

BITS OF LONDON NEWS AND GOSSIP

BY RICHARD AVERCOORN.

LONDON, FEB. 5.—The first professor of automobilism in England is Mr. W. Morgan, who has just been given that novel appointment at the Merchant Venturers Technical College in Bristol. He is a bachelor of science of London and after some years' work in science teaching at Coventry secondary school he two years ago undertook the research of advisory work for the Daimler Motor Company, and has managed the company's pupils department. Interviewed on the subject of his appointment yesterday, Mr. Morgan said that the new buildings which Merchant Venturers erected after the fire are now almost completed. "And what is the scheme in view?" he was asked. "The fact is," said the professor, "the governors want to give western men especially the opportunity of entering the profession and the curriculum of teaching is to be both in higher theory and in the practical work of motor car building. While motor-car engineering receives attention at several centres in the Midlands, Birmingham also, there has nowhere been up to now a professor of motor-car engineering. Bristol has in view the combining of the technical college with the university, and thus motor-car theory work will go on alongside the practical."

One way in which the department at Bristol will keep in touch with all this in going on practically in the motor car world is by the arrangement which has been entered into by which the professor will carry out at the college the purely scientific side of any investigations required by Daimler and to apply the practical results in the Coventry works. This university and workshop will be in close alliance. Mr. Morgan will enter upon this appointment at Bristol some time during the coming spring.

Preparations are being made in Parkhurst Forest, Isle of Wight, for the erection of the new type of cell instituted by last year's prevention of crimes act. As Mr. Gladstone explained his proposal, professional criminals after serving a term of penal servitude for their first offence will be detained for an indefinite period in the new buildings. There they remain until the authorities are assured that they will henceforth lead an honest life or until by age or infirmity they are incapable of resuming a life of crime. In this new type of prison, however, the habitual criminal will be subject to less rigorous discipline than in prison. The hours of labor will be less, he will be allowed more liberty to talk, get better food, be able to earn wages, and have an opportunity of recreative occupation. Some thirty acres of forest land on the site of a disused rifle range will be cleared for the new prison, and the work will start before long.

A gruesome scene was witnessed at a wake in Neagh, county, Tipperary, according to a Dublin correspondent. Thomas Kilmart, aged 45, a well-known character in Neagh, died in Neagh infirmary from phthisis on Monday last. The body was removed to his mother's home and his friends persuaded the woman that he was only in a trance. When the corpse near the fire and recommended whiskey as a revive. The sympathetic friends meanwhile helped themselves to the liquor. On Tuesday evening the police interfered and ended the gruesome joke by getting the mother to bury the corpse.

An astonishing story of the trapping and robbing of a foreigner in London, who was like a can melodrama, was told at Old Street police court yesterday. A Russian Jew who spent some years in America and had married there, had saved money and had some, and when they left America some two months ago, intending to go to Russia they had nearly \$2,500 in Russian and English notes and gold. That was kept by the wife in a bag hung around her neck inside a clothes trunk. On arrival in this country they resided in the Old Street district, and came in contact with a man and wife who claimed relationship by marriage. They eventually shared the same house, and another man was introduced as also related. It was these three who were alleged to have conspired together to get possession of the money, and the method pursued was extraordinary. When the husband was out a few days ago, the three persons implicated represented to the wife that he had been knocked down by a train. She (greatly alarmed) would have gone anywhere, and was taken by one of the men to a railway station. She asked where they were going and was told that her husband had been taken to Manchester. She did not know where Manchester was but entered the train with the man and after a long journey found herself in another city. There she was put into a cab, and they drove about until late the same night and called at several places, but could not find her husband. Then she was driven to a hotel and told they would have to wait until morning. They passed the night in the same room, she sitting in a chair, and the man lying on the bed in his clothes. While they were in the room the man forcibly took away the bag of money and some jewelry. She was told she should have it back in the morning. On hearing the wife's story the husband wanted to go to the police, but on a promise that the money should be given back, he temporized and waited, eventually receiving \$750 for which he gave a receipt. Then, having rescued his wife, he left the house and subsequently took advice.

Sir Hiram Maxim is busy now working on the problem of the airship motor. In conversation with a press representative yesterday, he said he had examined every motor in the market and found he could make one considerably lighter than any of the existing types and still preserve a factor of safety. "The very cleverest engineer in France," he said, "wishes me," Sir Hiram continued, "that they are practically dead certain that within a considerably less than a year from the present time they will have machines in 100 horse-power motors that will travel at a stretch. They say that certainly within a year they will make machines that will fly easily from Boulogne to London and return without stopping. The inventor laughed at the suggestion that aeroplanes would presently be obtainable for \$500. "No," he said, "I have told several people that machines like the Wright machine could be easily built at a profit for \$1,000 each. General Miles, who was the commander-in-chief of the United States Army,"

but has now retired, said that he had seen the Wright machine and it appeared to him that such a machine would not cost more than a few hundred dollars. As a matter of fact the motor would probably cost \$500. I told him so. The motive power of more than all the rest of the machine. I think that Barriquand et Marre, of Paris, have recently received orders, and are now making 25 motors for Wright machines. These will be much more efficient for the same weight than the motor made by Wrights themselves. A large number of engines are being made in France that are four times as powerful as the Wright motor. I have been told that 100 horse-power motors are being made at \$3,750 each, a rather stiff price. There are several thousand of the cleverest men in the world working on the problem at the present time, and what the French engineer claims stands a fair chance of taking place inside the next year. Asked when he thought air machines would be utilized for purposes of warfare, Sir Hiram replied emphatically, "The next war."

THORNTON J. HAINS DENIES HE'S SHOT
But He Says He Is Prepared for Attack After Being Warned.
NEW YORK, FEB. 6.—It was reported that Thornton Jenkins Hains, the novel writer, who was acquitted three weeks ago at Flushing for his share in the killing of William F. Morris at the Bay View Club, had been shot this morning at his home in Brooklyn.
The writer of sea-stories was found at his home in Bay Ridge.
"Nobody shot me," said Thornton Hains, "nobody has even tried to shoot me. But I have heard that some of the friends of my brother Peter's wife, Claudia Libby Hains, have been threatening to kill me, and it is possible that they have attacked some poor fellow by mistake for me."
"I am rather expecting a personal attack, and I am prepared for it. I don't mean by that that I am going armed, but I can take care of myself, I think, with my bare hands. I am not afraid, although one of them at least is said to be half crazy with vindictive rage and is talking of what he will do to me."
"I have also got a lot of anonymous letters and postal cards, denouncing and threatening me and my brother. Most of these come from cranks. Day before yesterday I had one signed J. H. H., promising me that the writer would take pleasure in 'fixing' me next week. He hasn't been around yet."
It was stated to-day at Long Island City that except for a call at the jail on the afternoon of his acquittal, Thornton Hains has not been to the jail a single time to see his brother, although he lives only a few miles away.

SOCIAL EVENT AT PINEVILLE
Miss Rebecca Nichols Gives Elaborate Reception in Compliment to Miss Gelston, of Columbia—Other Notes. Special to The Chronicle.
PINEVILLE, FEB. 6.—One of the most brilliant social events of the season was marked last evening at the pretty home of Miss Rebecca Nichols by a reception in honor of her cousin, Miss Annie Mae Gelston, of Columbia, S. C., at which the following named guests were present: Misses Edith Ward, Fan Sims, Margaret Warlick, Emma Lee Nesbit, Mary Sims and Nan Ward, of Charlotte; Minnie Garrison and Martha Smith, of Fort Mill; Annie Mae and Belle Gelston, of Columbia; Vera Alma Culp, Maggie Johnson, of the village; Messrs. Perry McGinn, Rae Lee and John Nichols, of Charlotte; Oscar Culp and Frank Huggins, of Fort Mill; Arthur Hampton, of Gastonia; John Gelston, of Columbia; Will and John McLelland, of Steele Creek, and Prof. A. C. Dubose, of Pineville. The following guests assisted in receiving: In the front hall, Miss Fan Sims and Mr. Will McLelland; in the parlor, Miss Annie Mae Gelston and Miss Rebecca Nichols; in the dining room, Miss Belle Gelston and Miss Maggie Johnson. The handsome dining room, the color scheme of which was red and green, was lovely and on the extended table with its bountiful and dainty refreshments was a centerpiece of red carnations, contrasting beautifully with the snowy napery and the fresh green ferns blanch in every available niche. The evening was spent most pleasantly in a quotation contest and Miss Martha Smith and Mary Sims delighted the guests with music. The occasion was replete with enjoyment, and Miss Nichols' reception, quite an event in the village.

Miss Margaret Marquis, of the Elizabeth College faculty, Charlotte, will spend the week-end with her friend, Miss Vera Alma Culp, at the residence of Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Stough, on Main street.
Mr. R. E. Harris has gone to Concord to spend a few days with his daughter, Mrs. J. M. Howard.
The Ladies' Missionary Society of the A. R. P. church was entertained yesterday at the residence of Miss Beulah Yountz, and dainty refreshments were served. The society was recently organized, but is steadily gaining in number and interest.

WAKE FOREST GETS IT BACK ON TRINITY.
Baptists Win in Second Game of Basketball Series. Special to The Chronicle.
WAKE FOREST, FEB. 6.—In a one-sided contest last night, the Baptists were easy winners over the Methodists in the second of a series of basketball games. As a result of the defeat of the Wake Forest team at Trinity College last Saturday night, a record-breaking crowd was out to cheer the team on to victory.
From the time the referee's whistle blew until the timekeeper called time at the end of the last half, the visitors were out-classed in every point of the game. They were forced to play on the defensive as the locals took the lead in the beginning. Allen, Duffy and Brown starred for Wake Forest and Baxter for Trinity, making the five points from the foul line.
At the end of the first half the score stood 12 to 2. The locals were sure of victory then, but wanted to see how large they could swell the score.
Trinity was again unable to score from the field, but three three goals from the foul line. Wake Forest played better in the second half and piled up 18 more points.
The line-up: Trinity—Armfield, c.; Stewart, r. f.; Baxter, l. f.; Kiker, r. g.; Hederick, l. g. Wake Forest—Allen, c.; Carrick, r. f.; Allen, l. f.; Duffy, r. g.; Brown, l. g. Time—Two twenty minute halves; referee, Crozier; umpire, Card.

SOUTH AMERICANS MARVEL AT CANAL ZONE'S HEALTH.
Greatest Feat of Science in Many Years in Their Opinion.
NEW YORK, FEB. 6.—That there is a great awakening in scientific circles of all the South American republics is the verdict of delegates to the Pan-American Scientific Congress held at Santiago de Chile, who arrived in New York to-day on the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's liner Nile. Among the delegates were T. W. Rommel, who represented the Department of Agriculture at Washington.
"To the South Americans," said Mr. Rommel, "the greatest feat of science in many years is the sanitation of the Panama Canal Zone. They consider it a marvel that the United States could make a healthy country out of such a plague spot."
The Secret of Long Life.
A French scientist has discovered one secret of long life. His method deals with the blood. But long ago millions of Americans had proved Electric Bitters prolongs life, enriches and vitalizes the blood, rebuilds wasted nerve cells, imparts life and tone to the entire system. It's a godsend to weak, sick and debilitated people. "Kidney trouble had blighted my life for months," writes W. M. Sherman, of Cushing, Me., "but Electric Bitters cured me entirely." Only 50c at W. L. Hand & Co.

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Lincoln and Booth
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Clara E. Laughlin, the well-known Lincoln commentator and historian, has written one of her most vivid sketches upon the subject of Lincoln's death and the pursuit of John Wilkes Booth.
If you are reading Lincoln history, don't miss this; if you are not, you will find Miss Laughlin's article full of new interest.

HAMPTON'S MAGAZINE
February—On Sale Now
Twenty other features of unusual interest. Among them a thrilling article on *Night Riders* by Eugene P. Lyle, Jr.
A lively, authentic article on "Hunting Ahead of Roosevelt in East Africa," by Capt. Fritz Duquesne, the Boerivory hunter; *Admiral Evans* on the "Superiority of Our Navy"—when you have finished reading it you will know the facts about our ships and our men;
Rex Beach's great new novel of the Northwest—"The Silver Horde"; and splendid short stories by Joseph Conrad, Emerson Hough, Mary Heaton Vorse, Elliott Flower, Jean Webster, Mary Mullett, Ward Muir.
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Charlotte, N. C., February 4th, 1909.
With the incoming month of March, this Association (one of the oldest and largest) if not altogether the largest Building & Loan Association, not only in North Carolina—but in the whole UNITED STATES doing business on a strictly serial plan of the maturing value of \$100 per share.
40 have been matured and paid off, amounting to nearly \$2,000,000. We are now entering upon our **53rd Series** which will commence on Saturday, March 6th; the subscription books for which are now open.
The management hopes to make this the banner Series in order to reach a million dollars assets by July, next. The management is gratified by the rush of new subscriptions already obtained (as 25 new applications for loans have already been filed) so all you prospective subscribers hurry up, if you want your loans to be reached this summer.
R. E. COCHRANE, Sec. and Treas.
S. WITTKOWSKY, Pres.