

BARRINGTON REVIEW

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M. T. Lamy, Editor and Publisher

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Insanity and the Nation.

Not long ago the United States census bureau issued a report which should have provoked instant and widespread discussion. Of all the publications giving the results of the twelfth census there is hardly any of such importance to the American people. For in language the most explicit, and supported by statistics gathered with the scrupulous care that has characterized all the enumerations of the latest census, it reveals the existence of conditions making strongly against the continued prosperity of the United States and its continued progress to headship among nations. The reference is to the special report on "Insane and Feeble-minded in Hospitals and Institutions." At first glance," remarks H. Addington Bruce in North American Review, nothing alarming is to be seen in the statement that in 1903 there were in the insane asylums of the United States 150,151 inmates. What is this? It may be asked, in a population exceeding 80,000,000? But the matter quickly assumes another aspect when it is observed that in 1896, the year in which the insane asylums of the United States held only 74,023 unfortunate; and that, ten years earlier, the asylum population was but 40,492. In other words, there has been a progressively more rapid increase in insanity than in population. Just what the difference is it is impossible to say. Statistically it is enormous.

American cartoonists represent the Democratic party as a donkey, the Republican party as an elephant. These symbols have grown through and have exhausted the ingenuity of comic draftsmen. One of the best of the joyous brotherhood of cartoonists, Mr. John F. McCutcheon of the Chicago Tribune, suggests several animals from which new party symbols may be chosen. Among them are the owl, the symbol of wisdom, says nothing, prominent in How's Hilo; in America; the fox, the friend of the common people, symbol of vigilance and fidelity, indigenous to all parts of the country; the turkey, the most popular thing in November, when the elections occur; the cat, hard to kill, having nine lives, symbol of the home; the buffalo, exclusively American and nearly extinct; the goat, can leap from crag to crag and from platform to platform, can live on anything, knows how to take a joke, and butts in where angels fear to tread; and the turtle, slow but sure, long-lived and hard to kill, carries its own house and can vote in any ward.

That decision of Lord Curzon, lately Viceroy of India, to enter the house of Lords because his physician says he cannot stand the strenuous duties of membership in the popular branch of the British parliament is something that our both ways say. In fact, in the way which most will be inclined to accept, it means that the lord in the lords is "easy," so far as political effort is concerned, and when a man goes there it is rather for rest than for work. It will not be remarkable if those who are so strongly opposed to the maintenance of the house of lords as a legislative body and check upon the house of commons should find an effective argument in this incident. If the upper house is so useless why tolerate it? A good many Englishmen will probably reason after that fashion.

Anonymous recently made that Hauptmann, the German dramatist, was about to produce a play dealing with the life and times of Charlemagne, has brought from Suderman, his rival in the same line of production, a statement that he too has been for a long time at work on a play having the same theme. Great writers and writers not so great simultaneously stumble on the same subjects so frequently that a literary clearing house to which they bring their ideas in advance would seem to be a convenient means of saving wasted effort on the part of those who do not report first.

The report that France is in danger of possible hostilities with the United States and Japan will cause no alarm in this country. Such a war is at present the most improbable thing in the world, and the assurances of the ablest Japanese statesman that they count this government as a warm friend must be given the credit they deserve.

A butter in Connecticut was arrested with diamonds in his possession, said to be worth \$17,000. However, with diamonds going down in price, he may be able to prove by the time the case comes to trial that he merely committed petty larceny.

The Marrying Age.

It has often been said that "a woman is no older than she looks;" and this is really true. Some women are younger at 40; in appearance and manner, than others are at 30. In this connection it is proper to consider the most suitable age for a woman to marry. This depends upon circumstances, for the reasons above given. A generation ago, when 25 was not far from the average marrying age, a woman may have been considered verging on old maidhood at 30. Nowadays, however, the tendency is to marry late rather than early in life, and the sensible woman who at 25 finds herself still unwed by no means despairs of being led to the altar. As a matter of fact, the majority of men only consider a woman old when she is close to the fifties, and even then they often find attractive qualities in her which younger women lack. Generally, it is not until a woman reaches the age of 30 that she is considered old. It is ridiculous for her to endeavor to take five or ten years of her age by dressing in the garb of a younger sister, and striving to cover telltale wrinkles with powder and rouge. Men easily see through such artifices and regard the woman who practices the same with a feeling bordering on contempt.

Nordau, the expert on degeneration, says that Americans are suffering from chronic melancholia, which, with the grip going the rounds already, is enough to strike the chill of fear to every heart with its vague seigniorial horrors. But he adds that we have had too much of the doctrine of strenuousness and ought to make a study of happiness. This shows how little foreigners understand us. Happiness is not a thing to waste time over. It cannot be overcapitalized or made into a trade. It is a matter of fact, and it is not practical. And even the constitution, that document of the broadest human rights, is careful to guarantee only the pursuit of happiness, thereby giving us intimating that it is a hard thing to come up with.

We are getting down to bedrock now where the common man can feel at home and take an interest in the discussion, the subject of which is the ability of a married couple to have all the luxuries of life on \$12 a week. A few years ago a similar discussion raged furiously, but it flattered around the large sum of \$25 a week, so that the common people were not interested in it. Several women who had married self-made men and thus had not known what since living at home with their fathers, who made nine dollars a week, took a great interest in the discussion at that time and said no man should think of marrying on less than \$25 a week. But of course they were speaking of men who kept a butler, two maid servants and a cauffer.

A couple in New Jersey have given social theorists, legislators and moralists a hint as to the war against divorce. The idea of making divorce a costly luxury, instead of encouraging its present trend as a cheap expedient, might do much toward curbing the flood of marital unrest.

Another woman has just shot her husband by mistake because she thought he made a noise like a burglar. Husbands who stay out late at night should have a thorough understanding of what their better halves are up to, and what are suspicious noises.

The four big balloons ordered by members of the Chicago Aeronautique club for use in an attempt to contain each from 30,000 to 30,000 feet of gas. One would naturally think that hot-air balloons would be given the preference in Chicago.

TAB ON RURAL ROADS

Mileage and Cost of Public Highways in United States.

TEXAS FIRST, MISSOURI NEXT

Outside of Settlements in 1904 United States Had 2,151,570 Miles—But 7.14 Per Cent of All American Roads Have Been Improved.

While it is known in a general way that some parts of the United States have made greater progress than others in the improvement of the public roads and that enormous sums are expended annually on road construction and repairs, there has been no information compiled up to the present time showing just what has been accomplished and how much is expended annually for this purpose in the United States, says a Washington dispatch to the St. Louis Republic.

The office of the public roads in the agricultural department recently completed the collection, compilation and publication of information from every county of the United States in regard to the mileage of improved and unimproved country roads in the year 1904, and the expenditures on roads and bridges from property and poll taxes, land leases and state funds under the state aid laws, and the amount of value of the labor expended under the state labor laws.

In 1904 there were 2,151,570 miles of public roads in the United States. Of this mileage 108,232.9 miles were surfaced and gravel, 28,621.7 miles were stone, and 6,860.7 miles were other materials, such as shells, sand-clay, oil and brick, making in all 153,694.3 miles of improved road. From this it follows that 7.14 per cent of all the roads in the United States have been improved.

By comparing the total road mileage with the area of all the states and territories it appears that there was 73 of a mile of road per square mile of territory. A comparison of road mileage with population shows that there was one mile of road to every thirty-five inhabitants and one mile of improved road to every 402 inhabitants.

The 2,151,570 miles of public roads in the United States do not include roads in Indian Territory, Alaska and the island possessions. The mileage of roads does not include streets or boulevards in incorporated cities and villages.

The majority of all the roads in the United States were originally built along the boundary lines of farms, with little regard for drainage, topography and alignment. In the eastern states the boundary lines of farms were very regular, and consequently many of the roads are crooked and badly intersected with references to grades. In the middle west, where the land was laid out by the government, the roads follow the section lines and in thickly settled communities the quarter section lines. In comparing these figures the aim has been to include only the mileage of roads actually open and in use.

Only four states have more than 100,000 miles of roads. Texas stands first, with 121,469 miles; Missouri second, with 108,133; Iowa third, with 102,448; and Kansas fourth, with 101,184. The District of Columbia has only 191 miles of road. Rhode Island has 2,361 miles, which is the smallest mileage of any state in the union. Delaware has only 3,040 and Arizona only 5,987 miles.

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11:45 Sunday School
2:00 p. m. Junior League
6:45 Epworth League
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Preaching service, 7:30
Week Night Services:
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Tuesday—English Praying, 7:30
Wednesday—German, 7:30
Friday—Teachers meeting, 7:30
Choir meeting, 9:15
Monthly meetings:
Mission Hand—1st Sunday, 1:30 p. m.
P. M. S.—1st Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.
Church Missionary Meeting—1st Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.
W. M. S.—1st Thursday, 1:30 p. m.
Strangers are cordially welcomed at all the services of the church.
Phone No. 20.
A. HAEFEL, Pastor.

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Phone 811. REV. G. H. STANGER, Pastor.

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Saturday evening prayer and praise service, 7:30 p. m.
Sunday, 10:30 a. m., 7:30 p. m.
Sunday school and I. C. at 11:45 a. m.
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Evening service, 7:30 p. m.
Prayer meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 p. m.
P. M. S. business meeting, Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p. m.
Woman's Missionary Society second Thursday of the month at 2 o'clock.
A cordial welcome for all.
J. WHELAN, Pastor.

At the Majestic.

The bills that the Majestic theatre, Chicago, has been offering during the two years that it has been open to the public are undoubtedly the best to be had in the field of vaudeville. Stars from the musical stage as well as those of the musical hall have entertained vast audiences who are to be found daily at the Majestic, and the management takes great pride in presenting the newest and most up-to-date novelties. Myrwin, Louis Mann, Wm. H. Thompson, Eva Tanguay, and Marie Lloyd are but a few of the famous players who have appeared in this theatre within the last few weeks, and the audience will not have there will be no "stringency" so far as desirable and entertaining acts are concerned.

For the week beginning Feb. 3rd, Master Gabriel, the celebrated diminutive contortionist, who by arrangement with the N. Y. Herald is starring in a one-act playlet entitled "Auntie's Visit," in which he portrays the role he made famous, "Buster Brown" so well that countless ones have had Gabriel in mind when he created this favorite character of the children's George All, one of the most successful of animal impersonators, is seen as Buster's friend and ever faithful dog companion "Tige," and that he makes good is clearly demonstrated by the plaudits of both young and old at every performance. Another important act will be eight Vassar Girls in their charming and artistic high class instrumental selections and the brilliant and angular will be one of the big comedy features of the bill, and Shield and Rogers whose lasso throwing feats have commanded widespread attention will give an exhibition of their marvelous skill. The Belouin Arabs in a series of acrobatic stunts, Salero, the European juggler, and many others will appear.

Rank Foolishness.

"When attacked by a cough or a cold, or when your throat is sore, it is rank foolishness to take any other medicine than Dr. King's New Discovery," says C. O. Eldridge, of Quincy, Georgia. "I have used New Discovery seven years and I know it is the best remedy on earth for coughs and colds, croup, and all throat and lung troubles. My children are subject to croup, but New Discovery quickly cures every attack." Known in the world over as the King of throat and lung remedies, sold under guarantee at Barrington Pharmacy, 65c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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