

To Save Sponge Fishes' Lives. Experiments are being made at La Goulette, Tunis, with a new submarine vessel, invented by Abbe Raoul, the Vice-General of Carthage, to be used in sponge fishing. The vessel is made of steel and resembles in shape a huge porpoise. The entrance to the central chamber is hermetically closed by a heavy lid fastened with screws, and the occupants survey their surroundings through portholes. A long spear, terminating in a grappling hook, worked from the interior of the submarine, seizes the sponge and deposits it in a net at the side of the vessel. The craft is propelled by electricity furnished by accumulators through a cable attached to a vessel on the surface, with which it is in constant communication by means of a telephone. The vessel is lighted by electricity, and a lamp hanging in the bow lights up the surroundings, while the sponge fisher is beneath the water. Three men may easily descend in the vessel at the same time.

The object of the vessel is to reduce the great mortality among sponge fishers.—Philadelphia Record.

**Drying Damp Wheat.** It is reported that heavy rains have fallen in the centre of the wheat section of Argentina, and that much damage has been done to the crop. This will cause the European millers to look with suspicion on all importations of wheat from that country this year, for the Argentine farmers have a way of spreading out their damp wheat to dry and then sending it to market. Wheat treated in this way it is impossible to tell that the wheat has been wet, but the wetting and drying tends to harden the kernel, and when ground the quality of the flour is inferior.

**Peculiar Highland Remedies.** A popular Highland remedy for both consumption and general debility was what was known as such an cabar ("the juice of deer's horns"). These were gathered in the hills when the animals cast them in the springtime. They were boiled for some hours and the juice obtained bottled, after being strained. Candy sugar and whisky are usually added to it nowadays. Crabs' shells pulverized, and eaten on bread and butter, were used for consumption, asthma and whooping cough in the Hebrides.—Caledonian Medical Journal.

**Twenty Shots in His Head.** At the present time there is a keeper on a Hertfordshire estate who has about twenty shots in his head. Nearly thirty years ago this man was accidentally shot by an under keeper, and there were twenty-two holes in the hat he wore, which is preserved to this day. The injured man never had the shots extracted, was long between life and death and completely lost his hearing.—London Standard.

**Trunkey produces a great quantity of Turkey.** N. Y.—5  
FITZ'S permanent cure. No fits or nervousness after first day's use. Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer, 231 Broadway, Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. B. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

"Don't you find it tiresome," said Marc Antony, "to devote so much time to literature in addition to your various ways?" "Yes," replied Caesar, "but it pays. There is nothing like being your own literary critic."—Washington Star.

**How's This?** We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.  
P. O. Order, 231 Broadway, N. Y. City.

**The Out Wonder.** The Editor must tell its readers of this marvel. It originated with the largest farm seed growers in the world, the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis. It is stiff straw, stands up like a stone wall in white, heavy, and plump kernels. It is a great stouter, 80 stocks from one kernel. IF YOU WILL SEND THIS NOTICE AND 10c. IN STAMPS to above address, you will get a sample of this Out Wonder, which yielded in 1903, in 40 States from 20 to 210 bu. per acre, and together with other farm seed samples and their big catalog. [A.C.L.]

**Safeguard Your Children** With Hox's Croup Cure, from Croup, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Pneumonia. Neopates, No-nausea. All-druggists, 10c. Truth is a stranger than a good many people don't care to meet.

**Treosinte and Billion Dollar Grass.** The two greatest fodder plants on earth, a good food for 14 tons of hay and 20 tons of green fodder per acre. Growing everywhere, so does Victoria Rape, yielding 60,000 lbs. sheep and swine food per acre. [A.C.L.]

**JUST SEND 10c. IN STAMPS TO THE JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO., La Crosse, Wis., and receive in return their big catalog and lots of farm seed samples.**

## MRS. BECHTEL ACQUITTED

### Jury Says She Did Not Share in Daughter's Murder.

### VERDICT ON ONE BALLOT

Mother of the Girl Receives the Verdict With Emotion—Counsel For the Defense Says He Will Prove Who the Murderer Is—Impressive Closing Scenes in the Trial at Allentown.

Allentown, Pa.—Mrs. Catherine Bechtel was acquitted of the charge of being an accessory after the fact to the murder of her daughter, Mabel Bechtel, in this city on October 26-27. When the verdict was announced Mrs. Bechtel sank into a chair and wept. Her daughters and sons gathered about her, and a crowd collected to congratulate the family and counsel. The jury took one ballot only.

Judge Trexler told the jury that they had discharged their duty with fidelity—and that they deserved the thanks of the Court and the community. He said that it was not proper for the Court to express an opinion as to the verdict, but that his sentiments might be gauged by his remarks to the jury. As soon as she became composed, Mrs. Bechtel said: "I know I am innocent, but I would like to know who did it. If Mabel were only here for a short time to tell it."

Mrs. Bechtel was taken to the office of her attorney, accompanied by her children, and later she went home. There is still a charge of murder against her, and indictments as accessory before and after the fact against her children, John, Charles and Martha, but it is probable that they will be stricken off the list at the April term of the court. District Attorney Lichtenwainer said he would do this unless new developments should arise. The District Attorney was disappointed.

Captain Schaad, counsel for Mrs. Bechtel, said: "This is not the end of the case. I have proved the Bechtels innocent, but I do not propose to stop until the murderer, who I think is now known, is brought to justice."

The jury, it is said, agreed upon a verdict in five minutes after it retired. Captain J. L. Schaad began his address at 10 o'clock. This was limited to one hour and a half. The defense proposed at first to submit the case without argument, but District Attorney Lichtenwainer declined the offer. Captain Schaad dwelt upon the treatment Tom Bechtel had received in the lock-up, and contended that the refusal of Mr. Lichtenwainer to permit him to attend the funeral of his sister was responsible for Tom's suicide.

"Just as sure as though he had used a pistol or a knife upon this man in jail, the District Attorney of Lehigh County killed Tom Bechtel," shouted Captain Schaad. "This is a sin upon his soul that will be laid bare when he stands before the judgment seat and faces his Maker." This outburst made a stir in the court room.

After declaring that Mabel Bechtel was killed outside the house and that her dead body was brought there in a cab, as the mother had testified, Captain Schaad said: "There is little doubt in my mind as to who killed this poor girl. I may, before I am through with this case, name him to you here in open court. It is my duty to do so now, but I will not be hasty."

Neither Eckstein nor Weisenberger, the girl's lovers, were in court when this declaration was made, seemingly aimed at one or the other of them. Captain Schaad closed with an impassioned appeal to the jury.

## SEN. BURTON INDICTED

### Charged With Taking Money From St. Louis Firm.

### Allegation Made That He Used His Influence to Stop a Postal Fraud Order.

St. Louis, Mo.—The Federal Grand Jury returned an indictment against Joseph Ralph Burton, United States Senator from Kansas, charging him on nine counts with accepting five checks of \$500 each from the Rialto Grain and Securities Company between November 22, 1902, and March 26, 1903, while a United States Senator. It is charged that the alleged payments were made in return for services in interceding with the Postmaster-General, Chief Postoffice Inspector and other high postoffice officials to induce them to render a favorable decision in matters affecting the permission of the Rialto Company to use the mails and prevent the issuance of a fraud order.

Major Hugh C. Dennis, president of the company, and W. B. Mehaney, associated with him, are named in the indictment as the men who made the checks payable to Burton.

The Rialto Grain and Securities Company has been under investigation by the State courts for several months, on account of internal troubles and the complaints of investors.

Indictments have been found against Major Dennis and others of the officers, but they have never been convicted on any of them. At one time the Rialto Company's offices were closed by court officials on attachments secured by alleged creditors, but were reopened after arrangements to satisfy the claims had been made.

For several days past William E. Cochran, Chief Postoffice Inspector from Washington, D. C.; Major Hugh C. Dennis and W. B. Mehaney have been before the Grand Jury, and it is believed the indictment was found on their testimony.

As a result of his connection with the company Dennis was indicted both in the Federal and State courts, but the United States court acquitted him. Four indictments found in State courts against Dennis are still pending.

The penalty provided upon conviction for the offense with which Senator Burton is charged is a penitentiary sentence of not more than two years and a fine of not more than \$10,000, and one so convicted shall be rendered incapable of holding office of trust, honor or emolument under the Government.

United States Senators are ineligible from arrest except for certain specified crimes while the Senate is in session. It is expected that the present Senate session will last until the summer, but United States District Attorney Dyer expects that Senator Burton will make arrangements at once for a speedy trial.

**ASSAULT ON JAPANESE.** Russian Marines Severely Maltreated Vladivostok Residents.

## MINERS WERE ENTOMBED

### Over One Hundred and Eighty Colliers Imprisoned in a Shaft.

### CAUSE OF EXPLOSION UNKNOWN

Terrible Disaster at Hardwick Colliery, in Pennsylvania, Buries Scores of Workmen in the Shaft—Heroes Work of the Rescuers—Wives and Children at Mouth of the Pit.

Pittsburg, Pa.—By an explosion in the Hardwick mine of the Allegheny Coal Company, over 180 men were entombed. In addition to those killed by the explosion, Selwin M. Taylor, one of the most expert mining engineers in the country, was overcome while directing the work of rescue.

Thomas Wood, one of the rescuers, later came up from the mine and announced that Selwin M. Taylor had been found unconscious about 200 feet from the mine opening in a wing. Dr. C. M. McCulloch, of Cheswick, volunteered to go down to attend Taylor, who is still living.

George Goryach, a miner with the rescuing party, was overcome in the mine and was hauled out unconscious and taken to the schoolhouse.

Next to James McCann, who was the hero of the occasion, Mr. Taylor was the foremost in that work. When McCann had been down the shaft and had brought up one man alive, Mr. Taylor went down, and with McCann and Henry Baker, pushed his way against the mine opening in a wing. Dr. C. M. McCulloch, of Cheswick, volunteered to go down to attend Taylor, who is still living.

The Admiralty insists that the movements of Russian ships in the neighborhood of Port Arthur are entirely without significance, saying in explanation that they are probably merely routine changes of station and certainly made without the expectation of a collision.

A prominent Admiral said in an interview: "The Admiralty believes in the peaceful termination of the negotiations. Some of our ships in the Far East are still in reserve. The steps now being taken should be described as precautionary, rather than warlike preparations."

Seoul, Korea.—The peddlers, with the permission of the Government, are levying blackmail on all wealthy houses in Seoul, except those of the high officials, on the pretext of guarding the houses. If a riot should occur 1000 soldiers will be sent south to quell the insurrection.

**MINERS HURLED TO DEATH.** Cable Parts, Letting Cage Load Shoot to Bottom of Shaft.

## JAPAN IMPOSES WAR TAX

### Expect to Raise \$25,000,000 by Doubling Land and Income Values.

### Popular Feeling Aroused in Russia in Belief That National Honor is at Stake—Situation in Korea.

Tokyo, Japan.—It is understood that the Cabinet, assisted by the Elder statesmen, has completed a financial program which is said to include the issuance of exchequer bonds to the amount of \$50,000,000, increasing taxes to the extent of \$25,000,000.

In the issuing of the loan the Japanese Government will not be obliged to go outside the realm, as patriotic Japanese bankers, it is believed, will advance any amount which may be called for.

The Government has resolved to impose a war tax by doubling the land tax and the income tax, thereby obtaining additional revenue of 44,900,000 Yen (\$22,000,000).

St. Petersburg, Russia.—The exchanges regarding the Russian response to the Japanese note are still progressing. The Foreign Office here announces that there is no change in the situation. The Japanese Legation does not credit the report from Tokyo that Japan has requested Russia to hasten her reply.

Mr. Kurino, the Japanese Minister, has received no instructions on the subject. On the contrary, he apparently realizes that the delay is consequent upon exchanges between St. Petersburg, Viceroy Alexieff and Baron de Rosen, the Russian Minister at Tokyo. M. Kurino reiterates his opinion that Japan will not press Russia for a reply.

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## MINOR EVENTS OF THE WEEK

### WASHINGTON ITEMS.

Postmaster-General and Mrs. Payne dined the President and his Cabinet. Secretary Moody gave a farewell dinner to Secretary Root.

President Roosevelt received a delegation from Boston, Mass., but declined an invitation to attend the 128th anniversary of the evacuation of that city by the British.

The President's yacht, Mayflower, at Panama since November, will soon be ordered home.

Secretary Hay left for Thomasville, Ga., to remain ten days or two weeks as the guest of Colonel Payne.

An urgent deficiency appropriation of \$300,000 was requested at the House by Postmaster-General Payne, to enable the establishment of rural free delivery routes after March 1.

The Treasury experts who have been investigating the office of Secretary Edward A. Moley of the Interstate Commerce Commission, have declared the accounts correct.

**FOUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.** Lieutenant Campbell W. Flake, of the Twenty-second Infantry, was killed by Moros while trying to enter Moro Cotta, in Mindanao, to examine the locality.

The Japanese merchants at Manila, in the Philippines, have been advised by their home Government to transfer their business to Americans in case of war.

The Federal members of the Porto Rico House of Delegates made a motion to suspend five Republican members who have been absent for five days without permission. The Federals will apply to the courts for a decision in the matter.

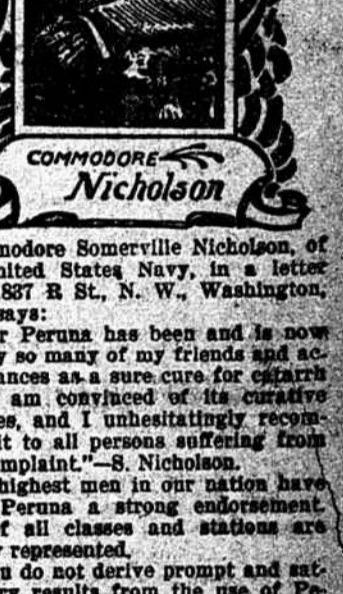
James H. Causten, of the State of Washington, who was formerly Deputy Collector at Puget Sound, has arrived at San Juan, Porto Rico, and will assume his new duties of Collector of the Port.

Luis Munoz Rivera, the Federal leader, has returned to Porto Rico after an absence of three years, and was greeted by a large crowd of people, hundreds of whom embraced him.

## COMMODORE NICHOLSON

### OF OUR NAVY

### Recommends Pe-ru-na—Other Prominent Men Testify.



Commodore Somerville Nicholson, of the United States Navy, in a letter from 1837 B St., N. W., Washington, D. C., says:

"Your Peru-na has been used by me and by so many of my friends and acquaintances as a sure cure for catarrh that I am convinced of its curative qualities, and I unhesitatingly recommend it to all persons suffering from that complaint."—S. Nicholson.

The highest men in our nation have given Peru-na a strong endorsement. Men of all classes and stations are equally recommended.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peru-na, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O. Ask Your Druggist for a Free Peru-na Almanac for 1904.

**DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY.** Give you relief from Dropsy, Swelling, and all other ailments of the feet, legs, and abdomen. 50 YEARS OF SUCCESS AND 70,000 CURES.

**FREE**—all about Catarrh and Weak Lungs—our treatment free. Write today. Wistarina Co., 323 Broadway, New York.

**SILOS, LUMBER, BOXES, CRATES.** You cannot afford to do without them. We have them in stock. Write today. Wistarina Co., 323 Broadway, New York.

**PRISONERS CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.** Write today. Wistarina Co., 323 Broadway, New York.

Out of every 1,000,000 persons who are born in the same year 213,000 live for seventy years, 107,000 for eighty years, and 861 for ninety years.

10,000 Plants For 10c. This is remarkable offer the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., makes. They will send you their big plant and seed catalog, together with enough seed to grow 1,000 fine, solid Carrots, 2,000 delicious Cabbages, 2,000 Blanching, nutty Celery, 2,000 rich, buttery Lettuces, 1,000 splendid Onions, 1,000 rare, luscious Radishes, 1,000 glorious brilliant Flowers.

This great offer is made in order to induce you to try their warranted seeds—grow your own plants then you will grow no others and.

ALL FOR BUT 10c. POSTAGE. providing you will return this notice, and if you will send them 20c. in postage, they will add to the above a package of the famous Berliner Cauliflower. [A.C.L.]

What a grand and glorious world this would be if every man would follow the advice he gives to others!

Many School Children Are Sickly. Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children, used by Mother Gray, a nurse in Children's Home, New York, breaks up colds in 24 hours, cures Feverishness, Constipation, Stomach Troubles, Teething Disorders and Destroy Worms. At all druggists, 25c. Sample mailed. Fax, Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N.Y.

Love can neither be bought nor sold, but it may be exchanged.

PURMAN FADELESS DYES are fast to light and washing.

Chronic complaining doesn't make a hard lot any softer.

When Wit is Perfect. When wit is combined with sense and information, when it is softened by benevolence and restrained by strong principles; when it is in the hands of a man who can use it and dispense it who can be witty and something much better than witty; who loves honor, justice, decency, good nature, morality, and religion ten thousand times better than wit—it is then a beautiful and delightful part of our nature—Sydney Smith.

**LASTING RELIEF.** I. W. Walls, Superintendent of Streets of Lebanon, Ky., says: "My nightly rest was broken, owing to irregular action of the kidneys. I was suffering intensely from severe pains in the small of my back and through the kidneys and annoyed by painful passages of abnormal secretions. No amount of doctoring relieved this condition. I took Doan's Kidney Pills and experienced quick and lasting relief. Doan's Kidney Pills will prove a blessing to all sufferers from kidney disorders who will give them a fair trial."

Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., proprietors. For sale by all druggists at price 50 cents per box.