

The Richmond Palladium

2nd Sun-Telegram
Published and owned by the
PALLADIUM PRINTING CO.
Issued 5 days each week, evenings and
Sunday morning.
Office—Corner North 9th and A streets.
Home Phone 1121.

RICHMOND, INDIANA.

Rudolph G. Lords...Managing Editor.
Charles M. Morgan...Editor.
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1st Richmond...\$5.00 per year (in ad-
vance) or 10c per week.
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

One year, in advance.....\$5.00
Six months, in advance.....2.50
One month, in advance......45

RURAL ROUTES.

One year, in advance.....\$2.50
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One month, in advance......25

Address changed as often as desired; both new and old addresses must be given.

Subscribers will please remit with order, which should be given for a specific time; will not be entered until payment is received.

Entered at Richmond, Indiana, post office as second class mail matter.

The Association of American
Advertisers (New York City) has
conducted and certified to the circulation
of this publication. Only the figures of
circulation contained in its report are
acknowledged by the Association.

T. D. B. Secretary.

HARVARD'S PRESIDENT AND ATHLETICS

President Eliot of Harvard had the gift of saying the right thing on almost every subject, but in criticizing athletics he sometimes seemed curiously to miss an essential fact. Himself a man of robust physique, a varsity oarsman in his day, he yet was so disturbed by the excesses of inter-collegiate contests that he sometimes seemed opposed to athletic competition itself. In his own fine sanity and balance he rather lost sight of certain phases of frail human nature; ignored that fourth dimension—the zest of the game—which makes all the difference between mere drudgery and the exhilaration of sport. Dr. Eliot's successor seems to be a little closer to the undergraduate point of view. "The mere pleasure of exercise," he says, "soon ceases to suffice, because muscular strength and nervous and moral force can be brought to a high point only by a strenuous exertion that surpasses the bounds of strictly physical enjoyment. To make the most of himself, the boy must put forth an uncomfortable effort, and for this he must have an external stimulus. It is safe to assert that if young people took part in games only so far as they enjoyed the exercise without being affected by ambition or the opinion of their fellows, a large portion of the more strenuous sports, and therewith much valuable training, physical and moral, would be lost. No doubt competition is often carried too far until it has the effect of eliminating all but a few champions of pre-eminent qualities. But the fact that competition may be carried further than is wise does not prove that it is not valuable as a stimulus, that it is not, indeed, the main factor in the physical development of youth." This is sound talk. The body, as well as the mind, must be forced to do something which seems at the moment uncomfortable in order to attain its highest growth. An athlete learns to run a half-mile in two minutes, not by comfortable jogging 'cross country—superior as that is from the point of view of pleasure and ordinary exercise—but by supreme efforts repeated many times under proper training. Young, growing men need competition and games to force them to make such supreme efforts because, in our civilization, they rarely have the chance to chase their enemies or their dinners, or indulge in the other sports of savages. A man of President Eliot's intellectual strength and discipline may see through the tediousness of gymnasium exercise to health and strength beyond. The average undergraduate generally needs to be allured by applause and the desire to win.—Editorial in Collier's for July 31.

THE THAW INQUIRY

It seems that there are two kinds of insanity, one medical, in which there is actually some physiological disorder of the mind; and the other a sort of legal insanity, momentary in its operation and probably factitious. Either one, it seems, is sufficient excuse for the person acting under its influence, but with this difference: That the medically insane person is to be treated as for a disease and perhaps shut away from society, whereas the one who is legally insane is not to be molested, but after the commission of some crime or misdemeanor may be permitted to go at once on his way as soon as the smoke of his revolver has blown away and the red mist of slaughter has lifted from his brain. This at least seems to be Harry Thaw's alert, intelligent and smiling exposition of his own case.

The ordinary person may be pardoned if he does not understand these things. It mystifies him exceedingly to find that a renowned alienist on

one occasion has one opinion, and again, reasoning apparently from the same condition, reaches an entirely different conclusion respecting the amount of sanity involved in a case of homicide. One is reminded of the celebrated firm of specialists that was wont to conduct autopsies in cases of suspicious death, and which displayed conspicuously over the door the following sign:

To find poison—\$25.

Not to find poison—\$50.

To find poison and say we did not—\$75.

Not to find poison and say we did—\$100.

To befuddle the court and jury with learned opinions so that they will not know whether this is a case of poisoning or an inquiry into a horse stealing episode—\$200.

It would be unfair to the alienists not to admit that they sometimes have a hard time of it. Very often they have no opportunity to express their opinion in an absolute way, but are confined strictly to expressions based on such conditions as counsel choose to formulate. Under such circumstances the entire range of such testimony is often purely hypothetical. At best it is a mystifying business and one which from any point of view is not entirely creditable.—Indianapolis Star.

TWINKLES

(By Philander Johnson.)

Boisterous Affection.

"Is Blujer a kind husband and a good father?"

"He means to be," answered Miss Cayenne; "but his idea of making home happy is to bring around a phonograph with a lot of dog-fight records."

The Summer Outing.

"Yes," said Mr. Cumrox, "mother and the girls insist on my sitting outdoors and getting good and sunburned."

"They think sun-burn becomes you?"

"Maybe. But I suspect they want to keep the hotel man from seeing me turn pale when he gives me my bill."

The Egolist.

Since brevity's the soul of wit, A prudent choice of words I'll try, And freely, when I'd make a hit, Employ the short and simple "I."

Considerate Silences.

"I understand that Bliggins and his wife have very little to say to each other."

"Have they quarreled?"

"No. They think so much of each other that he doesn't like to bore her with base talk and she wants to avoid worrying him about hats."

Cautious Discourse.

"Do you always express your opinions to your constituents without reserve?"

"No," answered Senator Sorghum. "I feel compelled to make allowance for certain prejudices. A man who expects people to believe all he says must be careful not to say all he believes."

Vain Forbearance.

The trials we're endurin' In this world we're livin' in Are beyond the hope of curin'.

They have kep' me worried thin. The people who are foolish.

People who are far too gay.

People swift an' people mulish— They are always in the way.

But to a thoughtful creature,

Opposed to all that's rude, The world's most vexin' feature Is its rank ingratitude!

Though my nerves I keep a-wringin', Puttin' up with ways so free, It goes laughin' on an' singin', Never takin' heed of me!

Items Gathered in From Far and Near

Talking.

From the Milwaukee Journal—Words are easily spoken. There are some who are speaking them all day long. They talk, talk, and when done, neither they nor any one else could tell a single thing they said worth remembering. The gift of speech is to be highly valued, but it should be used with care. When one talks very much little attention is given to what he says, for no one can talk all the time and give due thought to his conversation. When talk comes in a constant stream there will be little sense in it. A silence now and then makes what one says more impressive. Every one likes a sociable man, one who has something pleasant to say, who has intuition as to the mood of his listener and the kind of talk most appropriate to the time. There are times when the silent companion is the one for whom you are most grateful. It is a great thing to know when to be silent.

In Newark.

From the Newark News.—Garbage dumps, acres of festering rotteness, inside the city limits and under the city's control offend every physical sense within a wide radius. But far more appalling than their obvious nastiness is their sinister menace of the public health. There is a sardonic jest in every line of a newspaper description of one of these dumps. Flies, carriers of typhoid, are bred there in millions—and the city affects to fear typhoid. A mosquito-breeding pool is in the center of the tract—and we have professed interest in mosquito extermination. Rats, destructive to property and recognized disseminators

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CRUMPACKER IS IN BAD WITH CANNON

Representative Stands to Lose The Census Chairmanship.

HE FAVERS A REVISION

NOT BEING IN SYMPATHY WITH THE SPEAKER'S PLANS FOR INCREASED TARIFF RATES, IS OUT OF FAVOR.

Washington, July 30.—The Washington Post prints this bit of gossip:

"There is a persistent rumor about the capitol that the census committee of the house will have a new head when Speaker Cannon announces the makeup of the standing committees just before the adjournment of this session of congress. Representative Crumacker of Indiana, who has been chairman of this committee, has run afoul of the speaker in his attitude toward the tariff revision, it is said. Mr. Crumacker, ever since he was appointed a member of the committee on ways and means, has been strongly in favor of downward revision of the tariff, to such an extent that he has aroused the ire of such a standpatter as the speaker.

"It is understood that Mr. Crumacker was placed on the ways and means committee by Speaker Cannon with some misgivings, but former Representative Watson of Indiana was particularly desirous that Mr. Crumacker should get the place.

Were Political Reasons.

"Mr. Watson was about to run for governor of Indiana, and there were political reasons why he should wish to see Mr. Crumacker get the place on the ways and means committee. So Mr. Watson, who was a right hand man of the speaker, urged Mr. Crumacker's appointment.

"The speaker, it is said, would not be averse to taking Mr. Crumacker off the ways and means committee, but after the tariff bill has been passed there would be little object in such action and also such action would be without precedent. While the speaker has the power to appoint the standing committees of the house under the rules of the body, there is nothing in the rules authorizing him, after the committees are appointed, to remove members therefrom. If he should attempt to remove Mr. Crumacker from the ways and means committee a nice parliamentary question might be raised."

Knox Notifies Marshall.

Secretary of State Knox has mailed to Governor Marshall a formal letter of notification regarding the income tax amendment. It is in compliance with the recent resolution of congress although it would have been written in the same terms had that resolution not been enacted. The letter reads: "I have the honor to enclose a certified copy of a joint resolution of congress entitled 'Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States,' with the request that you cause the same to be submitted to the legislature of your state for such action as may be had and that a certified copy of such action be communicated to the secretary of state as required by Section 205, Revised Statutes of the United States (see overleaf.)

"An acknowledgement of the receipt of this communication is requested."

The overleaf referred to in the letter is a citation of the statute requiring notice of action on constitutional amendments by states to be communicated to the secretary of state for publication in papers in which notice is required to be given for adoption of amendments to the constitution. Identical letters have been mailed to the governors of other western states.

Ants That Fight Spiders.

Few more wonderful adaptations are seen in the whole round of nature than the web spiders spin to entrap the wary ant. They are not high hung, lacy affairs, crossing every crevice, but low set silken tubes stretched in the grass, the crevices of rock or about tree roots. Ants of every size creep heedlessly into them. The spiders eat them with relish, but occasionally a very little spider and a very big ant engage in a duel to the death. If the spider can bite, the ant can sting and does it with a right good will. The spider does not try to get rid of such an ant as he does of a wasp or bee too strong to be safely attacked. Such an insect, which threatens destruction to the web, is often cut out by the web builders. The entangling cables are not loose, but the web rays neatly snipped in two, first those underneath and at the very last the highest filament. Often the letting go of such a captive means destruction to half the nest. But some spiders are wiser than some people. They know not merely when they have enough, but when they have too much.

Time went on. Chamberlain gained ground—became a power in parliament. The leading politician, on the contrary, had made a series of blunders which had imperiled his position. An election was imminent. Forgetting his previous record, he thought that if he could get Mr. Chamberlain to speak for him he would strengthen his position. He therefore applied to the right honorable gentleman. The latter calmly surveyed him through his eyeglass and said:

"Chamberlain would like to speak on the bill. Can you give him a chance?"

"Well, you know, I think it would not do. I am a new member, and nobody knows what the Dickens I might say."

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