The imperial observatory at Tsingtau, capital of the German colony of Kiaochau, China, is rapidly becoming one of the leading scientific institutions of the far east.

Reggie—They say it takes nine tailors to make a man, don't you know.

Miss Keen—You should patronize eight more, Reggie.

It is estimated that the Uruguay wool crop this season will reach a value of $25,000,000.

Literature in Turkey has responded to the liberty that followed the revolution. Large numbers of translations and adaptations of European scientific and literary works and books of a popular nature are now available

In the last year Iowa produced 96,953,183 pounds of butter, which was sold for $28,285,240.

In Melbourne no Sunday papers are permitted; no hotels are allowed to open their bars.

RAID CUSTOM HOUSE

Mexican Bandits Kill Postmaster, and Desecrate U. S. Flag.

Postoffice Looted and General Store Robbed—Mexicans Jeer As Ruins Are Searched.

San Diego, Cal.—The United States customs office and postoffice at Tecate, 45 miles from this city, on the American side of the international boundary, were destroyed by fire Sunday night, following a raid. Eyewitnesses said the raiders were Mexicans.

Frank V. Johnston, of San Diego, postmaster at Tecate, was shot to death when he resisted the bandits and his companion, Warren Didienback, was wounded. The charred remnants of an American flag was found at daybreak when a posse started on the trail of the desperadoes.

The customs office and postoffice occupied parts of the general store operated by Mountain Brothers. The bandits, it was proved later, were bent on robbing both of the government offices. Johnston was shot when he refused to give the combination of the safe.

Johnston's torso was found in the smouldering ruins. An autopsy developed the fact that he had been shot through the heart. His pistol was found not far from the body.

Elliott D. Johnston, the dead man's brother, has sent telegrams to Secretary of State Bryan, Governor Johnson and Representative William Kettner, at Washington, demanding a thorough investigation. In his telegram to Mr. Bryan, Mr. Johnston placed the entire responsibility for the affair on Mexicans.

Bitter feeling prevails along the border as a result of the outrage, and this feeling was intensified later when a crowd of jeering Mexicans watching the search of the ruins objected to Fred Vollmer, a newspaper photographer, taking their pictures. When the photographer, standing on the American side of the boundary, continued working his camera, one of the Mexicans deliberately fired at him. In an instant the posse that had made a futile all-night search for the bandits, leveled their guns at the Mexicans and for several minutes an open battle appeared inevitable. The photographer was not wounded.

Major Davis, commander at Fort Rosecrans, San Diego, with several officers and a platoon of men, left for Tecate in automobiles. Major Davis said he would conduct a rigid examination in behalf of the War department. The affair, he said, would be reported immediately to the department commander at San Francisco.

Women Daub Paint About English Church

Birmingham, Enlgand — Worshippers in the cathedral Sunday found the walls and floors of the edifice covered with suffrage proclamations painted in white letters a foot high reading "Votes for Women."

"The clergy must rise in our behalf and stop the torturing of women in prison."

Every foot of space except the altar had a sign painted on it, including the pews.

Glasgow — A band of suffragettes rose in the cathedral in the course of service Sunday and chanted "Oh, Lord, we beseech thee to save Emmaline Pankhurst, Helen Crawford and all the brave women who are suffering for their faith." The congregation took no notice of the demonstration.

London—Sylvia Pankhurst has written to the dean of Westminster, acquainting him with the intention of the East London suffragettes to march to the Abbey next Sunday and participate in the evening service and pray for the success of their cause. She said she would be present personally and that she desired the dean to adapt the service to a special occasion for the suffragettes.

Llama Is Sent to Bryan.

New York—Comfortably housed on the after-deck of the steamer Verdi, which arrived from South American ports Monday night, was a llama, which the mayor of Buenos Aires, Argentine, has presented to Secretary Bryan. When Mr. Bryan visited Buenos Aires he expressed to the mayor the desire to get one of the animals for his farm in Nebraska. When the llama came under the inspection of J. F. Horne, of the bureau of animal industry, he declared that it had foot and mouth disease and could not be landed.

Crates May Be Mailed.

Washington, D. C. — Postmaster General Burleson has approved an amendment to the parcel post regulations, under which butter, eggs, fruits, vegetables, poultry and other articles in parcels weighing from 20 to 50 pounds may be shipped in the first and second zones in boxes and crates similar to those handled by express companies.

The amendment provides that parcels weighing 20 pounds or less will be handled as heretofore, and must be securely packed.

Huerta Increases Army.

Mexico City—Another increase in the army is announced. It is said that the regular establishment is to be raised from 200,000 to 250,000. Including the irregular service, this increase, if the official figures of the strength of the army are correct, would give President Huerta 300,000 men.

Florida Man Dies at 114.

Pensacola, Fla.—Isaac Cooley, reputed to be 114 years old, died at his home in Escambia county, Florida, Sunday. He was born in South Carolina and has more than 100 grandchildren. He attributed his old age to regular habits.

A Contradictory Idea.

"There is one very peculiar idea of actors."

"What is that?"

"If they have a long success at one stand, they call it a run."

In the British museum there is to be seen the first envelope ever made.

The government of Brazil has begun work on extensive systems of reservoirs to enable the residents of its northeastern states to get water in long dry seasons, which frequently occur.

The population of Belfast is slightly under 400,000, and in the entire province, some of the remote parts of which are unsuited to motor cars, there are only about 1,750,000 people.

The highest point in Nevada is Wheeler peak, which, according to a chart published by the United States geological survey, is 13,058 feet above sea level.

U. S. EXPRESS QUITS

Directors Vote to Dispose of Property and Contracts.

Parcel Post, Reduction of Rates by Commerce Commission, Etc., Given As Reason.

New York—Directors of the United States Express company voted unanimously to liquidate its affairs and dissolve it in the shortest possible time.

A committee on liquidation which embraces the reports of the leading interests in the company, including Charles A. Peabody, president of the Mutual Life Insurance company and the chief financial adviser of the Harriman estate; William A. Reed, Senator W. Murray Crane, of Massachusetts, and Haley Fiske, vice-president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company, was appointed to undertake the work of dissolution.

The precise means to be adopted for realizing on the company's assets were not disclosed, but it is thought likely that a syndicate would be formed to take them over so that they may be disposed of to the best advantage.

There have been various estimates of the company's assets, but persons familiar with their value assert that the return to the shareholers will be between $90 and $100 a share. There is considerable real estate of value, as well as costly equipment and outstanding contracts with railroads, which it is expected will be tranferred to other express companies at a fair profit.

The success of the parcel post and the recent order of the Interstate Commerce commission resulting in a 16 per cent reduction in express charges are held directly responsible for the company's retirement from business after 60 years of continuous operation.

Attack Constitutionality of Federal Income Tax

New York—To test the validity of the Federal income tax act suit was filed in the United States District court here to restrain the Union Pacific railroad company from paying taxes under the new law. The petitioner, Frank R. Brushaver, of Brooklyn, a stockholder, maintains the income tax is unconstitutional.

Mr. Brushaver contends the income tax law conflicts with the third clause of the second section of article one of the Federal constitution in that while it purports to be a tax on net income it is in fact a tax on the real and personal property in which the net receipts of the Union Pacific were invested and is a direct tax, and, therefore void.

He maintains moreover, that the law is unconstitutional because it seeks to impose a tax on income received prior to its passage.

When the income tax law passed, the complaint declares, there were 90,000,000 people in the United States, but the tax under the law was so apportioned that only 499,000 of them felt it. This, it is asserted, is placing the burden of the tax on slightly more than one-half of one per cent of the entire population.

Among other objections is one that owners of homes are not charged with the rental value of such property, while many renters, especially those in the cities are taxable.

Likewise what is declared to be in effect the exemption of farm products consumed by the farmer during the year is declared discriminatory against others who are not allowed to deduct living expenses from income.

King Objects to Slit.

Brussels — Albert, king of the Belgians, on seeing a woman at a court ball wearing a slit skirt recently, whispered to his court marshal, who thereupon offered his arm to the lady in the most deferential manner and escorted her from the ballroom.

When they arrived outside, the court marshal said:

"His Majesty noticed that your gown was torn on one side, and asked me to escort you to your carriage so that you could go home and have the damage repaired."

Sultan Loses His Suit.

New York—The Sultan of Turkey lost a test suit in which he sought to establish his right to control the property of Turkish subjects who die in the United States.

Through the Turkish consul general here, His Majesty sought to take and distribute as public administrator the estate of Hovhannes S. Tavshanjian, a wealthy Turkish rug dealer, who died in New York. The State Supreme court decided Thursday against him, sustaining a demurrer entered by Tavshanjian's executors.

Launching Set for May 11.

Bath, Me.—The racing sloop Defiance, a candidate for defense of the America's cup, will be launched on May 11, according to George M. Pynchon, of New York, managing director of the Tri-City syndicate, which is building the boat here. This is the first date definitely announced for the launching of any of the trio of yachts which will enter the elimination trials.

Two Missionaries Safe.

London—The safety of the two Misses Black, of the British China Inland Mission, who were reported missing after the burning and looting by brigands of the town of Lao Hokow, Hu Peh, is confirmed in an official dispatch from Pekin to the foreign office here. The women escaped and arrived at Fan Chen, further down the river Han Kiang.

Friday, 13th, Hoodoo On.

Chicago—Friday, the 13th, was unlucky for truant husbands in Chicago. Thirteen women appeared before the clerk of the court of domestic relations and swore out 13 warrants for 13 husbands on 13 charges of abandonment. The warrants were sent to 13 police stations.

Scientists have found 56 areas in the ocean where the water is more than three miles deep, 10 where it exceeds four miles and four where the bottom is more than five miles down.