard Frick, instructor of Medical correction Gymnastics in the Samaritan hospital of Germantown, according to the New York Tribune, that washing clothes has nothing to do with making women feel gloomy, but that the way she does it has all to do with her after health.

The most common complaint of women after a day's washing is the terrible backache which almost compels them to go to bed. This is sometimes followed by headache in the middle of the head and behind the eyes, which often last for days. Now, what is the cause of these after effects? Certainly ordinary work should not entail such after sufferings. The whole cause is the position of the woman while working over the tub. The majority of wash benches are too low and the woman must stoop over while at work. This causes the muscles of the abdomen to relax, which allows the stomach, liver, kidneys, and, in fact, all the organs, to fall forward out of their normal positions, causing the terrible after effects of such work.

The proper position before a tub is a perfectly erect position. Here it is impossible for the abdominal organs to fall out of position, as the abdominal wall is tense, as it should be when in the erect position.

Another point of value in the erect position is the fact that the wringing of the clothes is much easier, since the whole force of the arm can be used without having to exert an effort to keep the erect position.

The lifting of the tubs is an entirely unnecessary labor. When they are not of the stationary kind they can be emptied by means of a siphon.

#### Cocunut Candy.

One and a half cupfuls of soft pale yellow sugar, half a cupful of dark sugar, two and one-half ounces of delectated coconut, one heaping tablespoonful of butter, a quarter of a teaspoonful of cream of tartar, half a pint of cold water and two ounces of plain fondant. Put in pan the sugar, water and coconut and stir and dissolve, adding cream of tartar when it boils. Stir most carefully all the time and boil to 245 degrees F. Work the fondant quite soft and pliable and put it in the batch and mix and stir it until it begins to grain. Pour into buttered tin and when half cold cut in strips and wrap each in wax paper.

#### Tea Cupful.

Take two cupfuls of sifted pastry flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of butter, two-thirds cupful of milk.

After the flour has been sifted and measured, add baking powder and salt, sift again, then rub butter in with the finger tips. Now with a fork combine this and the milk, neither stir nor knead, just see that ingredients are blended, then take on lightly floured board. With a floured rolling pin roll into a sheet a little more than an inch, cut with small round cutter and bake in greased flat tin.

#### Worth Knowing.

To get rid of carpet moths scrub the floor with hot water made exceedingly salty before laying the carpet and sprinkle the carpet once a week before sweeping till the pests disappear.

To have gems bake nicely, when filling the gem pans with batter leave one of the cups empty and fill it with water. The gems will not scorch when this method is followed and will brown nicely.

#### Onion Chowder.

Two large onions, three good-sized potatoes. Slice thin, put into pan with water enough to cook without burning. When soft, mash very fine, leaving water in. Add one pint of milk or more if desired, let come to a boil. Have ready one egg well beaten in serving dish and stir chowder into egg. Season with pepper, salt and butter. Fine for a cold day for lunch.

#### Chocolate Cream Pie.

Here is a chocolate cream pie which everybody likes and it has the merit of being cheap. Into your double boiler put one pint of hot water. Blend together one and one-half cups of sugar, four tablespoons of flour, two of cocoa, butter size of small egg, a pinch of salt and stir into the water. Cook until thick. Cover with a deep pie plate with rich pastry and set another plate inside mixture, cover with whipped cream and sprinkle with chopped nuts.

#### Fricassee Lamb.

A cheap dish that is very nice: Get three pounds of lamb (small pieces) will do, and is cheaper), boil them till tender, set away to cool. Remove all the fat and cut in small pieces. Fry two or three slices of salt pork till fat is all out, then put in the lamb and broth. Add a piece of butter, salt and pepper to taste. Let it boil and then take out meat. Thicken the gravy and pour over meat.

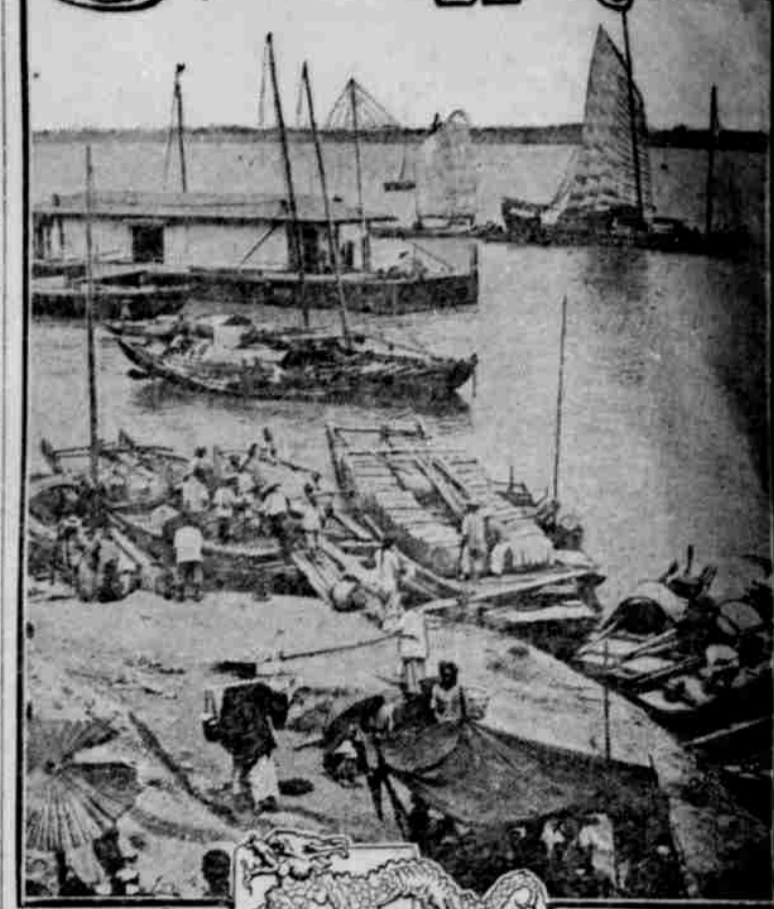
#### Mutton Broth.

Three pounds mutton, two quarts cold water, one teaspoon salt, few grains pepper, quarter cup barley. Wash and soak barley over night. Wipe meat, remove skin and fat and cut into pieces. Put in kettle with bones and seasoning and cover with cold water. Bring to boiling point and simmer until meat is tender. Strain. Remove fat. Reheat and add barley and cook until barley is tender.

#### Orange Layer Cake.

Rub to a cream one cupful of butter with two cupfuls of sugar; sift three cupfuls of flour with a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder; four eggs, whites and yolks beaten separately; and one cupful of milk. Use any desired flavoring, and bake in layer cake. Any preferred filling may be used with this cake, but orange is suggested.

## Boating On Chinese Waters



YANG-TSE RIVER SCENE

ONE may have journeyed up Canton on the Pearl river, in southern China.

It was evening when we left Hongkong on the "Pow An" en route for the blue city of Canton, ninety miles up the Pearl river. Twenty thousand Chinese are said to live in this harbor entirely on boats, in sampans where shrill-voiced women steer, cook, scull, raise families, drive bargains. It is a picturesque locality at night when there are hundreds of boats drawn up side by side, their masts gently raking the air as they sway up and down, their dark sails clinging and flapping against the rigging, the straining timbers and creaking tillers adding a subtle sense of action, while the arch of each mat forms a cave of light, against which the whole family is silhouetted as they cluster about the low, round table to bolt their rice. The light of the lantern falls on a circle of yellow faces, casting strange shadows on the roof.

#### Guard Against Pirates.

From the hurricane deck we watched the city lights and the moon until the one dwindled to a mere line and the bleak headlands shut out the other, leaving us only a narrow, gloomy stream. Screened off from us by heavy iron bars were the natives, and firearms were stacked in conspicuous places, as protection against pirates. The better class of Chinamen sat around on chairs, or laid on mats with their little bundles huddled up beside them. The coolies occupied the lower deck, thick as blackberries in August, but they were more suggestive of rats with their long, black queues and scuttling, noiseless motions.

When I reached the deck next morning we had passed Lintin Island, famous in 1830 as a freebooter's haven, and were steaming past an old Chinese fort in the Tiger's Mouth. No sentries saluted; the guns were covered up; but the glorious yellow flag with the dragon floated above. It was here the Chinese had their "Opium Party" in 1841, when the English government tried to force them to admit opium, and the "heavenly Chinese" dared to think he had a right to drive their ships out of Celestial waters.

The sun shone brightly on the muddy river that morning, and on the numerous bits of picturesque craft (some man-propelled—men walking on tread wheels); on the wide-spreading fields and shaggy lochee trees; the strange-looking pagodas (fantastic, hollow towers of brick, about 300 feet high, adorned with numerous circular terraces ornamented with trees and bushes). In that silvery, hazy light no one ever thought of pirates, nor that the little yellow rolls of matting by the water's edge contained unwelcome little girls left there to die; but it was steeking enough when we churned up one as we were making our landing at Canton.

I have heard friends tell of their landing at Joppa and at Pernambuco, and I have landed at Matras when it was necessary to beat the natives over the head with strong clubs in order to get into the mesullah boats to be rowed to shore; but at Canton the river was so crowded with sampans there seemed no place to land at all, for at Canton 400,000 people live in their boats, and these are lined up from three to ten deep along shore.

#### PLOTS DESERVE A PENSION

Time Fiction Writers Retired Some That Were Old in the Days of Ancient Egypt.

There are some "plots" in this year's novels which ought to be retired on old-age pensions.

There is the plot in which a poor, persecuted nursemaid, or waitress, or washerwoman—always divinely beautiful of course—is driven to the deepest depths of gloom, only to come up smiling with an aristocratic family and a millionaire lover.

That plot is as old as Cinderella, at least, and hasn't been improved on a whit since the first telling.

There is a plot which consists mostly of mislaid architecture; gloomy castles with secret openings in the walls, and underground passages leading anywhere, and doors in the wall-scotching that turn on the pressure of a hidden spring, and all that sort of stuff.

So goodly share of the stories of ancient Egypt were based on this plot, yet in the year of grace, 1912, other-

wise respectable writers are not ashamed to drive the 3,000-year old hack abroad in daylight, dragging a full array of the latest military behind them. It's shameful.

Then there is the plot of buried treasure and a hidden or destroyed will, and usually a faithful ghost who gabbles spiritual Esperanto till some knowing creature comes along and interrupts.

Next to the exploits of saints and monks, this was the favorite plot of the alleged stories of the middle ages. It was so hard worked then that it has walked with a limp and a list to port ever since, but it is still thumped along by hard-hearted creatures with a typewriter.

An old-age pension for plots. That is the most obvious need of present-day literature. But how such a device would cut the income of many a popular author!—Chicago Journal.

To Determine Child's Fitness The Buffalo health department has a department of child health which examines all children of the city. It certifies to the fitness of each child.