

NEWSY CHICAGO LETTER

Chicago, Dec. 13.—The war on the "white slave trade," which was declared by Secretary Straus of the department of commerce and labor, in his recent report is an encouraging result of the fight which government officials in Chicago have had on their hands, one so appalling that United States District Attorney E. M. Sims declared in an article published by a Chicago monthly magazine which has fought the traffic, that traders "had reduced the art of ruining young girls to a national and international system." Discoveries were made here in Chicago of the astounding proportions which this menace of society has assumed, and when the whole abominable system was exposed by Mr. Sims in the Woman's World it created a sensation. He has written for the December issue of the same magazine, another article, "Why Girls Go Astray," from the facts discovered by the government recently. The letters which have poured into the office of George W. Currier, the publisher have shown how widespread and how pitiful have been the cases of betrayal in the great systematic hunt for girl victims. "Evidently the villainous work extends to the railway stations of cities and small towns, and to the cafes of the city," Mr. Currier has said. In his report Secretary Straus stated, "It is highly necessary that this diabolical traffic, which has attained international proportions, should be dealt with in a manner adequate to compass its suppression. No punishment is too severe to inflict upon the procurers in this vile traffic. Under the terms of the arrangement which will be directed to centralize all information provided for therein the commissioner general of immigration, with a right to correspond directly with similar services established in each of the other contracting states."

Another cut in the time it takes to circle the globe will soon be made to meet the growing demands of international commerce for fast freight service. Chicago will no longer be a gateway on this shortest route around the world and some point in Canada will claim the honor. Connected with the coming change in route is the story of a dramatic test which was made recently, the details of which have only just come to light. Certain merchants in Yokohama, it appears, had important shipments of silk to make to Liverpool and decided to send the silk by three different routes to determine which was the shortest. The first went by way of the Pacific Mail, an American line, to San Francisco, and thence overland to New York; the second by the Japanese line, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, to Seattle, and thence overland to New York; and the third by the Canadian Pacific line to Vancouver and thence by railroad to New York. From New York the route lay by steamship to Liverpool. The three shipments left within an hour of each other. Thirty days later the Canadian Pacific shipment arrived in Liverpool, beating the Seattle consignment by a good margin, and the San Francisco lot brought up the rear three days later. The run across the Pacific showed conclusively the advantage of the most northern post, and it also led the Japanese merchant to figure on the further cutting of time that will follow the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific, which will be the most northern railroad on the continent and the new "shortest route." Owing to the situation of Prince Rupert 500 miles nearer Yokohama than any other rival port the time across the Pacific will be clipped two days, while from there on, the railroad men figure, that the low grade across the Rockies and the short distance between Halifax and Liverpool will further reduce the time, making a total saving of five days over the present record. This will give a time of twenty-five days for a distance of 220 degrees or nearly two-thirds of the circumference of the earth. At that rate, tourists figure it ought not to be long before Jules Verne's famous dream of "Around the World in Eighty Days" is not only beaten, but cut in two—if enough enthusiastic globe trotters can be found to make the trial.

The financial appetite of the West for bonds grows keener each week as the crop moving pressure for fundless and the business revival gains, as is shown by sales on the Chicago Stock Exchange which last month were more than double those of November, 1907, and still gaining. "The

bond buying has only just begun," said one house. The commanding position of the West in a financial way crops out daily, for enormous amounts of securities are being absorbed with every evidence that the buying on the exchange, often in small lots, is for the investment of surpluses. Recent events have checked the sale of mortgages to some extent and will continue to affect their sale until they are made as secure against fraud, such as practiced by Peter Van Vlissingen, as are properly registered bonds which represent a part of a lien under a big trust deed, which, because of its size is tested at every point. The high prices have given pause to the buying of stocks, except those of the soundest kind—and Western investors have absorbed a surprising knowledge of the ins and out of annual reports and balance sheets. The "wild cat" enterprise is languishing, the hopeful prospector with a mining claim in some remote corner having lost to a large degree as buyers, the class of promoters who issue certificates to "suckers." Meanwhile the industrial revival is proceeding, factories in this territory having, in many cases, again taken on their full quota of men.

Maturing plans for notable observances of the centennial of Lincoln's birthday next February 22, indicates that the proposal to make that day an event in history, both in Chicago, at the Rock Creek farm in Hardin county, Kentucky, at Springfield, Ill., and in towns and cities throughout the country has met with spontaneous favor. President-elect Taft may be the speaker in Chicago, and thousands on that day will make a pilgrimage to Lincoln park, where stands the famous heroic statue of Lincoln. With appropriately simple ceremony a wreath will be placed upon the furrowed brow of that erect, musing figure of the president whose greatness has been realized with increasing clearness as the years have added to knowledge of his real character. The principal observance of the day will be held in Chicago where in 1860 he was nominated for the presidency. "It seems to be recognized even outside of Chicago, that it is fitting that this city should formally observe the Lincoln centennial," said W. J. Calhoun, chairman of the committee on arrangements. "I have received letters from all over the country commending the movement here. A poor man wrote from Boston, inclosing \$1 to help the project. I returned the money, of course, because Chicago ought to take care of this without help from the outside."

War between the butter and butterine manufacturers of the country has been revived by a clever challenge of the oleo men to another scurrilous in the next congress. Repeal of the present state and national laws restricting the sale of butterine is sought on the grounds that the public is overcharged for the coating for its bread. A wild alar-dum that a "corner" in butter was going to run the price up to exorbitant figures is credited to the board of strategy of the butterine makers. Butter interests were pointed at accusingly and there were vague rumors of "indictments." The best evidence offered for the "corner" story was in figures as to present stocks which were put at 10,000,000 pounds more than a year ago. Heavy purchasers of butter did buy steadily through the month of June last foreseeing droughts, poor pastures and reduced butter output, and they have kept accumulating their holdings. Meanwhile butterine makers have been watching the price of butter crawl slowly up to 35 cents wholesale, while butterine—said by its manufacturers to be as wholesome and pure as butter—was bringing only 20 cents a pound. The restrictions against butterine in various states are weakening and in New York the supreme court hit the restrictive law a body blow by declaring "that the law in that state prohibited an important branch of industry for the sole reason that it competes with another, and may reduce the price of an article of food for the human race." There is much variety in the form of the laws in the several states, but little in the purpose. In some communities the statutes provide that boarding house keepers shall not serve butterine to paying guests without public advertisement of the fact.

The college farmer, the boy who leaves the farm to learn scientific methods at one of the big agricultural institutions, came into his own last week at the livestock show, when representatives of these institutions made a new record in prizes for examinations and judging and other practical tests of ability. Eight of the colleges sent picked teams of students and the contest between

these was so close that the final difference in standing was only a matter of a few per cent. Iowa State college led at the finish, with Nebraska university next, followed by Texas Agricultural college, Missouri university, Kansas Agricultural college, Ohio university, Ontario Agricultural college and Minnesota university. When the first international livestock show opened its doors here there was much amused interest as to the outcome of the contests between the college youth, with his scientific and theoretical training and the boy who had been taught practical farming by his father every day on an actual farm. That was in the days when the value of scientific training was little recognized and old ways were thought the best. Then came the contests, in which, to the surprise of all but a few, the college students who were versed in the theory of farming showed they had a better grasp of the practical side of it than their friends and neighbors who had learned in the hard school of experience. Farmers who had sneered at "book larnin'" began to inquire about tuition for their sons in some of the schools, and today, "students' day" at the livestock show is one of the most interesting in the whole program. This year thirty colleges were represented from the United States and Canada and the competition between them and between individuals was keener than it has ever been before. Delegations from some of the nearer institutions turned out to support their fellow students and when H. H. Klidde of Iowa State college was awarded first prize in the judging contest, the announcement was followed by a college yell that would have done credit to a championship football game.

The grizzly claws of the Russian bear, reaching for a man who had fled from the Cossacks and the police inquisitions, loomed large and menacing in Chicago during the hearing of extradition proceedings in which vivid horrors of Russia were recited. Christian Rudowith and countrymen of his felt the power of the Czar even at this distance and the hearing became dramatic in the extreme. Young girls offered their pittance of savings in Rudowith's cause and one witness, a man, declared he would die rather than testify. He pictured the methods of Russian police in getting evidence against "political prisoners," how the weaker were tortured into confessions of guilt which involved the stronger; of men beaten until the flesh was torn from the bone, of others who were jumped upon as they lay prostrate until their ribs and breast bones were crushed in. It became a fight for life and the attorney for the Russian government received more than one anonymous threat that he must desist. Chicago has a Russian population of nearly 75,000, of whom 30,000 were born in Russia and learned to dread the czar's police, whose chief they style the "Big Butcher."

COURT HOUSE NEWS

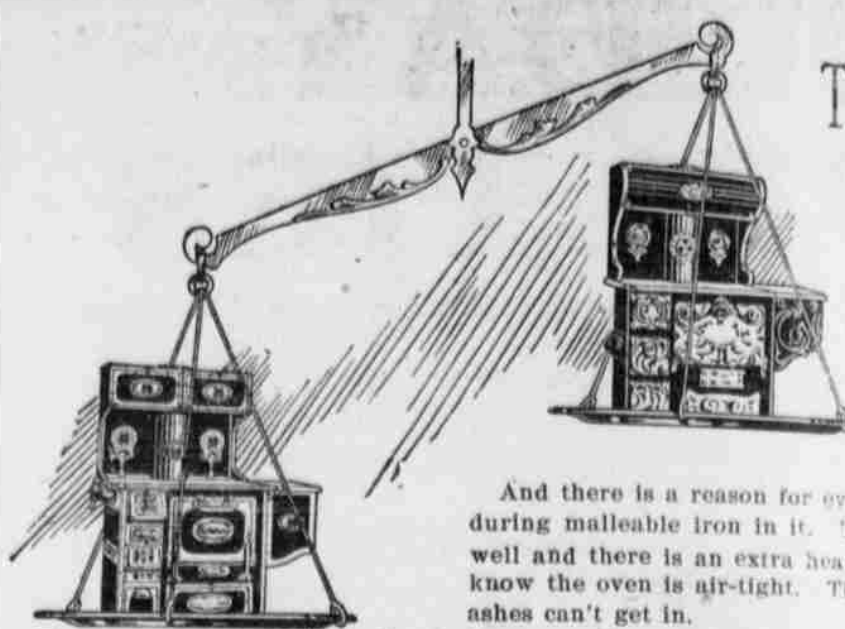
Meyers' Case.
Judge Geo. Burnett convened court in Department No. 1 this morning for the purpose of hearing arguments for the presentation of testimony of M. L. Meyers, H. W. Meyers et al as a final chapter in the Joseph Meyers case. Attorney S. T. Richardson for Jos. Meyers, based his argument practically on the robbery of the strong box which Jos. Meyers shipped to Portland through the Wells Fargo & Co.'s express office. C. L. McNary appeared for M. L. and H. W. Meyers. The presentation of the testimony of the witnesses in this case is deemed necessary by the attorney for Mr. Meyers due to the fact should any of the witnesses die or leave the country, the papers of value which the stolen strong box contained, would still be payable and collectable.

The local officers are on the lookout for a horse and buggy, which were reported stolen from the streets of Eugene Saturday afternoon by some unknown party. The sheriff and marshal's office was notified by the Eugene police of the robbery, and a description was given of the man who is supposed to have taken illegal possession of the horse and rig. Sheriff Brown of Eugene is looking into the case and thinks the outfit is headed north toward this city.

A marriage license was issued by County Clerk Allen today to Ray C. Chenoweth, age 25 and Orpha A. Cospell, age 21, both of Silverton, Oregon.

DIED.

BOWERSOX.—At the family home in Yew Park, at 7 o'clock Sunday morning, December 13, 1908, Frances, aged 9 months, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Bowersox. Funeral services will be held at the residence this afternoon at 1 o'clock. Interment in City View cemetery. Rev. Babcock will conduct the services.



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SOME INFORMATION FOR JUDGE GALLOWAY (Oregon.)

Portland, Dec. 7.—(To the Editor).—For the benefit of Judge Galloway and others who are trying to solve the problem of raising goats and a young orchard at the same time, I advise them to smear the young trees with axle grease. Take a swab or a piece of sheepskin and rub it over the bark. If the grease is too thick dilute it with kerosene, then turn your goats and sheep loose and they will not hurt the trees.

I would also recommend for spraying trees a solution of saltpeter, say two ounces to a gallon of water, in preference to the poisonous compounds now universally used; spray the trunk as well; also the ground around the trees. Saltpeter is deadly to all insect life as well as animal. The wheat farmers east of

the mountains who are troubled with ground squirrels, rabbits, etc., should try mixing salt with saltpeter and scatter it in the vicinity of the holes. But keep your sheep and goats off the land for a time. Saltpeter being a nitrate it is a valuable fertilizer and will be a benefit to the trees. It is also good for sprinkling all vegetables and plants. As for dogs or cats infested with fleas just give them a bath or two and you will not be bothered afterward. Saturate your pig pens with a solution and pour some over the animals also. It costs very little. Be careful of fire or sparks around any bulling or barn where saltpeter may be used.

F. J. PARKER.

Get Him a Meerschmum—
Pipe for Christmas. A large collection at Hy Wiprat & Co. Phone 100.

CALIFORNIA SHIPS MUCH CITRUS

Riverside, Cal., Dec. 13.—Five thousands cars of citrus fruit are estimated to be shipped by fruit growers in Southern California this season, according to figures made today for the Press by the Riverside Chamber of Commerce. The estimates are based upon compiled records at the points.

Orange shipments at the points are estimated as follows: Los Angeles, 1325 cars; Riverside, 1475 cars; Bernardino, 850 cars; San Bernardino, 850 cars; Ventura, 300 cars; Barbara, 320 cars; Orange,

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