

**New Appointment System in Ireland Praised by Pious**

Dublin, Dec. 10.—The Very Rev. Canon Barrett, Blarney, Cork, declares that the setting up of the Appointments Commission by the Free State Government is a long step towards the promotion of real freedom in Ireland.

The Appointments Commission is a body centered in Dublin, which selects candidates for government appointments of all sorts in all parts of the city and country. The business of the Commission is principally directed to the filling of professional posts in the Government service, such as those of medical doctors and district attorneys. Previous to the establishment of the Commission about eighteen months ago, all local municipal and county bodies had the privilege of appointing their own officers. It was charged against these bodies that their appointments were made on personal grounds rather than on the merits of the candidates.

Almost without exception, the local municipal and county governing bodies, have registered vehement protests against the constitution and working of the commission, which has obviously deprived them of the great bulk of their powers of patronage.

The Cork Farmer's Union of which Canon Barrett is a member, has forwarded an expression of its views to the Free State Government.

In supporting the resolution Canon Barrett said: "Everybody can recall instances of the way in which personal and family influence was used in the filling of appointments by the Rural Councils. Voting took place on party, family, or political grounds only, without regard for getting the right man for the job. Under that system, which the public bodies were making so much noise to perpetuate, I doubt if one per cent of the appointments would be made on merit."

Canon Barrett has briefly summarized the defects of the old system of making public appointments. The strongest argument put forth against the Appointments Commission is that it has shown a tendency to appoint strangers to influential positions in various parts of the country, in cases where local candidates would have been equally efficient and more popular.

**Centenary of First Paris Clinic Marked**

Paris, Dec. 19.—Cardinal Dubois recently presided at the centenary celebration of the establishment of the first Paris clinic, organized and operated by the Congregation of the Augustinians of the Sacred Heart of Mary. The clinic, which is still in existence at 28 Rue de Valenciennes, has been assisted by many famous physicians and surgeons.

At the time of its establishment there were no clinics in Paris even for persons of the upper classes, and it was first organized for them, but a free dispensary for poor people has since been added.

**Jews Help Christian Fellow P. O. Workers Rest On Christmas**

New York, Dec. 19.—Through the courtesy and good will of their Jewish fellow workers, Christian post office employees here, will be enabled to enjoy their Christmas at home, according to an announcement made by the Rev. John J. Kiernan, chaplain of the New York Letters Carriers' Association and of the New York Post office.

This splendid spirit of cooperation Father Kiernan said, was the result of an agreement made between the organization he represented and the Jewish Postal Workers Welcome League, whereby members of the latter organization would work on Christmas Day, in return for the Christian employees having extended a similar courtesy on the Jewish holidays.

**Catholic College Federation Board Meets in N. Y. Jan. 7**

New York, Dec. 20.—At the convention of the New York College Newman Clubs here next month there will be a meeting of the Board of Governors of the Federation of Catholic Colleges, at Millbank chapel, Columbia University, on Saturday, January 7.

The governors elected at the last convention of the Federation held in Pittsburg are the Rev. J. Elkoff Rosé, G.S.P., Ph.D., chaplain of the New York Province, the Rev. John J. Cleary, chaplain of the Junior Newman Clubs in the public high schools of New York City; Dr. James J. Walsh, M.D.; Professor David A. McCabe of Princeton University; James P. Costello, attorney at law, and Frank Murphy, Fellow at the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, Pittsburg University.

Thomas R. Swain, president of the Federation, will preside over this meeting.

On Saturday evening there will be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Federation.

These meetings will be among the important functions of the convention.

**WHY The Dodo Registered Failure in Life's Battle**

What is it to be "as dead as the dodo"? It is to be dead as especially, as the scientist would say, as well as individually.

The opening scene in the tragedy of the dodo begins about the year 1510 and is laid in the Indian ocean near the shores of Africa. Here there lies a small group of islands of which Mauritius and Bourbon are the most important. It was in the former of these that there landed, in that year, a party of Portuguese navigators, under one Capt. Cornelius Van Neck.

In a published account of his voyages Van Neck gives some account of the dodo. It seems that the sailors had killed a number of these great birds with clubs and had tasted their flesh. With the exception of the breast meat they found it tough and very ill flavored, and hence dubbed the birds walkvogel, or, plainly translated, "disgusting birds."

In habits the dodo was supremely torpid, hence its lurching gait, a corruption of the Dutch doedout, a slang word. So languid, both of perception and gait, were these birds that they could be easily overtaken by sailors and killed with clubs. In this manner many thousands were killed during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and culled down by sailors for food on long voyages.

The causes of its extinction are not hard to determine. In the first place the dodo was not a rapid or prolific breeder. What the sailors began in the way of extermination, some pig-herd liberated on the islands, completed. These rooting about, discovered that the dodo egg was excellent food. Gradually the dodo was forced to give up in despair. So it bowed itself off the stage of life and took up its role as a mere record in travelers' notebooks or as a stuffed and mounted specimen in a museum case.—Dr. Leon Augustus Hausman, in the Scientific American.

**Why Bees Build Combs in Hours of Darkness**

Bees go out all day gathering honey, and work at night in the hive, building their combs as perfectly as if an electric light shone there all the time.

Why do they prefer to work in the dark?

Everyone knows that honey is a liquid with no solid sugar in it. After standing, it gradually assumes a crystalline appearance, or granulates, and ultimately becomes a solid mass.

Honey has been experimentally enclosed in well-corked boxes, some of which were kept in darkness, while the others were exposed to the light. The portion exposed to the light soon crystallized, while that kept in the dark remained unchanged.

Hence, we see why the bees are so careful to operate in the gloom, and why their combs are often placed in the hives. The existence of the young depends on the liquidity of the saccharine food presented to them.

If light were allowed access, it would, in all probability, prove fatal to the inmates of the hive.

**Why Blotter is Valued**

Doubtless the most valuable piece of blotting paper in the world is the blotting pad which lay on the writing table in the salon car of Marshal Ferdinand Foch, on November 11, 1918, near Rathones, in the forest of Compeigne, and upon which was signed the armistice which ended the World war. Upon it, entirely legible, though, of course, needed to be held before a mirror for normal reading, are the transferred signatures of Marshal Foch, Admiral Wemyss and Matthias Erzberger.

Only a "scrap of paper" and blotting paper at that, but it is likely to hold a high place among historical treasures.

**Why Forest is Valuable**

The fast diminishing sawal forests in the Caspian steppes, reputed to be the only ones left in the world, are to be converted by Soviet authorities into national parks in order to save them from complete destruction by the Caspian railway, which is using the trees as fuel. The preservation of these so-called "forests of the desert," the authorities believe to be of great scientific importance.

**Why Japs Take to Milk**

The Japanese, who thirty years ago never drank milk and gave it to infants only as a last resort, are learning to like it through efforts to popularize it as a beverage and item of food. The increasing population of foreigners largely was responsible for the first increased demand, which was met by importations of condensed and powdered milk.

**Why the Term "Spoonng"**

Five centuries ago it was the custom for a young man to make known his matrimonial intentions by giving the girl of his choice a "love-spoon," a hand-made utensil with two bowls on a single stem. This, it is believed, is the origin of the term "spoonng" among the lovers.—Capper's Weekly.

**Why Kite is So Named**

The falcon known as the kite is remarkable for its power of remaining aloft without apparent motion of its wings. This peculiarity seems to have suggested the name of the boys' favorite toy, the kite.

**HOW ORANGE FLOWERS BECAME ORNAMENT FOR BRIDES**

When Spain was at the height of her power, a Moorish chief, wishing to curry favor with the Spanish monarch, sent him with all pomp and ceremony an orange tree as a symbol of friendship and sincerity.

The French ambassador at the Spanish court, an assiduous horticulturist, hearing of these wonderful trees and how quickly fruit grew on them, desired to possess one. He discovered that, unknown to her father, the daughter of the royal gardener—a pretty, dark girl—was deeply in love with a young man, who, however, was comparatively poor, so that they could not marry.

The French noble, fearing that an attempt to bribe the gardener might be unsuccessful, approached the daughter, telling her that if she could obtain a small plant for him he would give her a large sum of money. The girl assented, and when the plant was handed to the ambassador he paid her so liberally that the lovers were able to marry and purchase a farm for themselves. On the marriage morn the happy bride entwined orange blossoms in her hair in remembrance of her good fortune.

The Frenchman sent the plant to his estate in the south of France. In due course he was able to present a tree to the king of France, and a little later one was introduced into the royal garden of England.

When the story of the Spanish girl came to be known, the flowers began to be used as bridal wreaths and decorations, but for a long time they were so expensive that only the wealthy could indulge in this pretty ornamentation.

**How East Indian Holy Men "Make the Grade"**

Being a holy man in India is indeed a hard life. Almost any one can become a Sannyasi or holy man in that teeming country, if he can stand the trials. Let the hair grow disheveled, smear the almost naked body with grease, paint and ashes; cultivate a far-away look; sit on spikes in a swing suspended from the limb of a tree; bury the head in the ground for long periods; fast until the body becomes a mere shadow; make long pilgrimages to holy places by rolling to them; these and a few other tribulations entitle one to be called a Sannyasi.

Recently it was reported that a Sannyasi had broken all known records by sitting on a bed of nails for the last seven years. While so sitting, his parishioner he traversed many of the sacred rivers of India.

**How to Control Floods**

To our uninitiated mind the only final effective control of floods must come by laying down a height for flood waters above which those waters shall not be permitted to go. Much as a safety valve operates there must be outlets that take off the waters before they get beyond the height laid down as a maximum. As to whether a combination of spillways or other outlets, reservoirs, impounding, reforestation and other measures are needed, we defer entirely to the opinions of the expert engineers.—But we feel assured that the maximum of flood waters must be put under some sort of control if floods are to be prevented. No matter how high this dam be put, there must be some provision that it cannot go higher. The only way to control a flood is to control it.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

**How Rivers Were Reversed**

Engineers developing a hydroelectric power plant near São Paulo, Brazil, caught a couple of rivers which had the habit of flowing westward, re-formed them to flow east and then led the waters by a series of dams and siphons up over a mountain range to the penstocks. Now the plant has an effective head of 706 meters, produces 100,000-horse power and can generate 800,000, and the annual rampage of the rivers, which once resulted in flooding ten square miles of valuable land within the city, has been squelched.

**How It Was Named**

Alæsthesia was once a science without a name. It was related by aesthetists attending an American College of Surgeons convention. For ten years after the discovery of methods for the control of pain in 1840, neither the process nor those who administered it could be described by any term then in the language. A group of physicians finally appealed to Oliver Wendell Holmes and he, with his flair for words, coined the term "anæsthesia" from the Greek.

**How "Rival" Originated**

"Rival" is from the Latin word "rivus," a brook or stream. Rivals were originally persons living on opposite sides of a brook and each claiming exclusive right to the use of the stream.

**How to Clean Fur**

If the pieces have become speckled or soiled, wash them in a piece of absorbent cotton with pure alcohol and rub them gently.

**Coats of Fur in Fashion Picture**

**Peltry Used in Unique Ways to Gain Chic Effects—Winsome Colors**

Coats of fur are no longer a distinction, for almost every woman who has a comfortable allowance for her wardrobe has one. Styles in this whole department of dress come and go with the whims and fancies in fashions and swing back and forth between the wide extremes of their designs, each design and detail.

In the new era of wealth fur pieces are invested in splendid silks, velvets, plaid and other wools, which are worn by women of fashion for every occasion except that of active sports. It is no longer enough that a fur coat be just a coat, declares a fashion writer in the New York Times. It is expected to be as distinctive as a gown, and even more demanded of it because of the cost, and from whatever part of the globe the pelts come. It is in Paris that they are worked up into the smartest, most artistic creations. All the French couturiers include furs and fur-lined wraps in their collections, and "Max"—otherwise Mme. Lefroy—is a recognized authority in their design.

In her atelier on one of the fashionable boulevards she has set a stage as a background, an interior in pearl gray, against which are displayed her new compositions. Some of these, this year were most unusual, reflecting the season's styles in diagonal lines, complex mosaics and striking combinations. The coats made all of fur are particularly interesting because in these the designer avoids the obvious and handles fur with as much apparent nonchalance as if it were an ordinary dress fabric. Pelts of various shades are put together like tiles or little mosaic patterns, making the silhouette of a coat or wrap as important as that of the gown. The number of tiny strips of fur were together to form one of these artistic creations, represents in itself an achievement, and the finished article is worth a king's ransom.

Zebra Stripes in Fashion.

The sensation of the fur season presented by Lefroy is the zebra coat. This is a kid felt coat to represent a zebra, and a few coats are made of the genuine skin. The sharply lined black and white zebra, of course, is very flashy garment, one also not easily classed, since it may be worn for a great variety of occasions, from sports to evening wear. This variety is finding a warm welcome among the younger set. Another strikingly new coat is made of a soft fur dyed in a rich shade of orange-brown with a deep shawl collar of brown fox. The shawl collar, wider and deeper than ever before, is a feature. A very particular contribution to the season's mode. A successful example of this is shown in an evening wrap of rare beauty. It is a wrap-around de-man coat of ermine, quite simple in line, showing the fine quality of the fur. The coat sleeves, which are

in which buttons are apparently being inserted.

Another of the luxury furs is the ermine. This, too, is made in a particularly striking manner in the wrap from Max. The lines are slightly straight from collar to hem, but are fitted in diagonal sections in panels, borders and rippling borders. One of the most conspicuous creations in the fur line by Mme. Lefroy is an entirely new "coat" style from those of the previous mode. It is a delicately feminine model—a long, coat of ermine with a long, low, collar. They are not supposed to form lines that border, such, in curves, dipping at the neck and sweeping upward toward the opening in front. Toward the bottom the caps skirt and is finished by a wide scalloped edge, which is longer at the back. An evening and evening dress severity in an ermine, bow of the "ank" with ermine buttons of the fur.

**Sports Fur Coats**

Fur coats named "sports" are increasingly interesting this season. They lack the classic look of best years and are much finer, both in quality and type, and reminiscent of many different occasions. Many "new" furs are presented—being the hides of the same familiar animals given novel names. Madame Yvonne uses a shagreen goat skin dyed a golden beige. The wide shawl collar and a shagreen collar, tapering to the waist, are of great size that is shagreened. One bears and has a great deal about shagreened lamb, which is extremely popular for sports and daytime coats in youthful models.

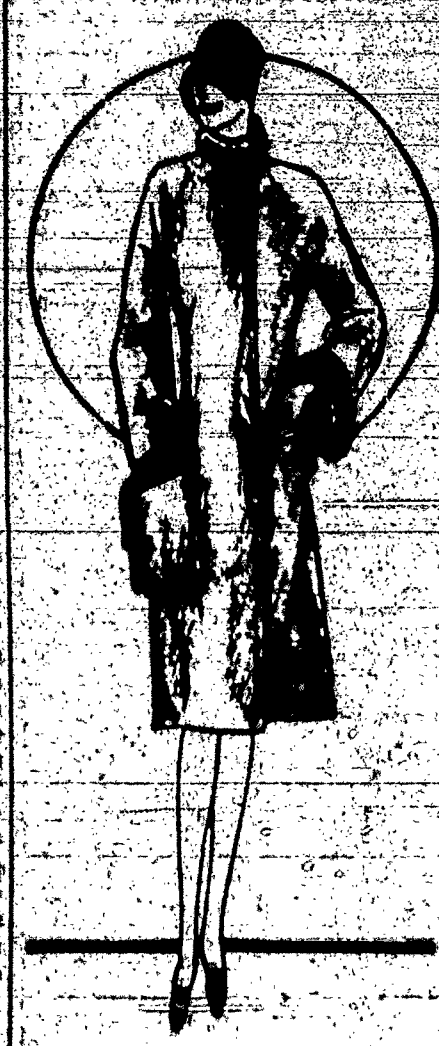
To the possessors of Hudson seal coats comes the assurance that they can seal in to be brought back into vogue as a relief from the heat of these furs when they have been detained. Hunt Torgue of Hudson seals coats and cuts of the fur below striped furs on his Hudson seal coats, just as does Goodwill, who further elaborates a black coat with a lighter design of black tails running from collar to hem on the center back.

**Showing How Bands of Beaver Are Worn on Cashmere**

straight and wide at the hand, are finished with a cuff of the same ermine applied with the lines of the fur running across the sleeve. There is also a very deep shawl collar, again of the same ermine. Another ermine wrap delightful in feeling and color is dyed a shade known as honey-brown. In it the skin are joined in narrow strips. The sleeves are plain, with no cuffs, and the voluminous shawl collar is made of fox lined in the same shade as the coat. A shawl collar of this kind is used on the greater number of wraps and is especially good on the wrap-around coat model. Usually it is made of a fur contrasting with that of the coat, but some of the handsomest wraps shown by the house of Max and others have coat collar and cuffs all of one fur.

New Furs Offered.

Offices of new fur are so varied that any of several may be chosen to answer in needs. The last run by



Black Collar and Outer Pocket Wrap of Sheep Lamb.

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**Prists And Lay in Cleveland Get Honors From Pope**

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Cleveland, O., Dec. 11.—A group of laymen last received from the Holy Father three golden rings, while the Holy Father has conferred high honors upon three priests and three laymen of this city and upon two lay women of Canton, Ohio.

The Rt. Rev. Most Rev. James J. Smith, Vicar General of the Diocese of Cleveland, has been elevated to the rank of Archbishop and will remain in Cleveland, while the Most Rev. James A. Mahoney, Bishop of Cleveland, who is in Europe, has been elevated to the rank of Cardinal. Most Rev. Francis J. Groch has been named Monsignor.

John J. Harter of this city, former pastor of the Holy Trinity, has been made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, while Archbishop Gable and Philip Marwood of this city have been made Knights of St. Gregory the Great.

Most Rev. Damascius and Most Rev. John Kiefer, both of Canton, Ohio, have been awarded the Cross of the Most Holy Trinity.

The priests receiving these honors from the Holy Father are: Rev. John A. Mahoney, pastor of St. Francis, and Rev. James J. Groch, pastor of St. Anthony, who are presented to the Holy Father by their bishops.

**F. T. J. Cantwell Priest Of Oregon Dies In France**

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