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**BETTING ON RACES**

Race Tracks May Succeed Without Betting Rings

**ICE TRUST INVESTIGATIONS**

The Metropolis Importing Corn For First Time—Novelist Chambers on Faked Art, and Other News Items of New York.

NEW YORK, June 20.—In spite of all the hubbub about the millions of property rendered valueless and the thousands of men to be thrown out of employment by the passage of the anti-race track gambling bills as a result of the strenuous campaign waged by Governor Hughes, there is a strong possibility that racing may be conducted successfully without the familiar feature of the betting ring. At any rate the possibility is to receive a trial for the jockey club meetings scheduled for their present season are to be held while future plans in regard to racing in this state are to be determined by the success of this test and by the result of the legal contest which the bookmakers organization is making to discover whether the courts will uphold the new law. Meanwhile the man of assured responsibility is still able to make wagers with the bookies on the credit system by which no money passes hands at the track, all payments being made "in Connecticut" as the gamblers say, which means usually the back room of some Broadway cafe. This system of course yields no revenue to the race-tracks and as bets will be accepted only from men whose sporting proclivities and financial stability are known it bars the great army of "pikers" with their two and five-dollar bets from whom a large part of the bookmakers' income was drawn. Whether the \$200,000 which was estimated to change hands daily at the tracks about New York will now remain in the pockets of its owners remains to be seen.

For the first time in its history the United States is to become an importer of corn if a ship now on her way to New York from Buenos Aires reaches port without accident. The bringing of corn grown on the banks of the Rio Plata into the great corn growing country in the world is not due to any fear of failure of the American crop, for the government report indicates that the corn belt will grow its usual 2,000,000,000 bushels or more. It is attributed solely to high price of the cereal which has been costing purchasers here eighty cents a bushel or more including freight charges. The Argentine corn is to be delivered in New York at seventy-one and a half cents a bushel which means a saving of nearly \$8,000 on the first shipment of 20,000 bushels which is soon to be de-

livered to the Corn Products Company, more popularly known as the "glucose trust." The price is exclusive of the fifteen cents a bushel tariff which Uncle Sam charges on corn raised in foreign countries. This would bring the price up to eighty-six and a half cents a bushel and would make it unprofitable to import corn if it were to be consumed in America. The glucose manufacturers propose, however, to ship abroad the products manufactured from the South American corn and hope in this way to secure the return of all but about ten percent of the amount paid in duties. If the experiment works successfully it is probable that additional shipments will be ordered for use in the export trade of the glucose trust and the remarkable spectacle of corn being shipped into the country where corn is king of all crops is likely to continue until prices fall, possibly until the new crop is gathered.

That the public sales of pictures by professional art collectors and dealers in New York are crowded by forged paintings, alleged "old masters" and spurious works falsely attributed to famous modern artists is the assertion made in the July number of Appleton's by Robert W. Chambers, the novelist, who is himself an artist of ability. As an example of the recklessness with which the palming off of made-to-order masterpieces is carried on he tells of attending a sale at which a very fashionable and wealthy woman purchased at a high price a portrait of Lord X by the great artist Z—Mr. Chambers suppresses names—blissfully unconscious of the fact that Lord X died when the great Z was four years old. The novelist compares this to the exhibition in a public museum of the brush and comb of Charles the Bald and forty volumes of the works of William the Silent. Mr. Chambers holds, however, that the real responsibility for these are frauds rests with the large class of buyers, blessed with too much money and too little appreciation of art itself, who purchase signatures affixed to canvasses without knowledge whether the latter are good or bad. In the Appleton article he also takes a fling at the professional critics and asserts that the average art columns of the newspapers and magazines are filled with "twaddle" instead of giving information of real value to the public.

Good Queen Anne of England whose name is chiefly remembered now through the fact that it is applied to a certain style of architecture was responsible for a clash of authority here this week that threatened at one time to develop into a genuine battle. The estimable lady herself, having been dead for the better part of two centuries, had no direct hand in the affair. It all came about because of a grant that she made to one of her subjects in 1703, when New York was a British colony, of the land largely mixed with water—lying in the East River between Manhattan and Long Island, and known as the Sunken Meadows. The recipient could not have claimed and great degree of royal favor for the grant, as its name implies, is under water except at low tide when a part of it is

visible as a mud bank. Its only use for centuries has been as a resting place for blundering ferry-boats or excursion craft that have run aground there. Recently the city authorities conceived the idea that the municipality could make use of the submerged tract by filling it in and making it a part of Randall's Island where additional space is required for New York's penal institution. City engineers were sent to survey it but news of the project reached the ears of members of the Jones family, the present claimants to its ownership, and the officials were met by armed guards who refused to permit a landing. For a time it looked as though there might be a bombardment and a siege, but finally both sides proceeded under flag of truce to a police court where the magistrate decided that the proper course for the city was to proceed civilly if it desired the property. The owners of the submarine estate have since expressed their willingness to part with it for the trifling sum of \$1,000,000.

It is a crime for one person to sell out his business to a competitor and to agree not to engage in the same line of trade for a certain length of time, according to the statement made by Judge Goff to a grand jury here last week. This seems a surprising doctrine to the majority of persons in view of the many sales involving good will which are made with such provisions every day, but it is declared that these stipulations are in restraint of trade and so contravene law and public policy. The matter came up in the course of the investigation of the ice trust. This inquiry, or rather the protracted series of inquiries into the business of this concern, has been dragging out its weary length for such a period that it is only when some incident as this occurs that the public is reminded that this particular trust-busting excursion is still under way with little prospects apparently of ever arriving at anything definite. It is said that the ice trust officials have got so into the habit of being investigated that they feel uncomfortable unless a force of official "experts" is engaged in going over their books or if any chance they fail to be summoned before one or another inquiring tribunal at least once a week. These investigations have come to be regarded as a little more than farces by the taxpayers who have to foot the bills inasmuch as it is practically unheard of for one of them to accomplish anything.

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**SEIZED BY A TIGER**

Terrible Experience of Animal Keeper at Los Angeles

**WIFE BATTLES WITH BEAST**

While Cleaning Cage at the Zoo Herman Gerson, is Attacked by Ferocious Man Eater, Narrowly Escaping Horrible Death.

LOS ANGELES, June 19.—Herman Gerson, head animal keeper in the East Lake Park City Zoo, was seized by both arms by a big male tiger while washing its cage yesterday. The tiger stripped both arms of his flesh from the elbows down and almost pulled his arms from the sockets. His wife came to the rescue and by jamming the beast in the eyes and breast with a pitchfork pried its teeth and claws loose. As the tiger's jaws closed on Gerson's arm, the keeper, who was holding a small hose, turned the nozzle in the animal's face. The tiger placed a huge paw on Gerson's arm and the keeper began to call to his wife who was in the Gerson residence near the Zoo. The roar of the tiger had created a pandemonium among the animals and as Mrs. Gerson sank a pitchfork into the tiger again and again the snarls and yells from the line of cages redoubled. The fight between the woman and the man-eater lasted several minutes, ending only when Mrs. Gerson directed the tines of the fork against the animal's eyes. With his arms released Gerson sank to the ground and was later removed to a hospital. Mayor Hasper ordered the bars of the tiger's cage strengthened.

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