

UNCLE SAM A MONEY MAKER.

Interesting Machines Used in the Government Mints.

A million pennies a day—that is the capacity of a strange machine which Uncle Sam uses in the Philadelphia mint to count the coin of smallest value made by this government.

The counting board is about as large as a big kneading board, and is used by housewives. The surface is wide enough to hold a row of four pennies. When the pennies are to be counted several thousand are heaped onto the board, which is placed above a hopper.

The upsetting machine is another interesting mechanical contrivance. It is used for turning the edges of coins. The coin disks, of the proper size and thickness, but with their edges all rough, are placed upright beside a round topped, revolving table.

Stamping the coin is the last process, and this is done by means of a great machine which weighs fifteen tons and costs \$15,000. There are twenty-four such machines in the Philadelphia mint. The disks which are to be coins are placed in a tube as in the case of the upsetting machine.

The machine at the Portland station, which is used in stamping \$20 gold pieces, has a capacity of ninety salutes. A pressure of 160 tons is necessary to stamp a silver dollar, and 120 tons pressure will stamp a double eagle. Smaller coins require less pressure.

THREE KINDS OF HEADACHES.

Important in All Forms to Have the Eyes Examined.

A physician writes: There are three main causes of headache, and the first of these has to do with the nervous system. A headache is, everybody will acknowledge, a very natural result of nerve strain.

The second great cause of headache is eye strain. Many a man who is suffering from eye strain assures his doctor that his eyes are certainly no fault, as he has "splendid sight."

A very large number of headaches come under the third category—namely, headaches due to poisons in the blood. The "throbbing headache" is often caused by what medical men call "over-pressure" or too high blood pressure, due to impurities of toxins circulating in the blood.

INVISIBLE IN SLEEP.

Fish Have Ability to Change from Bright to Pale Hues.

"That file fish is asleep," said the attendant. "How do you know," the visitor to the aquarium asked. "But I can't see him by the way."

"That's how I know. He, like many other fish, changes color on going off. Awake he is mottled with brown and dark olive green, a handsome, somberly splendid object. Asleep he is a pallid gray, with darker wings and tail, a ghost of a file fish, practically invisible.

"A wonderful natural dispensation isn't it. Suppose you were a criminal, being pursued hotly, and whenever you grew tired you could throw yourself under a tree and doze off, conscious that in your sleep no one could see you?"—New York Sun.

No Soft Bed for Him.

There is an immensely rich man in New York who never slept on a bed of elderdown, goose feathers, felt, hair or excelsior. When a boy, he slept on a pallet of straw. When a young man his bed was an old-fashioned shuck mattress in the making of which he assisted to the extent of sorting the shucks.

How the Scarecrow Earns Wages.

As he stands in the middle of the flat Suffolk field there is little to show that he is not the ordinary inanimate scarecrow. He stands motionless for five minutes at a time, and only when a bird is tempted by the fresh corn just appearing above the ground does he show any sign of life.

Forest Fires.

There is one feature which does not always enter into expert estimates of the world's timber supplies, and that is the terrible prevalence of destructive forest fires which annually devastate enormous tracts both in the United States and Canada.

New Ice Machine.

An ice-making machine has been invented at Grasse, France. The important feature is a cylinder in which the chemicals are sealed (the latter not requiring renewal and lasting as long as the machine itself), and which revolving in water, produces the ice. It can also produce cold air.

An Ink-Tight Joint.

If the threads in the rubber connection of a fountain pen are worn a little the joint will leak enough to soil the fingers. Dry the threads with a blotter and cover them with melted paraffin. Turn the nozzle into the barrel while the paraffin is still warm and you have an ink-tight joint.

Pleasant Reflection.

The Rev. William R. Huntington of New York, said recently that it was more dangerous to be a railway brakeman than to be a murderer, and proved his assertion with statistics showing that one murderer in seventy-three was hanged, whereas one brakeman in thirty was killed.

The Play and the Cigar.

Henry J. Byron, one of the wittiest of English playwrights of a score of years ago, remarked on one occasion: "A play is like a cigar. If it's good, everybody wants a box. If it's bad, all the puffing in the world won't make it go."

An Epitaph.

Beneath this stone lies Mary Green, in prime of life she quit this scene; She died the victim of a cough, Too soon, too soon, she took 'em off.

Another Problem.

Why does the general housework refuse to wash windows on a sunny day? Why does she insist on putting off that job until cloudy weather?

At one thousand fathoms below the level of the ocean there is a uniform temperature just above freezing point.

There are silver ingots in the bank of England which have lain there for more than 300 years.

SOLDIERS WORST GUM CHEWERS.

Far Surpass American Maidens in This Respect.

Contrary to the usual belief, it is not the American maiden but soldiers and autoists who are the chewing gum manufacturers' best customers. Chicago probably is the best chewing gum city on the American continent, while New York is second and St. Louis third.

But chewing gum sometimes is used for queer purposes. One man from Milwaukee has been a gum chewer for the last five years and says that since its use no longer has any desire for tobacco, it having supplanted the weed as a habit.

Pew people know the great amount of chewing gum used annually in the United States. One large company sells on an average from 135,000,000 to 150,000,000 packages of chewing gum per year.

About 2,600,000 pounds of chicle is imported by this company yearly, the chewing gum industry first becoming prominent about twenty years ago when chicle became the basis of chewing gum manufacture.

In the autumn of 1887 a New York city man went down to Mexico on the lookout for opportunities in business. Here he met some friends who also were looking for a get-rich-quick scheme. While down there they heard of the chicle gum and believing that chicle at a few cents a pound could be used profitably for the adulteration of rubber, they sent the New York man back to that city with a large amount of the stuff.

Then he tried its use for that purpose, but it wouldn't work that way—and after much patience was exhausted he decided to throw the rest of the stuff away.

But just as he had come to this idea he began to think that perhaps it might be useful in other ways, which would make it profitable, and further experiments caused him to evolve the old time New York snapping gum.

Most of the chicle is found in the interior of Yucatan, and the largest chewing gum company in America has 2,500,000 acres of land in Yucatan which it is working as a source of chicle supply. This company has factories in several cities of the United States and pays out about \$400 a week to its employes.

WELL OF SODA WATER.

Overflow Used to Float Logs to Lumber Mills.

One of the most interesting and novel gushing wells in the world, and perhaps without a rival in either respect, is a geyser of soda water that recently came up at Wendling, just across the Mendocino county border from Sonoma, Cal.

This well produces soda water—genuine soda water—and of a quality that would warrant bottling for the general trade in such quantities as were never struck before. There is so much of this water that it is turned into a large long flume and used to float great logs from the forest to the lumber mills.

An artesian well borer was recently employed to secure an adequate water supply for a large sawmill in that region. He drilled to a depth of 200 feet, the lower 110 feet being through solid granite. Then a slight trace of water was found. The artesian man then placed fifty four sticks of dynamite at the bottom of the well and exploded them.

Instantly water gushed up, rising twenty feet above the surface of the ground, pouring forth in enormous volume. That was days ago, and since then there has been no indication of a cessation of this vast "natural soda fountain."

Bridegroom Must Pay Penalty.

A singular marriage custom prevails among the French Canadians in Quebec. After the morning marriage services in the church the bridal party make a tour of calls upon relatives and friends during the day and then return again to church for vespers, says Pearson's Weekly.

Before the evening dance at the bride's new home comes the supper. When the company rise from the table the bride keeps her seat and some one asks with great dignity: "Why does madam wait? Is she so soon in bad grace?"

She replies: "Somebody has stolen my slipper. I cannot walk." Then they carry her, chair and all, into the middle of the room, while a loud knocking announces a grotesque, ragged vendor of boots and shoes. He kneels before the slipperless bride and tries on a long succession of old boots and shoes of every variety and size until at last he finds her missing shoe.

The bridegroom redeems it for a good price which is spent in treating the company. If the bridegroom is not careful they steal her hat and cloak, which he redeems in the same way, and they have been known to steal the bride.

PRISON OR PARADISE.

Jail So Attractive Prisoners Hate Thought of Leaving.

Truman Catlin, jailer of the county jail at Litchfield, Conn., believes he has solved the vexatious problem of prison reform. He makes the jail so attractive that the prisoners hate the thought of leaving. As a result, he is able not only to dispense with a lot of expensive keepers, but to operate the jail as an employment agency and send his charges without guards to labor on the highways and in garden patches.

The food is good, the beds are comfortable, and every cell is decorated with pictures which Jailer Catlin cuts out of the magazines. The cell doors are never locked. There is a code of honor among the Litchfield prisoners and they are not going to embarrass Jailer Catlin. All the 50 prisoners are trusties, doing odd jobs about town during the day. Nobody watches them.—Philadelphia Record.

Learning Honesty.

In a little town a few years ago there was a shiftless negro boy named Ransom Blake, who, after being caught in a number of petty delinquencies, was at last sentenced to a short term in the penitentiary, where he was sent to learn a trade. On the day of his return home he met a friendly white acquaintance, who asked:

"Well, what did they put you at in the prison, Rans?" "They started in to make an honest boy out'n me, sah." "That's good, Rans, and I hope they succeeded." "Dey did, sah." "And how did they teach you to be honest?"

"Dey done put me in the shoe shop, sah, nallin' pasteboard outer shoes fo' soles, sah."—Youth's Companion.

First Dining Car.

"Just forty years ago," said T. C. Newton, a Chicago railroad man, "the Chicago & Alton Railroad put on the first dining car ever operated on any railway train in the world. This was on the run between Chicago and St. Louis. If that car could be exhibited now it would create universal merriment. It had oilcloth table covers, the seats were sewed to the floor, and its illumination depended on candles. Think of the contrast between that primitive affair of 1888 and the modern dining car finished in solid mahogany, with gorgeous furniture, and a menu as elaborate and cooking as dainty as that supplied by any of the foremost hotels of America. Verily, we have been 'going some' in the four decades that have gone by since the Alton's first crude experiment."—Baltimore American.

Norwegian Wives Half Fare.

Under a new Norwegian railway regulation, when husband and wife are traveling together the wife need only pay half price. The idea may simply be to encourage family life, on the theory that a Norwegian wife normally leaves her husband at home will be tempted to take her along at reduced rates. It will, of course, be necessary when taking a husband-and-wife ticket to display one's marriage certificate and make an affidavit that the lady is one's wife, in order to prevent collusion at the booking office between perfect strangers.—Kansas City Journal.

A Knotty Question.

In a close-woven rug, like a Kir-dan, measuring a mere five feet by eight feet, there are four hundred knots to the square inch. As the weaver's speed is about three knots a minute four years of continuous labor would be required on such a rug.

Skull of the Dinosaur.

A restoration of the skull of a great horned dinosaur has just been set up for exhibition in Peabody Museum, Yale University. It is nearly nine feet long and about six feet broad, and is said to be the largest skull of any prehistoric land animal.

Ancient Pearls.

As long ago as the thirteenth century a Chinese named Yu-jing-yang discovered a method of inducing the formation of pearls in the Chinese River mussels. The mussels were gently opened and small pellets, usually of clay, inserted.

The English Treadmill.

The custom of using convicts in treadmills is still practiced in some English prisons. The speed is about thirty steps a minute, and if a man misses a step a cross bar strikes the calves of his legs.

Photography at Sea.

The latest innovation aboard the new North German Lloyd liner Kronprinzessin Ceclie, is a fully equipped photograph studio, which has become popular with travelers and is a profitable business.

Covering the Mirror.

Covering the mirror when there is death in the family originated in the superstition that goblins, sprites, elves or other uncanny creatures would crowd to the glass to look on.

More than 18,000 persons in Switzerland are employed in the ribbon industry.

DEAF TAKE POOR PICTURES.

Their Infrimty Gives Them a Hard, Fixed Expression.

"That isn't a good picture," said the photographer, with an air of apology. "The man was deaf."

"How can that infrimty affect the picture?" asked a visitor. "It gives his face a tense, strained look," said the photographer. "All deaf persons have that expression when placed before a camera. They sit with their heads tilted forward and eyebrows uplifted, as if waiting for the command to look pleasant. Generally, I suppose, that is what they are waiting for. But even after I have given the order to brace their muscles refuse to relax."

"What's that?" said the deaf man when he sees my lips move. "Look pleasant!" I shout again. "Oh," says he.

"He takes his hand from behind his ear and tries to assume a beaming countenance, but he only compromises on a fixed glare. None of the devices known to the photographic trade can dispel that. In fact, the more 'business' I introduce to charm my subject into a joyous state the more rigid his facial muscles become. He is listening always for further instructions. Whether they come or not, the look of expectancy is there. For that reason the deaf are the hardest people in the world to photograph. If an artist's reputation depended upon the pictures he makes of them he would soon be obliged to go out of business."

ENGLISH WOMEN IN POLITICS.

British Ladies' Active Interest Recognized as a Factor.

As far back as the early eighties political leaders began to realize that women could be made invaluable allies in their struggle for supremacy, and it was indeed the men themselves who gave the first impulse to bring about the political organization of women.

At that time the Primrose league, with its dame presidents, was formed, but ever since that first step was taken woman has gradually forged ahead to her present prominent position.

The Liberal women were first to form an organization called "The Woman's Liberal Federation," with nearly 70,000 members, which has grown in strength for many years without a break. The success of the political woman was a foregone conclusion from the very start, but one of the most unexpected developments of today is the active part now being taken in politics by girls, many of whom are still in their teens.

It goes without saying that the Countess of Warwick's campaign has done more than anything else to arouse in the English woman of today a strong sense of her political rights and duties.

Origin of the Waits.

Of all the millions who waits, who can tell how this famous dance originated? The story is a curious one. It is wrongly supposed that France received the waits from Germany toward the close of the eighteenth century. The waits did not emanate from the brain of a dancing master. Long before 1780, the time it is first mentioned under this name, it was displayed on the village green. The waits was first danced in the church, and serves to trace the union between ancient civilization and that of the Middle Ages.

The sacred dance of the pagans is preserved to a certain extent in Christian rites. It is transformed to a series of revolutions made to the sound of the tambourine. St. Isidore, Archbishop of Seville, born about A. D. 580, was intrusted by the Council of Toledo with the revision of the liturgy as it was then practiced in the Roman Church, in which there was a tambourine dance. The Council decided to adopt the Isadorian liturgy in all Spain, and it differed little from that used in other countries at that time.

This rite, celebrated before the eighth century, when the Moors first invaded Spain, was still celebrated by the Christians in the seven churches of Toledo, which the Moors abandoned after their capture of the city, and it was after that time called the Moorish rite. This was known and employed in Provence and Italy. The tambourine in use in this religious dance was called by St. Isidore "molte de symphonie," and evidently corresponded to the instrument which in the ancient sacred dances accompanied the flute, a sort of bagpipe invented two centuries before Christ. As the religious dance of the Middle Ages is allied to the ancient sacred dance, so the waits is an evolution of this religious dance, having passed through many changes before arriving in its present form. In the eleventh century, when the Gregorian rite supplanted the Moorish rite, the dance disappeared from the Church. It appeared very quickly in society under the name of "carole," a word derived from the Latin "caroler."

World's Highest Garden.

At a height of 6,000 feet, near the summit of the Petit St. Bernard, is situated Queen Margherita's Alpine garden, which is the highest garden in the world. It was started on a small scale nine years ago by Abbe Ohonoux, who lives in a house nearby, and soon after the Queen, who is an ardent Alpinist, visited it. Her majesty took a great interest in the scheme, and obtained Alpine plants and lichens from all parts of the world, many of which she planted herself.—Exchange.

CHILI.

The funeral of Mrs. Catherine Porter, who died last week took place Monday. Mrs. Porter was upwards of eighty years of age and resided in this town the greater part of her life being the widow of the late Thomas Porter. Three daughters and one son survive: Margaret, Mary, Sarah and William. She was one of the oldest members of St. Fechan's Catholic church, and highly respected by all. The interment was in the little Catholic cemetery in Chili, preceded by high mass of requiem, Father Bressnihan, the pastor, being celebrant.

Cook Opera House.

The memorable European and American comic opera success, "Erminie" with Pauline Hall in the queenly title role, in which she became famous with the original cast, will be the offering of the Aborn Opera Company at the Cook Opera House for the week beginning with the Monday matinee June 15th. Miss Hall had been secured for the single week in her familiar role in this opera pursuant to the policy established by Messrs. Aborn, of bringing in various stars from week to week, to appear at the head of the established list of favorites, in the roles in which they were formerly prominent. Other stars of like importance will be announced later for ensuing weeks. The coming presentation of "Erminie" will be a notable event from the fact that Pauline Hall will return to the title role for the first time in years, following her many successful starting tours in other operatic hits, and several seasons as a headline attraction in vaudeville.

Baker Theatre.

Every day sees an increase in the business at the Baker Theater where the summer season of the new stock company is now well under way. Each week sees new patrons and all are astonished at the real merit of the company and productions. This is genuinely attested by the heartiness of the receptions accorded each of the players as they make their first entrance in each play. The company is a genuine hit and the productions are really meritorious. For next week the bill will be one of the best yet offered and will show the company to particular advantage. "When Women Love" is the title and it tells the life story of a beautiful factory girl and the troubles she is forced to undergo simply because an unprincipled scoundrel seeks to win her love. In this case she is surrounded by staunch and true friends however, and their protection finally keeps her from her persecutor and brings him to justice.

Old Lane Rate Wars.

There used to be rate wars in the old stagecoach days. At one time, early last century, one stagecoach company not only cut the price from Lewes to London to a very low rate but gave also other inducements. As the coach started from Lewes at a somewhat uncomfortably early hour in the morning, by way of doing over the difficulty the proprietors allowed the more slothful of their passengers to go overnight to Brighton, where they were accommodated with good beds free of expense and could proceed comfortably to London by the company's morning coach.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Some women are not half as bad as they are painted.

But for the frames some pictures wouldn't be in it.

You can't always tell a milk train by its cowcatcher.

A good memory often comes in handy to forget with.

Walking delegates usually ride at the expense of others.

The man who is really good often has a sad look that is discouraging.

Necessity knows no law, and it is generally too poor to interest lawyers.

People who like to tell their troubles dislike to listen to the troubles of others.

The average man derives a lot of pleasure from spilling some other fellow's fun.

What has become of the leap-year "Society for the Prevention of Old Bachelors"?

A married woman is always suspicious when her husband gives her an expensive present.

The wise female doesn't attempt to monopolize the conversation until after she is married.