YIELDS GOOD MONEY

Eddy Law Yearly Revenue Will Run to $150,000.

TAX IS NOT PROHIBITIVE

Wildcat Mining Concerns Are Put Out of Business, but Legitimate Enterprises Not Necessarily Burdened by Corporation Tax.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—When the Eddy corporation tax law was passed it was estimated that it would produce a revenue of $100,000 a year. The act has been in force scarcely more than six months and there has been paid into the state treasury $90,868. F. T. Wrightman, corporation clerk in the office of the Secretary of State, estimates that the annual revenue will aggregate $125,000 to $150,000, with the latter sum not improbable. As a revenue measure, it is evident that the Eddy law will not be a disappointment.

It has been frequently charged by promoters of wildcat mining companies that the Eddy law would keep out foreign corporations and prevent the organization of new concerns. It is true that the law has put a very noticeable check upon the organization of corporations with enormous capital stock, but without any considerable assets. Corporations are now formed upon a more businesslike basis.

Enterprise Not Discouraged.

The assertions of the mining stock promoters served to cause some doubt as to the success of the Eddy law, but the facts gleaned from the records in the office of the Secretary of State prove the error of those assertions. The corporation tax law has not kept away any corporation that desired to do a legitimate business in this state.

The records show that since May 21, when the new law went into effect, 171 corporations organized in other states have filed their articles in this state and paid $50 each for the privilege of so doing. The total revenue from that source in less than seven months was $8550.

These 171 foreign corporations also paid the proportion of the annual license fee due for the unexpired fraction of the year, which fee varied according to the capital stock. The revenue from this source was $17,359.79, making a total of $26,909.79 which foreign corporations have contributed to the support of this state in a period of less than seven months.

New Domestic Corporations.

During this same time 226 new concerns have been organized in this state, paying organization fees which varied according to the amount of the capital stock, and aggregating $9892.97.

These 226 new companies, in a period of less than seven months, means an average of more than 32 per month, which does not seem to indicate that the Eddy law has prevented the organization of corporations or forced them to go to other states to secure corporate authority. The total fees collected by the Secretary of State from both foreign and domestic corporations are $36,802.76.

Treasurer Gets Fees Also.

But this is not all. The fees mentioned above were paid to the Secretary of State when articles of incorporation were filed. In addition to these fees, domestic corporations, which had been organized in this state in previous years, were paying their annual license fees to the State Treasurer. On December 1, three weeks ago, the State Treasurer had received $90,868.96, included in which was most of the $36,802.76 which had been collected by the Secretary of State. About $800 of the latter sum has been collected since December 1, so that by computation it is seen that on the first of the present month the State Treasurer had collected directly from domestic corporations some $54,809 in annual license fees. The sums received or to be received since December 1 will aggregate about $93,000.

Next year there will not be so large a revenue from new foreign corporations and considerably less than $8550 will be received for filing declarations. But all those that filed this year will pay annual licenses for a full year instead of for a fractional year, and the revenue from that source will more than make up for the falling off in declaration fees.

There will also be a considerably larger number of domestic corporations paying annual license fees next year. A few corporations now doing business in the state have failed to pay their tax but gradually all of them will be discovered and the fee collected. The number of new domestic corporations is increasing along conservative lines, and the filing fees and annual license fees will thus be increased.

Since the new law went into effect some 12 or 15 companies have filed certificates of dissolution. A number of wildcat mining or investment companies, organized principally upon wind, have gone out of existence without even filing a certificate of dissolution.

Some of the New Companies.

That the new corporation law does not impose a tax burden so heavy as to keep industrial enterprises from coming into the state is proven by a glance at the records of the Secretary of State for the last two or three days, when foreign corporations filed articles and paid fees as follows:

National Oil & Transportation Company, of San Francisco; capital stock $2,000,000; fee paid to the state, $143.97. The annual license fee will be $175.

California & Oregon Coast Railroad Company, Carson City, Nev.; capital stock, $1,000,000; fees paid to the state, $117.12. The annual license fee will be $125.

Pacific Coast Construction Company, San Francisco; capital stock, $100,000; fees paid to the state, $77.26; annual license fee, $50.

Crescent Coal & Navigation Company, capital stock, $500,000; fees paid to the state, $105.62; annual license fee, $100.

Gold Bug Consolidated Mining Company, San Francisco; capital stock, $100,000; fees paid to the state, $93.84; annual license fee, $50.

Malheur Livestock & Land Company, Caldwell, Idaho; capital stock, $75,000; fees paid to the state, $75.22; annual license fee, $50.

Star Loan Company, Helena, Mont.; capital stock, $10,000; fees paid to the state, $38.55; annual license fee, $15.

Badger Gold Mining & Milling Company, San Francisco, Cal.; capital stock, $300,000; fees paid to the state, $137.72; annual license fee, $100.

Golden Gate Gold Mining Company, San Francisco, Cal.; capital stock, $500,000; fees paid to the state, $137.72; annual license fee, $100.

Home Stake Gold Mining Company, San Francisco; capital stock, $500,000; fees paid to state, $137.72; annual license fee, $100.

Elk Creek Placer Mining & Water Company, San Francisco; capital stock, $16,000; fees paid to the state, $87.54; annual license fee, $20.

HEINZE CROWD IN CONTEMPT

Judge Beatty Fines Three an Aggregate of $3000.

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 19.—F. Augustus Heinze, J. H. Trerise, the Montana Ore Purchasing Company, Albert Frank and the Johnstown Mining Company have been found guilty of contempt of the United States Court by Judge James H. Beatty, of Idaho, sitting in the hearing in Judge Knowles' court. The contempt was in disregarding an order of inspection and survey granted November 3, directing that the Butte & Boston Company be allowed to inspect the works of the Michael Davitt and remove from the crosscut a quantity of debris and waste with which it had been filled. The order was directed to the parties adjudged guilty of contempt.

Heinze, Trerise and Frank were fined $2000, $500 and $500 respectively, and, in addition, are given into the custody of the United States Marshal to be confined in the County Jail of Lewis and Clark County, in Helena, until the order is complied with.

HANDWRITING OF GRAVELLE.

Testimony Tending to Show That He Wrote Threatening Letters.

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 19.—At the trial of Isaac Gravelle, charged with sending blackmailing letters to the Northern Pacific and with dynamiting trains, it developed today that the defendant had written threatening letters to a witness, Bert Caty, inclosing another of the same character, which Caty was to mail to the foreman of the jury.

Gravelle undertook to smuggle the letter out of the Lewis and Clark County Jail about two weeks ago. Caty is a witness for the state. In a letter addressed to him he was warned that unless he went on the stand and testified that the Northern Pacific detectives had bribed him to testify against the defendant, his house would be blown up. Inclosed was a letter printed with pen and ink, which Caty was directed to mail to the foreman of the jury. In this letter the jurors were told that the defendant was an innocent man, and that unless they acquitted him their houses would be blown up with dynamite. It ended, "Beware of us; we are the dynamiters."

Much of the testimony was of expert character, tending to show that the handwriting of Gravelle was precisely the same as that of the writer of the blackmailing letters alleged by the state to have been written by the defendant. The letter addressed to the Great Northern and mailed at Cascade, October 3, demanding $15,000, was also shown to be in the handwriting of Gravelle.

The last witness of the day proved to be one of the most important the state has introduced. It was Mrs. Bessie M. Shanks, at whose house in Helena Gravelle spent much of his time when in town, being an acquaintance of her husband. The witness was positive about dates and told about the coming to the house in the early hours of the morning of Gravelle on horseback. This witness told of lending Gravelle a letter tablet on which he wrote a letter. This paper has been identified as identical with the threatening letter of September 3.

Mrs. Shanks testified Gravelle wrote a letter in her dining-room on that date. In that letter appear the words "double," "monkey" and "garrison." The witness testified that while Gravelle was writing this letter, which she did not see, he asked her how to spell those words.

This witness also testified to Gravelle sharpening the spurs which play an important part in the case. Cross-examination failed to shake her testimony in any detail.

ANNIE ROSS SENTENCED.

Consort of Negro Murderer Walkirez Goes to Prison for Life.

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 19.—Annie Ross, the white consort of Murderer Victor Walkirez, was this morning sentenced to life imprisonment at Folsom Penitentiary by Superior Judge Ellsworth. The court occupied an hour reviewing the evidence in the case and displayed but little sympathy for this condemned woman. He declared the crime to be the most vicious and diabolical ever committed in Alameda County.

A pathetic incident in the proceedings occurred when, with eyes swimming in tears and bosom heaving with emotion, the murderess pleaded for a last sight of her baby boy, who is now in San Francisco. Her sentence seemed of secondary importance to the wretch. The request was granted, and the child will be brought to the jail to see his mother today.

Annie Ross is the woman who is believed to have urged her drunken negro friend to kill Mrs. Leroy, a colored woman, in her home in Alameda six months ago. Mrs. Leroy was entertaining the couple and was seated at a table eating, and the sum of $35 lay on the table in front of her. Walkirez moved about the room a good deal, and finally dealt his hostess a blow over the head with a hammer. He bore her body to the basement and buried it in the earth, which he tamped with his feet, so as to make it appear as before removal. The body laid in the house two days, while Walkirez and Annie Ross indulged in drinking upstairs. The woman at the end of three days informed on the negro, and he testified that she had inspired the deed. Both have now been sentenced to prison for life.

Robert McClatchy.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Word was received in this city tonight of the death of Robert McClatchy, one of the best-known and wealthiest stockmen in Montana. McClatchy was missed, and later his team returned home without him. An investigation followed, and McClatchy's lifeless body was found in a patch of brush along the road.

It is believed McClatchy died from heart failure and his body fell from the wagon.

Police Investigation Postponed.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—The Aberdeen police scandal case, which was to be tried in this city today was postponed until Tuesday morning. Only a few of the witnesses were examined.

A New Way of Using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Mr. Orthur Chapman, writing from Durban, Natal, South Africa, says: "As a proof that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a cure suitable for old and young, I pen you the following: A neighbor of mine had a child just over two months old. It had a very bad cough and the parents did not know what to give it. I suggested that if they would get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and put some upon the dummy teat the baby was sucking it would no doubt cure the child. This they did and brought about a quick relief and cured the baby." This remedy is for sale by all druggists.

CHARGE AGAINST MULLINS

BUTTE CITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING.

Committee Recommends That He Be Impeached for Malfeasance and Misconduct in Office.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 19.—The "investigating" committee appointed by the City Council about two months ago to investigate the affairs of the present city administration reported tonight that Mayor Patrick Mullins be impeached for "gross malfeasance and misconduct in office and flagrant violations of his oath of office."

The committee recommends that the judiciary committee prepare charges against the Mayor for alleged dereliction of his official duties. Aldermen Gallagher, Gleason, Lavelle and Siebenaler compose the investigating committee.

The report has caused a mild sensation. Ever since Mayor Mullins was installed in office a bitter fight has been waged between him and the so-called "solid eleven."

PREACHER CONFESSES MURDER

Says He Deliberately Shot His Victim at Silver City.

EVERETT, Wash., Dec. 19.—B. F. Gootch, wanted at Silver City, N. M., for the murder of a man named Ross in the Fall of 1902, is under arrest here in the County Jail. Gootch applied for work at the County Poorhouse Thursday night. Superintendent Wainwright, who holds a commission as a Deputy Sheriff, invited him to have supper. Gootch said he was a preacher and asked permission to talk to the inmates.

This was granted and Wainwright placed him under arrest on suspicion of being the Seattle curbstone preacher who eloped with the mother of six children early this week. Gootch protested and finally confessed that he was wanted for murder in Silver City. He has since made a signed confession, in which he says that he killed Ross deliberately, and then committed perjury in the preliminary examination, in swearing that Ross had first atttacked him with a pitchfork.

Gootch was released on $5000 bail, and jumped his bail just before the time for his trial. He says he was worth $15,000. Ross was his tenant. The men quarreled and Gootch shot Ross four or five times as the latter was running away. Gootch says he has been converted, and knows he is guilty of murder and perjury and stands ready to go back to Silver City and face the consequences.

The Silver City authorities have advised Sheriff Brewer to hold Gootch.

CROSSED THE PLAINS WITH PARENTS IN 1847

Mrs. Lucy Elizabeth Cowles.

M'MINNVILLE, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Lucy Elizabeth Cowles, who died at her home in this city December 16, was born in Warren County, Missouri, in 1838, and came across the plains to Oregon with her parents in 1847, settling on a donation land claim near Sheridan. She was married to James F. Bewley, September 12, 1852, moving to near McMinnville, where they lived until the death of Mr. Bewley, in 1888. In 1893 she married Judge Cowles, with whom she lived until his death in 1896, since which time she has lived continously in McMinnville.

Mrs. Cowles was a member of Knowles Chapter, Eastern Star, Degree of Honor and Custer Relief Corps. She was one of the county's most highly esteemed pioneers and public-spirited citizens, beloved by all who knew her, for her life was filled with works of beneficence. She was an exemplary member of the Christian church. One son, R. L. Bewley, of Sheridan, survives her, also a host of friends, especially the young people mourn her death.

ROBBER KILLED BY TRAIN.

Shoved His Friend Off, Only to Meet a Worse Fate.

STOCKTON, Cal., Dec. 19.—The mangled remains of a man were found today on the Southern Pacific track, eight miles north of this city. He had been run over by a train and his body was torn to shreds.

Coroner Southworth returned from the scene late this afternoon. He reported that the name of the man killed was A. S. Richards, formerly of Bancroft, Idaho. He had been working with a man named E. A. Lewis near Hope. Both went to Galt and indulged in drink.

They boarded a train and Richards suddenly pulled a gun on Lewis and robbed him. A negro was engaged in the robbery. Lewis was thrown from the train and had an arm broken. It is supposed that the negro afterwards tried to rob Richards and threw him from the train. The negro has escaped.

Thrown From Top of Car.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 19.—Ray Gilbert, conductor on an extra freight and nephew of F. W. Gilbert, general superintendent of the Northern Pacific, fell from the top of a freight car at Badger Station west of Pasco late last night and died at Pasco at 3 o'clock this morning. His wife, who came from Ellensburg, reached Pasco ten minutes after her husband's death. The train severed one leg completely and mangled the other.

Gilbert had been a conductor five years and lived in Ellensburg.

Fell Between the Cars.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 19.—Bernard Y. O'Connor, a young brakeman, aged 22, was instantly killed tonight by falling between the cars on a work train on the O. R. & N. He was not missed until the train reached the yards when his lantern was found on a car. His body lay between the rails, horribly mangled, three miles north.

O'Connor left a widowed mother and young brother. Other relatives live in Kansas City.

Plenty of Feed in the Grand Ronde.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Prospects for hay feed this Winter were never better. Up to this time the stock in the Grand Ronde Valley have had to have very little feeding, although there is plenty of forage. The range along the foothills is very good and should there be little snowfall the cattlemen will pull through the Winter in fine shape. Cattle and sheep are comanding fair prices.

Jesse Carr's Will Probated.

SALINAS, Cal., Dec. 19.—The will of the late Jesse D. Carr, which was filed for probate this afternoon, disposes of real estate, personal property and money of the aggregate value of over $750,000. Among the bequests are:

Methodist Episcopal Church, of Salinas, is given $5400; Oddfellows' Lodge, of Salinas, $1000 for its widow and orphans' fund. The residue of the estate goes to his three children, share and share alike.

True Bill Against Clerk Mahony.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—The Grand Jury by a unanimous vote found a true bill against County Clerk A. B. Mahony yesterday, charging him with issuing fraudulent demands on the city treasury for services that have not been rendered.

New York Dental Parlors

Fourth and Morrison Sts.
Portland, Oregon.

Teeth extracted and filled absolutely without pain by our late scientific methods. No sleep-producing agents or cocaine. These are the only dental parlors in Portland that have the patent appliances and ingredients to extract, fill and apply gold crowns and porcelain crowns, undetectable from natural teeth and warranted for ten years, without the least particle of pain. Gold crowns and teeth without plates, gold fillings and all other dental work done painlessly and by specialists.

Gold crowns, $5; full set teeth, $5; bridge work, $5; gold filling, $1 up; silver fillings, 50c.

New York Dental Parlors

MAIN OFFICE—FOURTH AND MORRISON STS., PORTLAND.

Branch Office, 614 1st av., Seattle.

8:30 A. M. to 6 P. M.; Sundays, 9:30 A. M. to 3 P. M.

True bills were also found against Alonzo Davidson, Martin Brady and J. W. Pierce, charging them with defrauding the city by obtaining money upon fraudulent demands.

One more indictment may be filed, that against John J. Cassidy, a clerk in the employ of the United Railroads, who is said to have obtained money on demands drawn in his favor by Mahony, though he never rendered the city any service whatever.

Wants Amended Charter.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—A mass meeting was held here last night to consider amendments to the city charter to be presented to the Legislature which convenes at Salem Monday. The principal amendment adopted was to increase the city bonded indebtedness from $20,000 to $100,000.

A resolution was presented to amend the charter, submitting the question of licensing the saloons to a vote of the people. The saloon forces got wind of this move by the temperance people and rallied all their forces, hence the resolution was lost and the question of licensing will be left entirely to the City Council.

The City Hall was crowded to its fullest capacity, and many spirited speeches were made. Mayor R. M. Veatch said he looked upon the citizens of Cottage Grove as his children and wanted to work and do whatever was to the best interest and promote the welfare and prosperity of the city. Three of the ministers made strong arguments in behalf of this resolution. Attorney J. S. Medley came forward and in vehement terms opposed this move.

Alaska Steamers Delayed.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 19.—The steamer Amur is now three days overdue from Skagway, which port she left Saturday last with 55 passengers for Victoria. It is feared by her owner, the Canadian Pacific Railroad, that she has met with misadventure, probably broken down.

The steamer Al-Ki, of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, is also three days overdue at Seattle, and it may be that one of the two has broken down and the other is assisting her. The Canadian Pacific officials telegraphed to Skagway today and learned that the Dolphin, which arrived there, had not seen the delayed steamers.

Ruined by Chinese Contract.

WHATCOM, Wash., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—The Schome Canning Company, salmon packers, was this afternoon placed in the hands of a receiver. The contract with the Chinese help guaranteed a season's pack of 25,000 cases of fish, while owing to the small run of salmon only 9000 cases were put up.

Inability to pay the Chinese for work which they were not called upon to perform forced the receivership.

Teachers' Institute for Hood River.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—J. T. Neff, Deputy County School Superintendent, was down from The Dalles yesterday and arranged for a local teachers' institute at Hood River some time in January. Mrs. Emelie Shaw, teacher in the primary grades of the Hood River public schools, will read the leading paper at the institute on the subject, "Primary Numbers."

Everett Homes Robbed.

EVERETT, Wash., Dec. 19.—Four Everett homes were burglarized early this morning. The burglars secured about $25 worth of valuables, including $9.50 cash and two gold nuggets, and the police got a man believed to be the burglar. When arrested he had on him a complete outfit of burglars' tools, keys, a gun and a flashlight.

Big Sawmill for Harrisburg.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 19.—Senator R. A. Booth, of the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company, has announced that the company intends to erect a large sawmill on its property at Harrisburg next Summer, providing they can obtain the needed rights of way to reach the mill with floating logs.

Ladd Declines Appointment.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—Charles E. Ladd, of Portland, who was appointed a delegate to the National Livestock Convention, which will be held in Portland next month, has written Governor Chamberlain that he will not be in the state at that time and cannot serve. His successor will be appointed in a few days.

Found Dead Near a Haystack.

PRINEVILLE, Or., Dec. 19.—(Special.)—The County Physician, Coroner and Sheriff have just returned from Willow Creek, where they were called to investigate the death of William Quinn, who was found dead near a stack of hay Thursday evening. They report death to have been caused by heart failure.

Paper Factory at Post Falls.

POST FALLS, Idaho, Dec. 19.—(Special.)—The people of this city are rejoicing over the fact that a paper factory is to be established here. A representative of a New York paper factory is here, and has secured a site and contract for water power. The company will use all kinds of timber except cedar.

Big Seizure of Brandy.

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Dec. 19.—Over 9000 gallons of brandy were found concealed in a secret cave under the barn of John Pavkovich, at Declez, 12 miles from here, and were confiscated by Deputy United States Marshals this morning.

Buda Pest is a Model of Cleanliness.

Scribner's.

As often as I have breakfasted in the open in the heart of Paris, preferably early, when all things seem fresh from the matutinal bath, and Madame from the Kiosk window gives you a sou's worth of news and a franc's worth of cheery greeting, by luncheon time, unless I was in the suburbs, I have found the quality and the quantity of dust such that I preferred to eat within doors. In Pest if your hat drops or is knocked off the chair where you laid it you feel that properly it ought to have been brushed before instead of after it fell. If you never looked up from the pavement you would be forever thinking that it had just been raining, and hopefully with such a bright sun the pavement would dry soon. With a Turkish fondness for having things brought to him where he sits, the Hungarian has combined a mania for the immersion of all inanimate, if not animate objects, which is anything but Turkish. The scrubbing which the Dutch housewife applies to her stoop is carried into the middle of the street, only the city does stoop and all. The municipality's ubiquitous servants are the men with the hose and the men and women with the broom, who even sweep up the petals of the flowers in the parks as they fall. The promptness of units in performing their task is such that you might well believe that you are living in the horseless age. One thing to be avoided, it seems, is any lack in numbers of the legionaries. If the postman does not hurry, there are enough of him to collect the mails often and on time.

NOTED LAWYER VERY ILL.

Frederick R. Coudert Is Suffering From Heart Disease.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Frederick R. Coudert, the well-known lawyer, is critically ill at his home in this city. He has long been a sufferer from heart trouble.

DO NOT WEAR A LONG FACE.

It Is a Great Handicap in All Business and Social Relations.

The man who looks as if he had lost his last friend is in no danger of being crushed by the jam of new ones unless he "cheers up." People are not going out of their way nowadays to associate with the man of mournful and melancholy appearance. They are afraid he will tell them his troubles and they steer clear of him as they all have plenty of their own.

The most universal cause of the forlorn and hopeless appearance today is dyspepsia. It unfits a man for every duty of life and causes him to become despondent and gloomy and necessarily his looks do not belie his feelings. He appears cast down and dejected and becomes a burden to himself and humanity in general.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are the dyspeptic's certain relief. They do the work that his stomach is unable to do and by relieving that organ of its burdens, permit it to regain its health and strength and again become active and useful in its functions. They contain all the essential ingredients that enter into the digestive fluids and secretions of the stomach and they actually take up the work and do it just as a healthy, sound stomach would.

By this means a man can go right ahead with his work and eat enough to keep him in proper working condition. His system is not deprived of its necessary nourishment as it is in the case of the "starvation cure" or the employment of some of the first-class chicken foods now on the market. Starvation, even if it were a good thing, could not be continued long enough to effect a cure; for a disordered and worn-out stomach is not going to become strong and healthy in two or three days.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets act naturally because they contain natural digestives. The principal component parts are aseptic pepsin, malt diastase and other ingredients with like properties that do the work regardless of the condition of the stomach. There is no unnatural or violent disturbance of the digestive organs as the result of their action. In fact, the existence of the stomach is entirely forgotten as soon as they have had time to begin their operations. They also possess very curative and healing properties and assist the stomach in getting well, while relieving it of its work. They perform the duties of both nurse and physician.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are for sale by all druggists at 50 cents a box, and there is very little danger of any druggist trying to sell you something else in its place that is "just as good." They are so well established and have done so much good in the world that their name has become a household word; so the usual warning, "Accept no substitute," is unnecessary in the case of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

CLUBWOMEN AND TROUSERS.

A Suggestion That They "Should Treat Them With Contempt."

Chicago Evening Post.

The club ladies have been passing the gray days of the early Winter in discussing the fads which serve to enhance the amusement if not the usefulness of life. We note with some apprehension that they take violent exception to the present shape of our trousers, and that one lady is so brusque as to declare that women "should treat them with silent contempt" and "ignore them if possible."

We gather from this that while the ladies may treat our trousers with contempt measurably silent, there is still a hopeful possibility that they may not ignore them, and there is some small consolation in this. To have a contempt for a pair of trousers is one thing, and to ignore the same is another, and we think we may say that we shall endeavor meekly to endure the contempt, provided our nether garments are not entirely disregarded, neglected and utterly overlooked, which we believe are synonyms for the possibility threatened.

Further than this, it pleases us to find that the thoughtful moments in the debating classes of the women's clubs are taken up with so fruitful a theme as men's trousers, and we are proud of the delicate attention which has been paid to so important and withal so conspicuous a topic.

In a few years, according to Dr. Hillis and a few other prophets, the ladies will arrive at a stage when they will be qualified not only to dictate as to trousers but to wear them as well, and we dare say that in those halcyon days to come the shape will be necessarily changed to conform both to a refined feminine idea and to the exigencies of natural requirements. Until that blissful period we shall try to hope that the contempt will be tempered by a quality of mercy that is not strained.

Consolation for Her Ills.

New York Times.

"If there is anything that will cure one of envy it is to cultivate the person of whom one is envious," said the philosophical girl. "I never feel discontented very long if I only can get a nearer view of what has made me unhappy. Sometimes it seems as if I would be perfectly happy if only I had the leisure of some of my well-to-do friends. Then I clap on my hat and jacket and go to spend an hour with one of them. I find them boring themselves to death, devising all sorts of schemes to kill time, and sighing because their life is not full of snap and business as mine is.

"When I have a big longing for an extensive wardrobe I just run over to call on my next-door neighbor, who has a new gown nearly every hour. I discover her in a stew about them, fussing with dressmakers all the time and groaning because she must determine what to put on. Then I congratulate myself that I have only three gowns to my name, and so am never undecided what to wear.

"Sometimes it seems as if I would be supremely happy if I only had a pretty face, and then I cultivate that little Miss Doll Pretty. And do you know she is very much concerned if the tiniest wrinkle appears on that pink-and-white complexion of hers and that she is extremely jealous of any other good-looking girls, and that sometimes she cries because she will grow old some day and be no longer pretty? Well, she does, and so I come to the conclusion that my plain face is a good sight more comfortable.

"And I'll confess a secret to you, and don't you breathe it to any one. Once in a while, once in a long while, I get woefully sick of single blessedness and believe I'd like to marry any man who was respectable and kind. But a few visits to my married friends cure me. They are just weighed down by little responsibilities which would drive me crazy in a short time; they must humor a whimsical lord and master and they must be at the beck and call of small children, who are very sweet little things for a few hours, but terrible nuisances for a longer time than that. My sweet independence for me! I go back to my little two-by-four room and am thankful that there is no one to share it with me, and that I do not have to put out the cat and lock up the house before retiring."

Too Painful.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

After a great storm, only ten of the Nancy's men said "Here" to the muster roll. Hunger decimated them. It was a case of the survival of the fittest. At last there were only two left, the cook and the commander, each of whom had a strong affection for each other. The strongest affection, however, yields to emergencies:

I loved that cook like a brother, I did,
And the cook, he worshiped me,
But we'd both be blowed if we'd either be stowed
In the other chap's hold, you see.

And in after days the captain will give a hitch to his trousers, which is a trick all seamen learn, and having got rid of a thumping quid, will spin this painful yarn:

Oh, I am the cook and the captain bold,
And the mate of the Number Nine,
And the bo'sun tight, and the midshipmite,
And the crew of the Auction Sign.

He will tell many stories of gallant fights, and he will always have interested listeners, but the raft story he will never tell in all its details. They are too painful.

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