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given the most sober attention. It modestly makes this suggestion to Mr. Bryan:
'If you will devote your entire time to the duties of your office and refrain during your tenure from lectures or other addresses at which admission fees are charged, The World will pay you on behalf of the American people regularly during your incumbency of the office of secretary of state the sum of \$5,000 a year, with no obligation on your part except to observe the one condition herein expressed.'
Of course, The World knew very well Mr. Bryan would not accept, or even consider the offer for a moment, but the sincerity of the paper cannot be doubted. The World doubtless felt that by its course of action it could more sharply draw public attention to the attitude of Mr. Bryan in connection with his public duties.

Notes and Comments
And now England's golf champions have gone down to defeat before an American youth hitherto unknown to fame. 'For the love of Mike' send some crabbage players over.
North Carolina will be great in her day when she knocks the dust of ages off the state constitution.
Hendersonville shows her faith in the merits of the Greater Western North Carolina association by hustling out to get her annual dues.

Dr. Wiley can doubtless find much comfort in the knowledge that there is nobody to call time on him when he begins to talk.
Advocates of the 'feminist' movement can point with pride to the fact that the first arrest under Wisconsin's new anti-gossip law was a man!

Some time this week Patton avenue will show Pack square what the latter is missing by keeping out of the 'white light zone.' The loafers of El Dorado seem to be content with the 'twilight of fable.'

'THIS DATE IN HISTORY.'
September, 21.
1435—Treaty of Arras concluded between the King of France and the Duke of Burgundy.
1792—Royalty was abolished and a republic established in France.
1814—The 'Star-Spangled Banner,' first appeared in the Baltimore American Daily Advertiser.
1862—The Duke of Cornwall (King George V.) unveiled a statue of Queen Victoria in Ottawa.
1911—Proposed reciprocity pact with the United States defeated in Canadian Parliamentary elections.

'THIS IS MY 56th BIRTHDAY.'
Samuel Rea.
Samuel Rea, who became the successor of James McCrea as president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company on January 1 of this year, was born in Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania, Sept. 21, 1855. He entered the railroad service in 1871 and for two years was engaged in engineering work on the Morrison's Cove, Williamsburg and other branches of the Pennsylvania system. Later he became assistant engineer in charge of the chain suspension bridge over the Monongahela river at Pittsburgh. In 1888 he was made assistant to the second vice president, in 1892 assistant to the president. In 1899 he became fourth vice-president and later first vice-president.

TO CERTAIN POETS.
Now is the rhymist's honest trade.
A thing for scornful laughter made.
The merchant's sneer, the clerk's disdain,
These are the burden of our pain.
Because of you did this befall,
You brought this shame upon us all.
You little poets minding there
With women hearts and women's hair!
How sick Dan Chaucer's ghost must be
To hear you lip of 'Poet'!

The World's Offer
It is not to be supposed that the offer of The New York World to give \$5,000 per annum to Secretary of State Bryan, upon condition that he leave the lecture platform and attend to his duties, is without a tinge of selfishness, seeing the advertising value of the paper's action, but nevertheless, it is regrettable that the secretary of state, the prime minister of the American government, should put himself in a position of being publicly humiliated by what amounts to an offer of charity, for The World puts its offer on the ground of Mr. Bryan's claim that he cannot live upon the \$12,000 paid him by the government as secretary of state, and hence the New York paper is willing to supplement that salary so that the United States might be spared the spectacle of one of its cabinet ministers running around the country lecturing for pay.

HELD ON SUSPICION
DETROIT, Sept. 20.—William, alias 'Big' Houlahan, said to have a long prison record, was taken into custody here this afternoon and detained, while the local authorities communicate with the bank of Montreal concerning the \$372,000 bank robbery at New Westminster, B. C., more than a year ago. Houlahan carried \$250 in bank of Montreal bills when taken into custody and it is alleged that the bills answer the description of the money taken in the New Westminster robbery.
After several hours of investigation the police said tonight that they were convinced that the serial numbers on the bills in Houlahan's possession had been altered and that he would be detained pending developments.

Charged with shoplifting, a handsome young woman in Philadelphia claims she is wife of lieutenant in the United States army.

THE SCISSORS ROUTE
A Statesman on the Job.
(Baltimore Sun.)
The real platform of the democratic party is Woodrow Wilson—an idealist who does things, a dreamer whose dreams come true, a statesman on the job.

What the Government Will Do.
(Union Progress.)
Did you notice in Progress recently Congressman Johnson's offer to have the government furnish free to the farmers of this county inoculating material for alfalfa, clover and vetch? This means much for the successful growing of the splendid leguminous clover crops, and farmers should make application to him promptly, for within the next thirty days these crops should be sown.

Is the Mix Report Mixed?
(Newark News.)
Corner Mix's report, that the whole blame for the North Haven wreck on the New Haven railroad rests upon the employes involved, does not go far enough. It fails to show convincingly why the New Haven should be entirely exculpated. It fails to show convincingly why the fault of the employes was not in some measure the fault of their employers also.

Huerta's Error.
(New York Tribune.)
Gen. Huerta erred in his attempt to distinguish, in yesterday's message, between the government and the people of the United States. It is, of course, technically true that his controversy is with our government and not with the people in town meeting assembled. But the obvious implication of his words, that there is a difference between the attitude of this government and that of this people toward Mexico, must be unhesitatingly and unequivocally disclaimed.

Another Land of Fathoms.
(Richmond Times Dispatch.)
Life in Tidewater continues to be agreeable. Here the testimony of the Southside Sentinel: 'It was an old saying that a Virginia gentleman had two most houses, one on the land and one in the water. This, of course, applied only to Tidewater Virginia. Here we have fish and crabs and oysters, ready for the picking or catching, as plentiful as blackberries, and what is better than berries, they stay with us, more or less, the year around. Oh, but it's a fine country, this of ours, the cheapest country to live in there is. Stop grumbling and go fishing.' Or courtin'.

Needs to be Chartered.
(Roanoke Times.)
Perhaps the recent Rev. David R. Francis, once pastor of the Third Christian church of Richmond, will begin to wonder just where he is at. First he was deposed as pastor on the charge that he had kissed his landlady, a member of his congregation and married a woman, he being a married man. Then he was readmitted to membership by a special meeting of the church and elected head of the Bible class, last Sunday. Now he has been fired out again, but with notice that his expulsion need not be forever. So the question for him is whether he is in or out, a member or an exile.

Scapagoats Will Not Satisfy the Public.
(Baltimore Sun.)
Whoever else escapes responsibility for a railroad wreck, the engineer, the flagman or some subordinate official can always be sure of blame from an old-fashioned 'crowner's inquest.' Engineer Miller and Flagman Murray may deserve to be held 'criminally responsible' for the recent disaster on the New Haven railroad, and if criminal carelessness or disregard of orders can be proved against them, they merit all the punishment that can be given them under the law. But it will require something more than a secret cornerer's inquest to establish their guilt to the satisfaction of the public, and it is not likely they will be allowed to be made scapegoats for the protection of the real criminals higher up. The whole spirit and policy of the New Haven railroad management has been lawless and reckless for years, and if employes have grown careless, it is largely because they have taken their tone from their superiors.

The Real French People.
(Philadelphia Public Ledger.)
This month President Poincare is concluding a motor tour of central France. His wife is with him, and they are mingling with the people. They have thrown off the artificialities and formalities of Paris and are meeting the plain folk, with delightful results. 'Never has the population risen en masse to welcome a president of the republic as it has done this week,' cabled the Paris correspondent of The Public Ledger. Most Americans who travel form the idea that Paris is France. It is no more France than New York is America. Away from the city live the normal people who do a day's work and take their pleasures sanely. We need to know this to understand the marvelous receptivity of the French nation. The people are workers and savers, and their president is to them more than a cogwheel. Paris may regard it as bad form, but France applauds—and when a new president is chosen it will be the type of Falliers, the old farmer and shipbuilder, or Poincare, the thinker and toiler. Great cities grow greater—but the strength of the nation is in the country.

Somewhat Mixed.
A member of the legislature was making a speech on a momentous question, and, in conclusion, said: 'In the words of Daniel Webster, who wrote the dictionary, 'Give me liberty or give me death.'
At this one of his colleagues pulled at his coat and whispered, 'Daniel Webster did not write the dictionary—it was Noah.'
'Noah, nothing,' replied the speaker. 'Noah built the ark.'—National Monthly.

SAVOYARD'S VIEWS
THE WILD PIGEON.
(By Savoyard.)
I was reading in the paper the other day a tale to the effect that a flock of American wild pigeons had been seen in a forest in Pennsylvania. It thrilled me with pleasure, but as I have seen no more about it I fear it is a false report writ by somebody who knows nothing of the bird except what he imperfectly learned from obscure tradition.

The wild pigeon went as did the buffalo. One short-horn or one Jersey cow is worth one hundred buffalo. A time came when the latter had to give way to the former, just as the Indian receded before the march of the white man. It was all a matter of evolution—the inferior must retire to make room for the superior.

But to a man like me—now nearly three score and ten years—there are pleasurable memories clinging about the wild pigeon. If truth be a license, and in this case it does, I do declare I saw millions of them in Barren county, Kentucky, in my youth, and without license I may say I personally slew great numbers of them, though I hope not wantonly, for there was none of the huntsman's sport in their slaughter.

In those days, when the frost had put its first deadly kiss on the beech trees, about October the middle, a few flocks of wild pigeons would appear in the forest to spy out the prospect. In the upper end of Barren county was Little Barren river. On the north bank, over in Green county, were immense areas of native forest of beech; on the south was 'barrens' covered with post-oak and hickory—all scrub, though the soil was splendidly fertile.

When the beech 'mast' was abundant, there would come flocks of wild pigeons countless in numbers. In the heat of the day they fed on the mast of the beech woods. After sundown they would take flight for their roosting place some 60 miles south, in Warren county, and the heavens would be darkened by their numbers making progress at sixty miles an hour.

The next morning before sunrise the birds would obscure the heavens returning from roost to the feeding grounds. Tens of thousands of them were killed wantonly. I knew a fellow named Cage who slew 200 of them in one day just for the lust of the slaughter of the helpless. I was never in a 'pigeon roost' though I heard much about the experience, but it was a string of tales of what I felt to be wanton murder and I never had a desire to participate in the 'sport.'

My father had an old negro cook, 'Aunt Caroline,' and she was the only person I ever saw who knew how to prepare a wild pigeon for the 'white folks' table that was fit to eat. I was a small boy, but I recollect how she fixed the bird. At the age of eleven I was a famous squirrel hunter with a rifle, and of course I could knock down a dozen pigeons with a shotgun.

When I fetched the bag home, 'Aunt Caroline' would pick out the young pigeons and they were for the 'white folks.' These she would dress herself and put in the pot. When she stewed 'em, leaving a rich gravy, and roasted the bird after stewing, putting a delicious crust on the carcass, it was a dish fit for the gods when Lucullus condescended to dine on High Olympus.



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