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ATHENA, JULY 18 1905

The question of combatting the mail order houses is becoming less serious as the home merchant gives it a courageous test, says the Ottawa Herald. It is being shown that the terrors of the mail order business to the home trade is mostly a scarecrow fight, when the home merchant brings his prices fairly and aggressively in competition with the catalogue house. Every business man knows that the mail order business does not and cannot offer the price on qualities that the home merchant can give, and yet not all take pains to get this fact impressed upon the buying public. The instance is yet to be shown where the aggressive display of qualities and prices and straight out-and-out fight on the mail order house does not result in the home man's victory. There are reasons for this, and one of the effective fights on the mail order houses is to tell these reasons. At the present time two stores in Athena are conducting mammoth sales and all the different varieties of goods that go to make up a first-class merchandise stock are being sold at a lower price than any mail order house on earth can compete with. The pictures in the mail order catalogues are primarily the trade bringers of these concerns. It is the home merchant who gives you quality and the low price.

Many people who deal with banks every day do not really understand the proper object and purpose of banking. Banks cannot create money, but they can gather small sums which are distributed among the people and thus create an aggregate which can be made available for important business operations that previously would have been impossible. Individuals, each possessing a few hundreds or a few thousands, invest it in stock in a bank, and thus a fund of \$50,000 or \$100,000 is established in a town or community as a great aid to the business activity and prosperity of its people. There is no more money in the community than previously, but it is in a form where it can be made to assist in the successful conduct of five or ten times the business that its actual sum stands for.

For ten years or more the Yaqui Indians in the state of Sonora, Mexico, have been in more or less active rebellion. It has been said that they are kept stirred up by an American adventurer, who hopes to keep mining pros-

pectors out of the country until he can get control of all the rich mineral deposits there. This report is probably exaggerated, for there are various mining enterprises which he does not control. The other day the Yaqui Copper company, an American corporation, asked the American government for protection from the Indians, and was informed that troops would be dispatched to their relief as quickly as possible. The Yaquis are about the only hostile Indians still remaining in North America.

Rev. John R. Wright, a Baptist clergyman of Columbus, Kan., announces his intention of breaking into the theatrical profession, although he has had no previous stage experience. He believes he can do more good before the footlights than in the pulpit, but he will not be long deceived when the box receipts fall off. Unless he signs up with the theatrical trust and is foisted into the western circuit, the Rev. John may soon be acting the stellar role in the bid-fashioned donation party.

The citizen who loves his country need not be alarmed at the increase of disclosures of rottenness in public life. He has good reason to rejoice that publicity is given these scandals. There were just as many rascals in office 10 or 20 years ago as now, but they were better protected against being found out. As the light of publicity grows stronger the shadow of dishonesty will grow fainter.

"Choose a freckled girl for a wife," says Dr. Osler. "Freckled girls are invariably more amiable." And they never get old enough to chloroform, the doctor might have said.

Mr. Bonaparte of Baltimore says he has no use for the man who tries to live on his grandfather's reputation. Still, it's quite a distinction sometimes to have had a granduncle.

A preacher has been asked to resign his pulpit because he uses an automobile. The dispatches do not say whether he inherited his money or married it.

According to a Russian in London, Admiral Rojstvensky's name is pronounced with the accent on the second syllable. Can you manage it?

A Montana man has invented a vineless potato. Now let some genius get busy and invent a dogless sausage.

Never is an automobile so dangerous as when John Barleycorn is acting as chauffeur.

LIMITATIONS OF A "SCIENCE."

(Oregonian.)
 There is a class of economic questions which it is useless to discuss—in their relations to conditions in any particular country—on abstract principles. That is to say, there is not much in the science of political economy, so-called, that is universally true. A tariff policy good for one country is not good for another. And a tariff policy good for a country at a certain or given stage of its history and of its development is not good for it at other stages. Everything depends on the time, the stage of development, the general circumstances. It is this truth, ignored by those who set themselves resolutely against all tariff revision in our country, that ultimately will confound them. During the eighteenth century Adam

Smith, having carefully observed the conditions that prevailed in Great Britain, wrote a book admirably suited to his environment, and the book met with success. Then men undertook to erect the principles of that book into a universal law, irrespective of environment. They called the result the science of political economy. Then others theorized on these commentaries and their successors upon them, until the most practical of business problems has been lost in a metaphysical fog, deepened by appeal through the misty and cloudy and evasive terms of party platforms. The subject is, in fact, a practical one, in which a priori theories can avail little or nothing.

There is competition among nations, and success to one or other comes chiefly or solely through a comprehension of existing conditions and capacity to take advantage of opportunity. At the same time the play of forces in the present world is so wide and so powerful that this problem is more complex than at any former time. Political economy, therefore, as a dogma, is as absurd as would be a dogma which taught an infallible way to manipulate the stock market. One community, such as Rome, may do well by robbery; another like Great Britain, when she enjoyed a monopoly of minerals or metals and manufactures, may flourish upon free trade; a third, like Germany with her sugar

NOT PROPER ADVERTISING.

(Spokesman-Review.)
 The administration of justice in Montreal has been perverted to an extent in the Gaynor and Greene case which seems strange to Americans, who have always been taught to look upon court procedure in Canada as far away and above that in this country.

Another instance has just come to light in which Canadian justice shows itself in a peculiar aspect, this time with something of the humorous about it. A Montreal merchant has been fined \$40 and cost for allowing a wedding ceremony to take place in one of his show windows, his object being to attract attention to his place of business. The justice seems to consider that is not the right thing to be done in a show window.

The main objection was that the wedding caused a collection of persons in the public street and obstructed the same without the permission of the mayor, as required by law. This the judge considered a "most reprehensible procedure." In reply to an endeavor made by the counsel for the defense to draw an analogy between the crowds that assembled about churches on the occasion of fashionable weddings and this one, the judge said: "It must be remembered that churches, from time immemorial, have been employed for such purposes, and when marriages take place in them the object of the contracting parties is not to draw a crowd, tending to the obstruction of the streets. In the present case the defendant seems to have deliberately intended to draw a crowd, presumably to attract attention to himself and his business."

The judge also condemns the clergyman who lent himself to "this shameful prostitution of holy rites." It is also added that the police would have been justified in arresting any person in the crowd who did stop to look at the wedding in the window.

Evidently show windows are not meant for public drawing cards in Montreal.

Lewis and Clark Rates.

The O. R. & N. Co. announces the following rates from Athena to Portland for the Lewis and Clark fair: Individual tickets will be sold daily from May 29 to October 15, inclusive, continuous passage in each direction; final return limit 30 days from date of sale, but in no case later than October 31, 1905, for one and one-third fare, amounting to \$9.90. Party tickets—that is ten or more persons—will be sold from May 29 to October 15 inclusive; passage in each direction; 10-day limit from date of sale, at one single fare per capita for round trip, amounting to \$7.40. Children one half fare age at half fare of the above rates. For further particulars call on M. W. Smith, O. R. & N. agent, Athena.

Huge Task.
 It was a huge task to undertake the cure of such a bad case of kidney disease as that of C. F. Collier, of Cherokee, Ia., but Electric Bitters did it. He writes: "My kidneys were so far gone I could not sit on a chair without a cushion; and suffered from dreadful headache, backache and depression. In Electric Bitters, however, I found a cure, and by them was restored to perfect health. I recommend this great tonic medicine to all with weak kidneys, liver or stomach. Guaranteed by McBride, druggist. Price 50c."

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