

CRANK LETTERS ARE NUMEROUS

League of Nations is Bombarded with Crank Letters; Mail Clerks are Busy Men.

GENEVA, Nov. 13.—The general offices of the League of Nations receive daily an enormous number of letters from every part of the world, and in these communications the crank is well represented. The mail clerks are busy individuals, for there is the duty of sorting and redirecting. Countries outside of the League produce the largest number of correspondents. The United States is far in the lead, and the cranks in America who feel called upon to tell the League what it should do are seemingly without number.

But Germany and Soviet Russia also are generous in keeping the mail clerks occupied. African and Asiatic, as well as European and American, find the most extraordinary excuses for communicating with the League, showing there is a world-wide misconception as to what the League is and what it was set up to do.

The Secretariat gets a vast amount of mail matter that ought to go to the foreign offices of different governments and it receives also a great number of suggestions, applications and petitions that ought to go nowhere. Men and women bring to the League in all languages of the world their heartaches, their headaches, and the aching voids in their pocket-books. The Secretariat is asked for the addresses of reliable doctors; begged to find lost husbands, and appealed to in every domestic as well as other matter. The requests for funds come along in a steady stream. The League has not even been freed from the beguilements of the confidence men, several American of this species having tried to use the Secretariat to help them out with their past port troubles.

Among the most frequent appeals are those that the League make the world more dry, that it suppress the use of tobacco as well as all drugs and drinks; that it institute a universal religion; that it reform the calendar; that it adopt a universal language; and that it give votes to women the world over.

The suggestions are mostly for the cure of the world's economic and financial ills, but some correspondents want to show the League how universal peace can be restored through the general adoption of their particular religion, want to design a new world flag, or make the League all over again after their fashion.

The League is often asked to settle strikes and to pacify divided families. The latest curious demand was from a woman who wanted material to make from the beguilements of confidence men; he was referred to the Near East section.

WOMEN WIN IN LITERATURE

PARIS, Oct. 20. (By Mail)—As the women of Paris recently have been beating the men in competitions for places as librarians a discussion has arisen over women's attitude towards books.

Writers in general seem to agree that woman is the avowed enemy of books. This view which will seem strange to Americans is accepted by the French as a fact not necessary to discuss. They seek only to show why, and how greatly woman is hostile to books.

One of the principal publishers is quoted as saying that in the retail trade women constitute only one per cent of buyers in France. Others dilate upon the difficulty their men friends have in keeping a library of fine books and in adding to the collection. Men's love of books, and women's dislike of them, are cited as having caused the break-up of many homes. M. de Beraucourt, author and booklover, holds it to be the duty of a bibliophile to remain a bachelor. He cites the cases of men who have to buy books secretly to avoid outbreaks of wrath from their spouses, and others who keep books hidden.

One Parisian booklover, says M. de Beraucourt, smuggles home purchases under his coat or in his pocket, meanwhile, alarming his wife by holding out cake or candy to her at the front door in order to gain time to slip the volume on to the shelf unnoticed.

ENGLISH COAL IS NOW HIGH

LONDON Oct. 23. (By Mail)—Coal prices in England probably will reach the highest level in history during the coming winter, according to London retail dealers. A general increase of three shillings a ton was made recently, and another will be announced within the next few weeks, it is expected.

The price of the best hard coal is now 57 shillings, about \$12.00 per ton, graduating to 45 shillings for kitchen coal. The highest prices last year for the same grades was 61 shillings and 48 shillings. A further increase of six shillings may be looked for.

The labor troubles and the forecast of an early and severe winter are even as the reasons for the added cost.



A nation-wide contest to select the most beautiful woman in Rumania awarded the crown to Mme. Alexandrescu. European moving picture exhibitors will star her in films which may bring much business.

AUSTRALIAN FACTS GIVEN

MELBOURNE, Australia, Oct. 9. (By Mail)—In his annual speech to the house of representatives, Federal Treasurer Bruce, of Australia, disclosed that the Australian national debt on June 30th totalled \$4,210,000,000 as compared with a pre-war debt of \$1,095,000,000.

During the course of his speech Mr. Bruce said: "The estimated revenue for 1922-23 totalling \$372,591,250, includes \$140,000,000 customs and excise; \$76,250,000 income tax and \$48,250,000 post-office, telephone and telegraph receipts.

The estimated expenditure is \$210,148,495, showing an estimated surplus of \$2,472,755.

"Of the accumulated surplus, estimated at \$34,514,935, \$16,000,000 will be used in the reduction of taxation and the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures.

The proposed remission of taxation includes the increase of the general exemption from \$520 to \$1000 for all taxpayers.

Mr. Bruce announced that legislation would be introduced in the near future to reduce the salary

of members of the house of representatives from \$5000 to \$4000. Speaking on the national debt Mr. Bruce declared: "The gross Commonwealth debt totalling \$2,950,252,545, shows an increase in the year ended June 30th amounting to \$71,752,420.

The total national debt of Australia, including the Commonwealth and states is \$4,210,000,000, compared with the pre-war debt of only \$1,695,000,000.

Wrath is Preferable. A soft answer turneth away wrath—but it will encourage a bore to hang around your desk all the afternoon.—Kansas City Star.

SAGE TEA TURNS GRAY HAIR DARK

It's Grandmother's Recipe to Bring Back Color and Lustre to Hair

That beautiful, even shade of dark, glossy hair can only be had by brewing a mixture of Sage Tea and Sulphur. Your hair is your charm. It makes or mars the face. When it fades, turns gray or streaked, just an application or two of Sage and Sulphur enhances its appearance a hundredfold.

Don't bother to prepare the mixture; you can get this famous old recipe in the form of a ready-made preparation. It is called Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound. This can always be depended upon to bring back the natural color and lustre of your hair.

Everybody uses "Wyeth's" Sage and Sulphur Compound now because it darkens so naturally and evenly that nobody can tell it has been applied. You simply dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through the hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair has disappeared, and after another application it becomes beautifully dark and appears glossy and lustrous.

PEACE BETWEEN WOMEN SIGNED

(Special to The Observer) PARIS, Oct. 20. (By Mail)—Peace has been officially signed between the two warring feminine federations of athletic women of France. A temporary truce was declared last July in order to hold at Pershing Stadium the first feminine Olympic games on record, in which the United States team carried off second honors.

Gaston Vidal, under secretary of state for physical culture and sports acted as peacemaker. Both federations elected officers to represent them in the Union of French Sporting and Athletic Federations, and henceforth they will be known as the Feminine Federation of France.

The new federation comprises 144 feminine clubs and athletic organizations throughout France with a membership of nearly fifteen thousand young women and girls.

The Advantages of Matrimony. "I'm a believer in women getting married. It doesn't matter so much for men, but for women it's the correct thing. Does 'em good and improves their characters. Unless they've a man to be modelled to and coddle a bit they grow selfish themselves."—Frieda the Great Husband Hunt, by Mabel Barnes Grundy.

ALASKA FURS

JUST RECEIVED A fine line of ready-to-wear Alaska furs which I will sell for a very reasonable price. You are all welcome to come and see them. I also buy all kinds of raw furs and will pay best prices.

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Eight-room modern house just off Adams avenue, on Second street. Two large lots, large shade trees and lawn. Paved street and sidewalk. Price \$4750.00. Reasonable terms.

A new four-room house, a large lot, 50x115 feet. One the corner of 2 and Pine street. Price \$1400.00, with a mortgage of \$710.00, which can be unusual. Balance cash or arrangements to be made.

Five-room modern, full basement house. Located at 2111 First street. Price \$2750.00 cash.

Six-room house on Cedar street, two blocks off Adams. Two large lots. Shade trees and lawn, all fenced. Good cellar. Electric lights and water in the house. Bathroom but no fixtures. A bargain at \$1500.00, \$500 cash, balance monthly installments at \$25.00 per month, including interest.

Remember us when you want fire insurance. A good reliable company.

C. J. BLACK & CO. New Foley Building La Grande, Oregon



This season every mother's son will be wearing raglan sleeves and a turned-up, button-over collar. And a snappy belt, don't forget that by any means! The material too counts a lot in the scheme of things. It should be of chinilla cloth, cheviot, heather mixture or a new brown worsted. Attired thus, any boy stands a chance of doing his social best.

READ THE WANT ADS!

Of course you have noticed that the static will spoil a concert and then clear up beautifully when a political talk begins.

An unusually bright child usually manages to put the dimmers on when company is present.

Faith is the quality that enables you to accept the man's word that he put in nine gallons.

Chamberlain's Tablets Have Done Her a World of Good.

"Chamberlain's Tablets have done me a world of good," writes Mrs. Ella L. Burton, Kirksville, N. Y. "I have recommended them to a number of my friends and all who have used them praise them highly. When troubled with indigestion or constipation, give them a trial and you will find for yourself what an excellent medicine it is.—Adv.

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No.	Per Gal.	Per Quart	Per Pint
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32 Light Oak Varnish Stain		.85	.55
13 Ivory Interior Enamel		1.25	
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Four-room, city water, electric lights, close in. Price \$300. Terms \$150.00 cash, and balance 1923-24.

Seven-room house, modern, large lot, 100x100, garage, lawn, fruit shrubbery, good cellar. Price \$2000.

Five-room modern home, close in on 3th street. Price, \$2,500.00.

Seven-room modern house, four lots, good barn, woodshed. Price \$1,250.00.

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