

It seems like San Francisco people get married just for experiment. Scripps, News Association has just compiled the divorce and marriage statistics of the city from the official records. They disclose an amazing laxity of morals. The figures prove conclusively that the number of divorces in San Francisco during this year will reach almost thirty per cent of the marriages for the same period.

There were 1,272 divorces and 4,309 marriages. The predominant cause for divorce, in the order mentioned, were desertion, failure to provide, cruelty, intemperance and infidelity. There was one for lack of money and one for incapacity.

January showed the lowest number of divorces, 84, and October the highest number, 127.

In the number of marriages, November was the highest month, with 443. February was the lowest, with only 253.

On account of the alarming increase in divorces there, the last session of the California Legislature passed a law prohibiting divorced persons from marrying again in the state within one year after divorce, and this law takes nearly 500 marriages away from the city every year. These go to Reno, Nevada, the nearest point, to wed again.

A CHRISTMAS TREE INDUSTRY

A few years ago the fir tree up in Maine was considered one of the most worthless of forest trees, but since the growth of the Christmas tree industry it has taken on an added value. The contractors pay from three to four cents apiece for the small trees and from 25 to 40 cents for the largest ones.

This price seems insignificant when taken alone, but when it is considered that from 3000 to 4000 trees will grow on an acre and that the trees can be raised on land worthless for anything else, it is a different story. The cutting age is from seven years up. It is estimated that the people of Maine will receive one hundred thousand dollars this year from this industry.

There are some toughly constituted individuals among those Baker City gamblers. The Democrat of that place says some of the fraternity have not occupied their beds for several years. Such application if rightly directed would make useful members of society of not a few people who live off the community without rendering any equivalent.

A brakeman did not give the stopping signal to the following train at Byron, California, in time Saturday evening. And twenty-three passengers were killed outright and twenty-five injured, some of whom will die. A little thing to start with, but a terrible ending.

A German merchant ship now in Portland harbor has sixty apprentices aboard, forty in their third year of service and twenty in the first year. Germany has been straining every nerve for several years past to build up her merchant marine. The new ships are models of marine construction.

It is really funny, the Portland evening papers printing likenesses of the deceased Archbishop of Canterbury. There is not a single point of resemblance in the two pictures of the deceased churchman, even considering the difference in age at which the pictures were evidently taken.

Corn goes down, and whiskey, following its usual course, goes down, but in price in this instance. The man with a thirst need not expect any reduction in price, however, as it has fallen but a cent a gallon—from \$1.32 to \$1.31 at Peoria, Illinois, the whiskey metropolis of the country, Kentucky not being in it with the aforesaid municipal distillery. Peoria has a population of nearly sixty thousand and distilling leads all other industries. The decline in the price of corn took the cent a gallon off.

A Countess Plots To Slay

THE story of the murder at Bologna, Italy, of Count Bonmartini, action of a noble family of ancient birth, reads like a chapter from the Italian middle ages, but even the horrors of that atrocious period pale before this recital of a crime perpetrated within the lordly walls of an ancient palace.

But if all this be strange and incredible, what of the fact that the assassination of the nobleman was the plot of a woman, and that woman none other than his wife, the Countess



THE COUNT WAS STABBED IN THE HEART. Theolinda Bonmartini? With more than the cunning of a Lady Macbeth this woman's mind invented the plot of a tragedy that has shaken all Italy. The Italian police say she is the wickedest woman in the world.

To fully understand the depth of this woman's cunning and the heartlessness and skill of her plotting it is necessary to go back to last August. At that time the countess was in Venice with her two children. Her marital relations with the count had been strained for more than two years. They were, in fact, practically living apart, although not divorced. In Venice with the countess was her most trusted maid, Rosina Bonetti. In the events herein to be recorded the maid became the accomplice of her mistress in the execution of the plot.

Count Bonmartini was living in apartments in the historic palace on that fatal night. That day brought him a definitely scented note, the superscription apparently having been written by a woman. The writer begged to be admitted to his apartments that night, but the note bore no signature.

That letter had a deep mission. Its purpose was to make certain that the nobleman would not leave his apartments and thus foil the knife that was to strike the fatal blow. It was written by the maid at the direction of the mistress. That much—and more—has Rosina Bonetti confessed.

The apartments adjoining that of the count had been let to a woman, one of mystery. The police are confident that her identity and that of the countess will soon be found to be the same. The tenant was one Carlo Sacchi, a university professor, who had formerly been the accepted sweetheart of the countess.

Between these two apartments there is a secret passage—a panel that opens at the touch of a secret spring. The countess and her accomplices alone possessed this knowledge. It was through this painted panel that the assassin or assassins of Count Bonmartini passed on that tragic night in August. Tullius Murri, brother of the countess, has confessed that it was he who wielded the dagger that felled the victim of a woman's cunning and hatred. But the police will not believe that he was alone when that secret panel in the wall flew open. They say that Carlo Sacchi was in the plot and may have assisted in the destruction of the marked victim.

But the ancient palace kept well its secret tragedy for a whole fortnight. None entered the apartments of the count. But one day there came a vague alarm. None had seen the count, and the police were notified. They went to his apartments. His body was found stretched on the floor. He had been stabbed in the heart. There were other wounds, too, and the room bore unmistakable evidences of a terrible life and death struggle.

The dainty little note was found. Several articles of feminine apparel were strewn around. There was an empty champagne bottle and two glasses, as if two persons—the count and a woman—had been drinking together. The most expert detectives in Europe were put on

WATCH LOST.—A ladies' gold watch lost Sunday night between the river bridge and the corner of West Fifth and Washington streets. Finder please leave same at this office and receive a liberal reward.

Wells, Fargo & Co are in the Christmas gift business, this year. A readjustment of salaries, to date from the middle of this month, will increase the salaries of about six thousand people from five to ten per cent.

Conceived Dreadful Crime That Has Shocked All Italy

the mystery. But they found nothing that would bring a solution. Then all Italy was startled a few days ago by the announcement of Professor Murri, the famous Italian scholar and father of the countess, that his son, Tullius Murri, was the assassin of Count Bonmartini. The young man's motive was accredited to deep hatred born of his brother-in-law's ill treatment of his sister.

Professor Murri said that his son had written to him from his retreat in Savona confessing the details of the murder. He said that he had decided to take his own life rather than face a tribunal of justice.

But this confession was accepted with reservations by the police. They clung to the belief that the real instigator of the murder was a woman and that woman none other than the countess.

Finally they secured warrants for her and the maid, Rosina Bonetti. The latter was speedily ensnared. She at last made a partial confession disclosing the part that she and her mistress had taken in the assassination of the count.

There was a deep seated motive in the heart of this countess—a scion of a Bohemian society. It was hatred, and the police say it was born of her own depravity. Shocking disclosures have been made concerning her private life, the details of which brand her as a woman of fearful character, one who more than typifies Shakespeare's picture of Lady Macbeth. They know that the man whose murder she so cunningly plotted stood in deadly fear of her.

To his friends the count had many times said that he knew she was bent on giving him a deadly drug. He found poison in her possession and divined that the fatal poison was intended for him. Filled then in this Borgias-like plot, the countess took into her confidence the trusty maid, the brother and another accomplice who is supposed to be her sometime sweetheart, Carlo Sacchi. She took on the mantle, too, of Lady Macbeth.

But what of this woman? Here is a study of her in a few words. She is about thirty years old, but appears several years younger. She has a certain type of beauty that comes from expression than from contour. Her face, otherwise unimpressive, is lit up wonderfully by a pair of eyes that are strangely fascinating. They sparkle like gems and laugh and twinkle in their mysterious depths, but they are the lights of a soul that stolidly conceived a murder.

Cunning Crocodiles Of the Zambezi River

In that mystic land between the Zambezi and the Sabra country, Africa, the jungle has come to its own again, covering mighty ancient fortresses and walls with growth that looks as if it never had been disturbed by man since the world began.

And in that jungle the wild beasts rule. There the lions and leopards tread their ancient paths, not waiting to be attacked, but carrying the war into the camps and into the very tents of the invaders.

As if they were matching their wits against man, the crocodiles and hippopotami are becoming more daring and dangerous every year in that country.

Two black men belonging to the Powers expedition were killed by crocodiles at one time. The creatures lay in wait under the bank of the river, and when the men stooped to wash the immensely powerful tails of the amphibians were swung at them and whiplashed them into the water, where the crocodiles seized them and carried them away to an island in the middle of the river. Dr. Peters' men saw the whole tragedy. They could see the bodies of the men clearly as they were being dragged along just under the surface. Another favorite trick of the man killing crocodiles along the Zambezi is to lie perfectly still under grasses near the shore and seize passers-by by the leg. Sometimes they are so fearless that they do not even hide, but lie on the shore, with eyes shut, mimicking sleep.

The hippopotami, says Dr. Peters, seem to have learned that there is a connection between canoes and explosive bullets. Certainly they have come to treat boats as enemies every time, and it is dangerous now to cross the river in any light craft.

Just under the surface. Another favorite trick of the man killing crocodiles along the Zambezi is to lie perfectly still under grasses near the shore and seize passers-by by the leg. Sometimes they are so fearless that they do not even hide, but lie on the shore, with eyes shut, mimicking sleep.

The hippopotami, says Dr. Peters, seem to have learned that there is a connection between canoes and explosive bullets. Certainly they have come to treat boats as enemies every time, and it is dangerous now to cross the river in any light craft.

Just under the surface. Another favorite trick of the man killing crocodiles along the Zambezi is to lie perfectly still under grasses near the shore and seize passers-by by the leg. Sometimes they are so fearless that they do not even hide, but lie on the shore, with eyes shut, mimicking sleep.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.
Anna and H M Wilson to W E and Anna Smith, lot 10 blk 6 Packard's add to Eugene, \$1400.
The Houck Land and Livestock Co to Isaac F Houston 188 acres in tps 15 and 16 and 5 w, 1902
PROOF OF LABOR.
Geo Fisher files proof of labor on Mayflower claim in Blue River mining district.

What Shall We Have for Dessert?

This question arises in the family every day. Let us answer it to-day. Try

Jell-O,

a delicious and healthful dessert. Prepared in two minutes. No boiling! no baking! add boiling water and set to cool. Flavors:—Lemon, Orange, Raspberry and Strawberry. Get a package at your grocer to-day. 10 cts.

Palestine Pointers.

Guard Special Service.
CROW, Dec. 20.—A portion of this neighborhood has been greatly stirred up lately by the farmers' plows.

W L Lord went to Eugene on business last Friday.

R A Smith, of Junction City, who was the guest of his sister, Mrs A J Kraal for several days recently, has gone to spend the holidays with relatives and friends at Hale.

J Richard Liles is erecting a new house, and intends soon to occupy it with his family.

The school children of Palestine will render a short program at the school house on Christmas eve.

There is to be an entertainment at Central school house, given by the school on Christmas.

A J Kraal and family expect to leave for Hale on the 24th inst, to spend Christmas with friends.

Rev C P Bailey is conducting meetings at Crow with some success.

The boys of the M W of A at Crow must have been treating their guests too lavishly to condition powder, for though he is frequently ridden, and has safely landed forty-odd members for the order, he acted so frisky when Frank Crenshaw essayed to mount him that the gentlemen was completely worsted, and lost both temper and patience in the fray. Then he retired into outer darkness whetting a dangerous looking knife, and warning all the sympathetic and officious bystanders to keep a respectful distance. The boys should train down the mythical capricious, for if he begins to exhibit signs of high life he may suffer for want of exercise.

Wanted.

Two hundred timber men to make piling; 20 foremen; highest wages; steady job. Address:
PACIFIC TIMBER CO.,
Cottage Grove, Or.

The Best Prescription for Malaria, Chills and fever is a bottle of Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. It is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. No Cure, No Pay. Price 50c.

C S Farrow & Co will sell you the best plows and harrows.

A visit to the newly occupied parlors of the Drs Atwood, in the new building, shows a very handsomely arranged set of elegant apartments, consisting of eight rooms. When finished according to plans they will be as sumptuous as any in the city.

Christmas Bargains in Slippers and Shoes.

Mens Fancy Slippers .75
Mens Bedroom Slippers .50
Mens Alligator Slippers 1.00
Mens Fine Box Calf Slippers 2.00
Mens Pearl Grey Fine Slippers 1.50
Mens Felt Slippers all styles and prices.
We carry a complete line of Alfred Dogies, warm lined good in both slippers and shoes.
Womens Bedroom Slippers .50
Ask to see our line of fur trimmed KID SLIPPERS.

Gilbert's SHOE STORE.

Call and Examine our stock before selecting your presents.

Mens Fancy Slippers .75
Mens Bedroom Slippers .50
Mens Alligator Slippers 1.00
Mens Fine Box Calf Slippers 2.00
Mens Pearl Grey Fine Slippers 1.50
Mens Felt Slippers all styles and prices.
We carry a complete line of Alfred Dogies, warm lined good in both slippers and shoes.
Womens Bedroom Slippers .50
Ask to see our line of fur trimmed KID SLIPPERS.

Santa Claus Is Here

Grand display of Holiday Goods.

SEE WINDOW DISPLAY.

Our store has as many great attractions on the inside as well as in our Windows.

Cockerline

Just received a line of the

NATIONAL BISCUIT CO'S

Inner Seal brand. Nabisco, Favorite Milk Biscuit, Athena, Butter Thin Biscuit, Social Tea, Five O'clock Tea, Stalzenbach's Fricback, English Fruit Cake, Banquet Wafer, Champagne Wafer.

J U. GREEN & SON

Phone Main 25-1.

CLASSIFIED COLUMN.

Notices under this head not to exceed five lines, 50 cents per week; \$1.50 a month; \$12 per year.

For Sale.

TIMBER LAND FOR SALE.—190 acres of cleared land—old growth fl. Will cut about five million feet Good sound timber. Situated on the banks of one of the best logging streams in the state, convenient to saw-mills. Within a day's drive of Eugene. Inquire for particulars at Hoffman House of W O Zeigler, administrator of the estate of John S Wright deceased, or Jenckes & Harbaugh, First National Bank building, attorneys for said estate.

FOR SALE.—100 acres with large house and two large barns; 60 acre bottom land, 12 acres in cultivation; good garden, good bearing orchard, and good outside range. Price \$1,100. Address W B Scott, Jasper, Oregon.

Lost and Found.

DOG LOST.—White, weighs about 60 or 65 pounds; part hound, last seen at Triangle Lake, Lane county, Ore on Oct 22; goes by name of Jap. Give or send information to C C Campbell, Eugene, Ore, or W D Taylor, Hale, Ore. Reward of \$20 for return of dog.

Public Sale.

I will sell at public sale, on the Matthew Wallace farm, three miles west of Eugene, on Friday, January 2, 1913, at 10 o'clock a m, the following personal property:

Thirty head of cattle—4 fresh cows, 6 fresh in the spring, 4 two-year-old heifers, 2 yearling heifers, 4 two-year-old steers, 2 three-year-old steers, 6 yearling steers, 1 yearling heifer, 1 yearling Durham bull, 5 head of horses—4 work and 1 saddle horse.

45 head of hogs—5 good brood sows and 40 stock hogs.
1 Paso binder, 1 Plano mower, 1 hay rake, 2 buggies, 1 three and one-half inch wagon, 1 hack, 1 gang plow, 2 twelve-inch plows, 1 fourteen-inch Rock Island plow, 1 eight-foot disc, 1 four-horse steel harrow, 1 broad-cast seeder, 2 sets single harness, 2 sets work harness, 20 tons of hay.

Terms of sale: A credit of six months will be given all sums of \$10. and over by purchaser giving note with approved security. All sums of \$10. and under, cash in hand.

ROBERT NEWMAN, Proprietor.
J. S. STILES, Auctioneer.

For Sale.

Two fresh milk cows; one full-blooded Durham bull, a year old next March; 10 yearling steers; a full-blooded Poland China boar, 13 months old, weight 350 pounds; 8 sows, Berkshire and Poland China mixed, about a year old. Price low. Enquire of or address Robt Newmaler, Eugene.

For Sale.

A good farm of 160 acres. Will sell reasonably—with or without personal property. Might take part in town property or a good small piece of land either here or in the East. Ohio preferred.

WM LEMLEY, Pleasant Hill, Oregon.

You Know What You Are Taking

When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, no pay. 50c.

Foils a Deadly Attack.

"My wife was so ill that good physicians were unable to help her," writes M M Austin, of Winchester, Ind, "but was completely cured by Dr King's New Life Pills. They work wonders in stomach and liver troubles. Cure constipation and sick headache. 25c at W L DeLano's drug store."

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E W Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

SILVERWARE FREE.

With each can of PRIZE MEDAL BAKING POWDER we give away absolutely FREE a piece of Silverware, including Berry Spoons, Gravy Spoons, Meat Forks, Pie Knives, Nut Cracker Sets, Napkin Rings, Set of Teaspoons, Set of Tablespoons, Set of Dessert Spoons, etc, etc. This Baking Powder is guaranteed ABSOLUTELY PURE and to give satisfaction.

Iowa Grocery Co.

Our Motto to Please

We keep a well selected line of Groceries and fresh vegetables of all kinds in their season. Fresh Saratoga chips and malted pastas. Tillamook, Limburger and country cheese.

Give us a Call.

McKINNEY BROS.
Phone, Red 6-36.

Only 5 Days to Secure Racket Bargains...

Hurry Along and Secure First Choice Boots, Shoes Clothing, Furs, Jackets, Skirts, Furnishing Goods, Piece Goods, In All Departments.

We shall close up the Racket Store on the 25th of Dec for invoicing! Before that time all goods will be sold at Clean-Up-Prices. Please remember that on the above date we shall give you the last chance to secure bargains at the

Racket Store.

P. FRANK & SON.

Open Evenings.

Ready for Christmas.

We help to make your Christmas a good success by offering you some extra good values in the following lines: Bulk Olives and Fruits, Candies and Nut s. Also in China, Crockery, Glassware, Silverware, Metal and Glass Lamps.

N. T. WILSON.

SPECIAL SALE AT

FRIENDLY'S

COMENCING MONDAY, DEC 22nd.

Clothing Department

We have been digging into the Clothing Stock industriously sorting and sifting out all broken lines. No use holding on to small lots. The emotion has brought some rare values to the surface—good chance to buy for next season.

\$12.50, \$13.50 and \$15.00 Suits go this week at \$8.50
\$16.50, \$18.00 and \$20.00 Suits go this week at 12.50

Gent's Furnishing Dept

We don't believe there is a reasonable man within trading distance of Eugene whom we can't satisfy in the matter of Fall and Winter Underwear. All the best makes being represented in this Dept.

Men's Silk Ties in four-in-hand, tecks, etc, our 50c kind this week for 25c

Dress Goods Dept

We have many remnants left in Dress Goods and Silks, will sell this week at Half-Price

All our Fancy Silks selling from \$1.25 to \$3.00 per yard, are all going at one uniform price. 95c

Furs—Half-Price

What are left of our Furs will be sold at just Half-Price

Garment Dept—

Ladies' Tailor-made suits at less than Half-Price. \$20.00, \$22.50 and \$25.00 Suits for \$10.00
\$13.50 Suits for 7.50
\$10.00 Suits for 5.00