

CHAT ABOUT FURNISHING.

Some Notes of Interest to Young Housewives and Others.

To have successful results in house-furnishing one should avoid overloading the rooms with either furniture or pictures.

Don't have an accumulation of small ornaments. A few really good pieces sparsely disposed are far more dignified and effective, beside do not harbor dust and dirt.

A blue and white paper is a bad choice for a northern room, as is also a green one for a dark room. Yellow is preferable as giving the effect of sunshine. Blue and white are very cold in effect, and nothing absorbs light like green wall covering.

The size of a small room is only made more apparent by a figured carpet. A high carpet is best here, and if possible, carpet two rooms opening into each other, so as to give the idea of greater space.

The same rule applies to the furnishing of a room. Large heavy pieces are out of place in a small room or a small room, only making the restricted space appear even smaller.

Chairs should be chosen for comfort as well as for appearance. The fragile looking chair is not to be recommended, for one that looks as if they would break down should not be placed in the parlor.

Two non-removable is not considered desirable in house-furnishing, as it is not to furnish in the same lack of variety. One pattern is best. "Anybody can make a room look like a museum and a house like a museum gallery," Philadelphia Record.

For the Cleaning Materials.

A box of small emerald containing a supply of cleaning fluids and materials will be found a source of comfort in the household. Ammonia, gasoline and a small bottle of chloroform, then when there is nothing better for cleaning silk and delicate materials, will do for liquids. French chalk and pipe-stem should be included, and this will suffice for all practical purposes, although many people have their own favorite preparations which they will always have on hand.

Pretty Curtains.

The best quality of cheesecloth, costing twelve cents a yard, makes pretty and appropriate curtains for bedrooms. It comes in soft tones of green, rose and yellow, as well as white, and washes well. The chief beauty of cheesecloth lies in the graceful and shible quality of its folds. Every breath of air sets it and gives it a change of line. The fabric which may be used for curtains is called elder cloth. It has a loose mesh which admits a great deal of light. Unfortunately, it is not durable, but it is so inexpensive that it can be frequently renewed.

Bleaching Old Frames.

An excellent method suggests that old frames may be brightened with a solution of one part of saltpeter added to one and a half parts of water, and in this should be boiled four or five minutes. Strain off the liquid, and when it is cold wash with a soft brush any gridding which requires rinsing and when dry it will be found to be bright.

A Cleaning Hint.

It is a well-known fact that wooden dresses can be cleaned with cornmeal. A regular wash should be made. Put the dress in enough water to cover it and wash with the meal. Rinse it in clear water and hang it up to dry without wringing. To keep it from being wrinkled iron it on the wrong side before it is quite dry.

How to Cleanse Sponges.

When a sponge gets slimy and disagreeable to the touch it can be restored to its original condition by the application of a raw potato. Cut a potato in halves and rub the sponge with the portions, then wash it thoroughly with water and the slimy feeling will have quite disappeared.

RECIPES.

Boiled Fruit Pudding—Mix together three cups of sifted flour, one cup of finely chopped fruit, one cup of stoned raisins, half a cup of chopped citron, half a cup of molasses, half a cup of brown sugar, half a nutmeg grated, one and one-half teaspoonsful of cinnamon and two level teaspoonsful of baking powder; mix thoroughly; turn into a buttered mold and steam or boil two hours; serve with a cream sauce.

Rice with Cheese—Steam or boil one cupful of rice until tender; cover the bottom of a baking dish, buttered, with the cooked rice; break into small pieces one teaspoon of butter and drop over the rice; sprinkle with grated cheese, add a dash or two of cayenne pepper; add alternate layers until a quarter of a pound of cheese is used; pour over one and one-half cupfuls of milk and spread over the top buttered bread crumbs; put in a quick oven and bake until the crumbs are browned.

Chocolate Cream—Mix five level tablespoonsful of corn starch, half a cup of sugar and a pinch of salt; rub it to smooth in one-third cup of milk; add it to two cups of scalded milk; add and cook over hot water ten minutes; stir in a square and a half of chocolate; add three tablespoonsful of hot water to it, and add it to the corn starch mixture, and stir until smooth; add the whites of two eggs beaten stiff and one teaspoon of vanilla; mold, chill and serve with cream.

WONDERS OF VEGETABLE INSTINCT

A Garden May Furnish to the Careful Observer Something Better Than Profit.

Vegetable life is a more wonderful matter than the public conceives of. It is the general belief that the growth of the squash and its seed ceases when it is severed from the vine, all changes being merely chemical in its progress from maturity to decay. This view by no means comprehends all the changes which occur in the squash after it has all been stored. If a squash is cut in half and the middle part will be found to be filled with a spongy structure, to which the seeds are attached; if, now, these seeds are separated from this pulp and dried, they will be found to be thin, though plumper on one side than the other, and will, to a greater or less degree, curl up in drying. If, as the season advances, others of the same degree of ripeness when gathered be cut open and examined, the inner pulp will be found to be less and less solid, while the seeds continue to grow more and more plump, until toward spring the pulp will have nearly disappeared, while the seeds attached are held by a mere thread. The fact is, the seeds have continued to grow inside the squash for months after it has been severed from the parent vine. The observing farmer will himself find this after growth to be in the market maturity squashes that were but half grown when gathered, by giving them the warmest location in the squash house. Though the seeds of such may be little more than empty shells when gathered, under such treatment they will fill out, mature, and when planted, will produce a crop of squashes.

The squash vine itself presents wonderful examples of vegetable intelligence, which lifts vegetable life well up toward the plane of animal life. Some years ago I noticed this rather astounding fact, that a vine that had made the usual horizontal style of growth, when it reached a pear tree, whose limbs stretched out about three feet from the surface of the ground, rose upward with its runner, evidently with the intent of reaching the limb with its tendrils, but, unable to do this, it came down again to earth. Not satisfied with this first effort, it made a second and a third, but with no better success, and, having now ascended the branches of the tree, made no further effort of the kind, but continued the same style of horizontal growth it was making before it began to pass under the branches, leaving three arches behind in evidence of its abortive efforts.

One more fact bearing on this question, and perhaps the most striking of them all, came under my observation many years ago. I was experimenting with a mammoth variety of the squash family, with the object of ascertaining how large a specimen it could be made to produce under very heavy manuring. The vines made a rampant growth, and the vigorous runners, with their curved extremities lifted in air, suggested huge serpents rushing over the ground. Each side of each runner were tendrils, stretching out with the object, evidently, of getting hold of air posts. This suggested to me the possibility that they might be capable of displaying some intelligence. I therefore stuck a small stick on one side of the runner, just beyond the reach of the tendrils. The next morning I found the runner had turned toward the size where the stick was, apparently to enable the tendrils to reach the stick, and this it had almost accomplished. To determine whether or not this movement toward the right might not have been merely accidental, the next night I stuck a small stick under like conditions, on the opposite side. The result was the same, for now the runner intelligently turned in that direction. Evidently it was at work there. I continued the experiments with the same uniform result, showing my vine about as readily as a man or a horse. Animal and vegetable instinct dwell in the very far apart. J. J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass.

Detective Work. Novelists and the stage have done much to represent detective work as being alike lucrative, attractive and deeply interesting; but those who know the wretched and monotonous drudgery of the ordinary detective's calling—this is said quite apart from the great dangers to life and limb that accrue—have a different tale to tell.

Fancy the awful monotony of watching your eyes off the door, for twelve hours a day for weeks together, and this sometimes when obliged to be at full length in a wretched garret or hay-loft.

Yet this is a frequent episode in the career of a detective officer, and woe be to him if the man he wants escapes his vigilance and is known by the inspector to have left the house undetected!

There is no stated hour when a detective's work ceases—that is, when he is on an important case. Sometimes for nights together he is out in the wet and cold, standing in a draughty passage, maybe, waiting for the man home of a man who is wanted.

The writer remembers one case where a young detective remained for nearly twenty-four hours in the hot-temper of a market cart in a stable yard, and this almost without food or drink—and he got his man at last.—Detroit Free Press.

The Plural of "O." Who will tell me what is the plural of "O"? Is it "os" or "oes"? Tomatoes is the plural of tomato; sillettoes is said to be the plural of silletto. Here are some examples of inconsistency: Potato, potatoes; negro, negroes; buffalo, buffaloes; hero, heroes; dado, dados; volcano, volcanoes; no, noes; pro, pros; tyro, tyros; woe, woos; octavo, octavoes; palmetto, palmettoes; groto, grotoes; dnetlo, dnetloes; cargo, cargoes; libretto, librettoes, etc. You may have observed that our high and mighty dictionaries studiously avoid giving the plurals to these words, and to others ending in o. The right of an educated author to spell as he pleases should never be questioned. A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of petty minds.—New York Press.

When a man is afraid to trust himself you can't blame him for being suspicious of others.—Philadelphia Record.

GOOD ROADS.

National Aid.

OLIVER BROWNLOW, of Tennessee, is just now one of the busiest men in Congress. In addition to looking after his district he has to attend to an immense correspondence resulting from the widespread interest in his road bill. In response to a request for an interview he said:

"Well, I am pretty busy, but I never get too busy to say something on the road question. Still, it doesn't appear to me that I am saying much more than what you are all saying to me. Before introducing the measure I never dreamed that it would meet with such universal favor. It is supported not merely by the rural and agricultural press, but by the great daily papers, whose circulation and support is found almost entirely in the cities. Look at this, for instance, from an editorial in the Atlanta Constitution, the leading Democratic daily of the South and one whose conservatism is well known:

"While national improvement of public highways may seem something of a denature, it is, nevertheless, but a return to one of the early policies of the Federal Government. Before the railroad was thought of the infant republic laid out and improved roads between two important commercial centers, Congress voting appropriations and regulating the plan of work. After the railroad came there was no farther aid of the kind for wagon roads, but Uncle Sam did not hesitate to build a transcontinental railroad. It will not be forgotten, in this connection, that the Government expended a million or more in building the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

"It is a lamentable fact that road building as conducted by the average local supervisor is about as effective and lasting as water poured in a sieve. The first prolonged rain puts the way-farer back into the same old slough of despond, but deep, and in the spring the taxpayer proceeds as before. Main roads and other permanent roads are enormously expensive, though it is true that the average country township, whose road working is respectably prosecuted in the course of years pays more for its road work than it would have if it were paid for a serviceable road. However, the same argument will apply to the hundreds of individual who has to pay for a necessity in the installment plan. The rub is in getting together the funds to have done with the whole business at once.

"The Federal Department of Agriculture has already done good work along the line of road improvement, though mainly in an instructive way. It has constructed sample pieces of good roads for the edification of backward communities, and the 'good roads train' sent into the South last year was a valuable start of the educational propaganda. Representative Brownlow now proposes to extend the idea and charge the department with some real authority in the premises. The Government is not only to instruct, but to foot half of the bills, the State, county or individuals to pay the other half. For purposes of construction the bill carries with it an appropriation of \$20,000,000, of which no State shall receive in and of construction a greater proportion than its population bears to the total population of the United States. The public interests seem to be properly safeguarded and every provision of the measure carefully thought out.

"The Brownlow bill has much to commend it, and it stands for a sound, worthy principle of Government, designed to benefit not a class, but the whole people. The good roads agitation is beginning to show results."

"The South is especially interested in my bill because of its retarded development along the line of highway improvement. Nevertheless, the idea of national aid seems to be equally popular in other sections. Here is an editorial from a leading Republican organ of the Buckeye State, the Cleveland Leader. In Ohio, it should be remembered, great progress has been made in the building of improved roads. The Leader says:

"It is nothing new to have efforts made in Congress to interest the Federal Government in the improvement and construction of roads in various parts of the country. That is naturally an old story, in a land deficient in the United States is in well made highways. But it is worthy of note that the pressure in the direction of national aid in road building is becoming stronger from year to year.

"This change will grow more important with the filling up of the country, especially with the increase in the number of city people who maintain rural or suburban homes. The necessity of calling upon greater resources than those of the strictly agricultural population for the development of an adequate system of good highways is certain to be more clearly perceived as the statistical side of road building receives more careful attention.

"To make good roads such as can fairly be counted on to resist the changes of frost, intense heat and all the requires greater expenditures than rural taxpayers can properly be asked to make. The effort to send an increasing army of pleasure seekers into the country every year, and such roads as are needed for their automobiles, horse vehicles and bicycles cannot be constructed without some use of the wealth accumulated in great centers of trade industry.

"It is difficult, of course, to arrange a satisfactory division of authority and financial responsibility between the national, the States, and local governmental bodies in the building and maintenance of roads, but it is easier to solve that problem than it is to discover any way of making the United States what the leading countries of Europe are in the matter of public highways without help from the national treasury."

A bee going home honey-laden travels a mile in five minutes. It is 101 years since the first census was taken in England.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.

There once was a creature whose long body lay on a pink ribbon bow.

Was it a snake? Or was it a crochery crew?

There once was a tree who was making a speech.

To a lady who wore a white sash.

Now, was it a tree? Or was it a gold-headed ash?

There once was a bird who wrote with a pen.

And it wrote a whole lot of hay.

Now, was it a hen? Or was it a gingerbread jay?

There once was a fruit who was ignorant, very.

Because it would not go to school.

Now, was it a cherry? Or was it a Gooseberry Fool?

—Carolyn Wells, in Puck.

PITH AND POINT.

Auntie—"Are you getting any marks at school, Freddie?" Freddie—"Yes, auntie, only I can't show 'em to you."—The-Bits.

Mrs. Henpecker—"Married men live longer than single men." Henpecker—"Yes, and it serves them right."—Detroit Free Press.

First Boarder—"This hash must be a review of the week." Second Boarder—"No, it isn't. It's a review of reviews."—Chaparral.

The Doctor—"Are you sure you never buried any one alive?" The Undertaker—"Well, none of your patients, at least."—Chicago News.

The world's work, as it must be done by many men, but done by one man, and it is done by one man. —Puck.

Merchant to new boy—"Has the bookkeeper told you what to do in the afternoon?" Youth—"Yes, sir; I am to wake him up when I see you coming."—Puck-Me-Up.

"Name the world's greatest composer," said the musical instructor. "Chloroform," promptly replied the young man who had studied medicine. —Chicago News.

Uncle John—"Why, my girl, you've grown like a cucumber since I saw you last." "What progress are you making toward matrimony?" "Cucumber," she replied. "I'm on the cucumber patch."—The-Bits.

"I guess we would be amused if we could see ourselves as others see us." "But think how amused others would be if they could see us as we see ourselves."—Philadelphia Press.

Forgiving and forgetting might be practiced on in debt. We're under willing to forgive. As borrowers to target. —The Smart Set.

Mrs. Mann—"Hannah, didn't I hear something about your room this morning?" Hannah—"It was only one of your china vases, marm. I suppose you thought it was something that belonged to me."—Boston Transcript.

"Will your employer be in after dinner?" inquired the visitor of the office boy. "Nope," was the laconic reply. "What makes you think so?" "The net query," "Cox," replied the boy as he prepared to dodge, "that's what he went on after."—Judge.

"In your verminifer appendix," the surgeon told him after the operation was over, "we found, strange to say, a small brass nail." "That proves I was right," readily answered the sick man, "when I said it was something I had eaten in mince pie."—Chicago Tribune.

"What is your name?" inquired the justice. "Pete Smith," responded the vagrant. "What occupation?" continued the court official, nothing much at present; just circulating for thirty days."—The Musical Critic of London Saturday Review.

Yet the King Liked Sousa's Band. In the words of the song, who is Sousa, what is he that all the agents commend him? He is the conductor of what is called a military band; he comes from America, for which great country—so I learned from a press paragraph lately—he has written a national anthem or march; and he has been and may be now playing in London. I attended one of his concerts recently and am now slowly recovering. Not that his band is at all a bad one. On the contrary, it seemed to me quite as good as those that play in public parks. The Americans are, they themselves state, a great people, and apparently they like great noises. In no other country in the world but America could Sousa and his band have gained the reputation they have there.—The Musical Critic of London Saturday Review.

Exonerated. The judgment that was pronounced on the manuscript which a playwright had in his possession during the time of King William III, could be applied with equal propriety to the works of some modern writers which find presentation on the stage. Having been arrested and brought before the Earl of Nottingham on the charge of owning treasonable papers, he denied all great talents all knowledge of the art, saying that he was a poet and that the papers in question were only a roughly sketched play. The Earl, however, examined them carefully, and finally, having settled the thing in his own mind, turned to the prisoner and said:

"I have heard your statement and read your manuscript, and as I fall to see any traces of a plot in either, you may go."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Uninsured Treasures. It is startling to think that, while almost any tradesman's shop that might be burned down is covered by insurance, the British Museum, if it were burned down to-morrow, would not cost the insurance companies one half-penny. Neither would the Houses of Parliament. They stand for three millions sterling, but not one single sovereign of this vast sum is covered by insurance. Three thousand pounds a year is spent on a force of police and firemen to protect the Houses of Parliament by day and night, and the British Museum pays the rent of a fireman's house in Cornhill street, but that is the full cost of the precautions against fire in these places. The British Museum, believing that prevention is better than cure, has an artificial light on its innermost recesses.—St. James's Gazette.

NAMING THE BABY.

They talked of Medora, Aurora, and Flora, Of Mabel and Marcia, and Mildred, and May.

Debated the question of Holon, Honora, Charrisa, Camilla, and Phyllis and Fay. They thought of Marcelle, Estella, and Beila, Considered Cecilia, Jeannette and Elina. And Ethel and Eunice, Hortensio and Irona, One liked Theodora, another Lenora; Some argued for Edith and some for Elaine.

For Madeline, Adeline, Lily, and Lora; And then, after all, they decided on Jana. —Illustrated Bits.

HUMOROUS.

Bill—"Why do they call it Cripple Creek, do you suppose?" Jill—"Perhaps, because the water is limpid.

Ethel—"Do you think that George was struck by my beauty? Clara—I hardly think that he was severely injured.

"He boasts that he doesn't advertise, but he's still doing business at his old stand."—"He means he's doing business at his old stand-still."

Harry—I tell you Bigson's intended wife is a sweet little body. Robert—"How do you know that? Harry—I saw his bonbon bill for the last month.

Softleigh—"Are you quite sure Miss Banks is not in the Maid—Of course I am. She gave me one of your photographs in order to make me doubly sure.

Mrs. Dauber—"This is one of my son's paintings. Critick—Ahem! Yes? Mrs. Dauber—"Yes, he's quite wedded to his art and—Critick—Rather a hasty marriage wasn't it?

Mr. Smith (in street car)—Madam, take my seat, Mrs. Jones (who has been standing 15 minutes)—No, thanks. I get off at the next corner, Mr. Smith—"That's all right, so do I."

First Little Girl—My pa is going into the legislature. Second Little Girl—"Paoh! that's nothing; my pa's going into bankruptcy. First Little Girl—"Well, I guess my pa'll go there, too, if he wants to."

"Perhaps," ventured the unsuccessful contributor, "you didn't consider my little ode true to life." "Oh, it was true enough," replied the editor, "I assure you there was more truth than poetry in what you said."

"My dear sir," replied the secretary of the fat-bulging company, "we promised no dividends." "You certainly did. You assured the stockholders they could make big profits out of the company."—"But, my dear sir, you are in it."

Captain—Well, what do you want? Tramp—Captain, believe me, I'm no ordinary beggar; I was at the front. Captain (with interest)—Really? Tramp—Yes, sir; but I couldn't make anybody hear, so I came round to the back.

Tallent—"What's this? Lost a house dog; a liberal reward will be paid for his return. Why, man, there's your dog out in the yard this moment. Gilmore—"Yes; somebody'll come along and steal him as soon as that advertisement gets about."

"George says his father will cut him off with a shilling if he insists upon my marrying me."—"And what did you say?"—"I told him that papa is a lawyer and that he'd be glad to take up the case against his father's estate on shares."

Briggs—Great Scott! how you smell of kerosene! Griggs—Yes, it is the fashionable perfume nowadays. It gives one the air of possessing an automobile. I always put a little on my pocket-handkerchief before I come away from home.

"What is your father's objection to me, Millie?" asked the young man. "He says you have no application," Gerald. "No application!" he echoed bitterly. "I wonder if he knows I've been coming to see you twice a week for nearly six years!"

Playwright—"That villain in my play doesn't act his part up to the lines. He must wear a look of worry and desperation. Manager—Oh! don't get excited. I'll fix that. John, go up on the stage and start a rumor that I have skipped with the box-office receipts.

"Lillian," said a certain little girl's mamma, "there were three pieces of cake in the pantry, and now there is only one. How did that happen?" "Well," said the child, her eyes wide open with excitement, "it was so dark in there I didn't see the other piece."

CUSTOMS OF THE ESKIMOS.

Sleep Naked During the Arctic Winter and Eat Raw Meat. The arrival in the world of the youthful Eskimo is not greeted by the orthodox cradle and swaddling clothes. Practically, till he can shift for himself, he lives absolutely naked inside his mother's sealskin blouse, skin to skin keeping him warm. This arrangement allows the mother to do about her work almost immediately, and she can also travel and hunt without a parambulator, and without having to leave any one home to "mind" the baby. The mother's dress is almost exactly like the father's except that it has a long sort of tail reaching nearly to the ground embryo, no doubt, of the modern "train," says Leslie's Weekly.

Spared the miseries of soap and water, and early weaned to the readily swallowed diet of blubber and raw seal meat, the infant rapidly develops that invaluable layer of subcutaneous fat, which, while it enhances the "jolly" appearance of the lads and the shapeliness of the maidens, assists materially in economy of clothing. Thus in their frigid clime, once in their skin tent, the whole family will divest themselves of every stitch of clothing, unembarrassed by the fact that so many families share the tent with them. Sociability is early developed, when one's next-door neighbor on each side is only separated by an imaginary line between the deerskin you sleep on and the one he does. The winter deerskin serves as bed and bedding at night and as parlor furniture in the day. Community of goods is almost imperative, under this arrangement. Thus, when one kills a seal all are fed, and likewise, when he doesn't all go hungry together.

Revolvers which fire seven shots in five seconds, and kill at 660 yards, have been served out to the Berlin police.

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Many Matters of General Interest in Short Paragraphs.

The Convention of the National Woman's Suffrage Association came to a close Wednesday night in New Orleans. The next convention will be held in Washington.

A Charleston, W. Va., dispatch says: "The grand jury's report on the miners' riot exonerates the United States deputy marshals. The report criticises the newspapers. It is a lengthy document.

Owing to freight congestion it is reported that fires will be put out in 2,000 or more coke ovens in the New River district in West Virginia, as it is impossible to secure cars for transportation of products.

Commander Erwin Schneider, naval attaché of the Imperial German embassy, in Washington, has been ordered to Newport News, Va., to arrange for the docking of the German warship Gazelle, which will arrive there in a few days from Venezuelan waters.

It is announced that the Southern Railway is to extensively enlarge its tracks at Nashville, Tenn., already one of the largest railroad shops in the South. The enlargement is presumably for the purpose of building locomotives for use on the Southern. No definite plans have been given out officially. About 1,000 men are employed in the shops.

Joe Barrett and Herman Miller, lightweights, both of Baltimore, went on before the Savannah Athletic Club Wednesday night for twenty rounds for a decision under straight Queensbury rules. In the fourth round Barrett fell to the floor in apparent agony and claimed a foul. The referee refused to allow it, and counted him out. Physicians examined Barrett and declared he found no evidence of a foul blow.

At The National Capital.

Secretary Hay has delivered to Signor Mayor Desplante, the Italian ambassador, an order on the United States Treasury for \$5,000, the sum appropriated by Congress as indemnity to the heirs of Giovanni and Vincenzo Serio, Italian subjects who were killed at Erwin, Miss., July 11, 1901, and to Salvatore Silvestro, who was injured at the same time.

The Treasury Department gave notice that on Mondays and Tuesdays until further notice offers would be received at the bureau of the mint for the sale to the government of silver bullion to be used in coining pesos under the Philippine coinage act approved March 2, 1903. No offers of less than 5,000 ounces will be entertained. The Department will purchase \$2,000,000 worth of silver bullion for coinage into pesos.

At The North.

St. Joseph, Mo., Special.—The heaviest snow storm of the year began here Sunday and railway traffic is greatly impeded. Telegraph and telephone wires are crippled. The temperature has been falling slowly. The snow covers the northern part of the State to a depth of from 6 to 12 inches.

The American Tobacco Company has declared the regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent, on preferred and a dividend of 3 per cent, on its common stock. This is an increase of 1-2 per cent, on the latter issue.

From Across The Sea.

The second court of the season was held at Buckingham Palace, London. The anniversary of Louis Kossoth's death was marked by students' riots in Budapest.

Senators who will vote on the ratification of the canal treaty were elected in Colombia.

The North German Gazette, of Berlin, says the Reichstag elections will take place June 16.

Joseph Chamberlain, receiving an address from the city of London, spoke of the Boers in a conciliatory manner.

The Toronto, Ont., opera house was burned Wednesday. The loss is \$150,000. The fire is supposed to have originated from electric wires in the box office. Sullivan, Harris & Woods lost all their scenery and costumes. They place their loss at \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Miscellaneous Matters.

New evidence is being unearthed in the Burdick murder case to put the crime on the late Arthur R. Pennell. In a collision between the Fall Rivers steamers Plymouth and City of Tannton on Long Island sound six persons were killed.

Ex-Attorney-General John W. Griggs argued for the Northern Securities Company in the anti-merger case in St. Louis.

Harrison Wrotten testified at the trial of Elmer Collins, at Laurel, Del., that he heard a man in Collins' house threaten murder the night before the crime was committed.

The monitor Florida had a successful trial trip, exceeding her speed record of 11 1/2 knots an hour.

New breaks in the levees are reported from the lower part of the Mississippi river.

George B. White, vice-president of the South Pennsylvania National Bank, of Hyndman, Pa., was arrested in Philadelphia, charged with conspiracy to wreck the bank.

Senator Quesada, the Cuban minister, has notified President Palma that Secretary Hay will consent to the use of the cable to expedite the exchange of ratifications of the treaty if it shall be adopted by the Cuban Senate as amended, and notification reached Washington March 31, that the documents are placed in the mail for transmission by that time.

Lynching in Louisiana.

Lewisville, Ark., Special.—News reached here to the effect that Frank Robertson, a negro, was lynched at Bradley, near the Louisiana line. Robertson was in jail. He had admitted his guilt of the crime of arson. A party of 25 men, supposed to be from across the Louisiana line, rode into Bradley, overpowered the jailer, took possession of the negro and rode away with him. The body has not been found.

Answer Filed.

Washington, Special.—The Norfolk and Western Railroad has filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission an answer denying the allegations of the C. S. Bell Company, of Hillsboro, O., that there was discrimination against Hillsboro shippers in favor of those of Cincinnati. The Norfolk and Western says, however, that it does not permit any Hillsboro consolidation, or properly classified shipments into car-load lots at car-load rates, where there is no interest more than one beneficial owner.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR APRIL 5.

Subject: Paul's Farewell to Ephesus, Acts xx, 28-28—Golden Text, Acts xx, 25—Memory Verse, 31-34—Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

I. The character of Paul's ministry at Ephesus (vs. 28-29). It was 1. A ministry of unwearied, diligent service. (1) He preached the Lord. (2) He served the people. He was devoted and faithful, preaching publicly and privately, laboring with his hands. His service was constant and hearty. Characterized by a whole-hearted consecration. 3. A humble ministry. Paul had a humble opinion of himself. He ascribed to God all the glory. 4. A ministry of thoroughness and consequent unpopularity.

Paul's faithfulness (vs. 29-30). In the midst of afflictions, while facing death, he did not falter, but preached the gospel, declaring the whole counsel of God, with joy. He says, "I am pure from the blood of all men." This pure form of expression is very striking. It is borrowed from the crime of murder, and brought home to the guilt is ordinarily caused of God, with joy. In many cases conviction depends on blood being in the conception that leads into the apostasy of duty, and is any