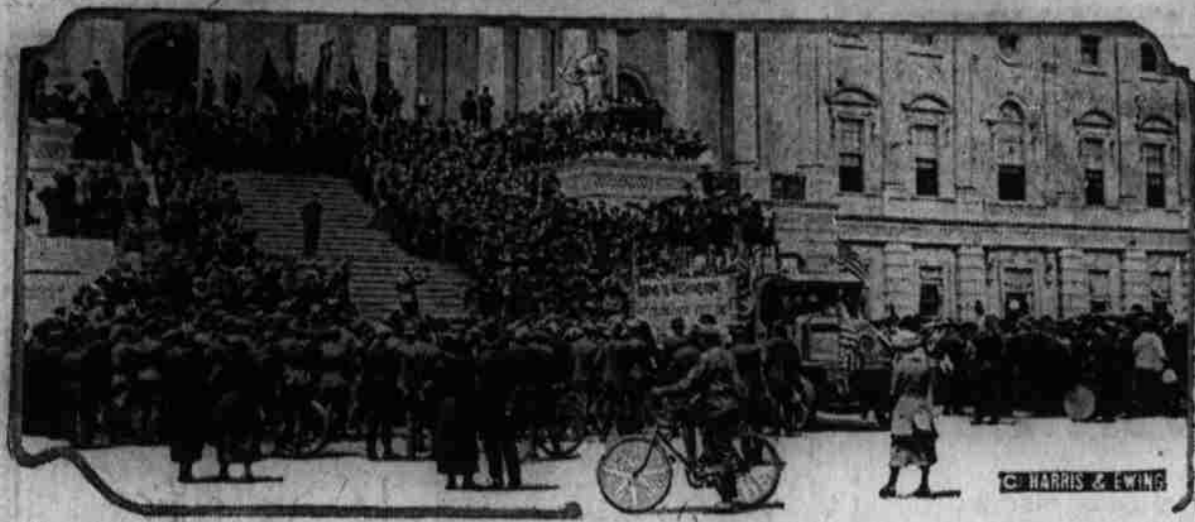


# Million-Name Soldiers' Petition Received



The million-name soldiers' bonus petition arriving at the capitol, where it was accepted by Senator Hiram W. Johnson as chairman of the senate reception committee. The huge roll of names was presented to congress by Capt. Samuel H. Jacobson, district commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

## Forgers Reap Huge Harvest

Take Annual Levy of \$30,000,000 From Careless Check Writers in United States.

### IS ARISTOCRAT OF CRIMINALS

Introduction of Modern Protective Measures Only Hampered Crook's Plans for Time-Safety Paper Is Best Precaution.

New York.—Forgers and penmen are exacting a toll of between \$30,000,000 and \$35,000,000 a year from the people of the country because of the careless manner in which checks and drafts are written and handled, according to Burgess Smith, ex-inspector of technical work in the United States bureau of engraving, writing in American Industries, the magazine of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Balked by scientific inventions in check protecting devices and L check paper that defies alteration, check raisers are now robbing mail boxes and adopting other subterfuges to obtain checks which are not safeguarded. Their depredations are becoming so extensive, the writer says, that authorities do not make public any more the amount of losses being sustained.

"Ninety-five per cent of the business of the nation is done by check and draft," says the writer. "During the last year a total of approximately \$400,000,000,000 in checks and drafts passed through the clearing houses of the nation, based on a total currency issue in circulation of about \$5,000,000,000. In other words, checks and drafts in circulation constantly exceed currency and bullion at the rate of eighty to one.

"It is only natural, therefore, that the most astute minds of the criminal world should turn their attention toward a form of crime which yields great profits with little chance of detection and conviction—all because of the innate carelessness of individuals."

**Grow With Use of Checks.**

Tracing the rapid development of the use of credit instruments the world over, particularly within recent years, Mr. Smith shows how losses from forgery have increased with the increased use of checks and drafts.

"The idea of the bank check is as old as Egypt," the writer says, "but it was only a half century ago that the word 'check' meant little or nothing in the daily life of the average American business man. Such a thing as a forged or raised check was almost unthought of. Where today the losses from forgery are increasing at the rate of \$1,000,000 annually, with more than \$30,000,000 estimated as last year's figures, the total annual toll thirty years ago was only \$1,000,000."

"The methods employed by the forger embrace a cunning and skill that is seldom found in other forms of crime. The forger and penman is the aristocrat of the underworld. He is

one of the 'higher-ups' in an organization that is conducted in a 'most business-like way. First, there is the banker, who backs the gang with his wealth and who usually has associated with him an expert criminal lawyer. Then there is the forger himself, who lives in some secluded out-of-the-way spot, where he has his laboratory. There, with pens and inks and acids and blotters strewn about him, he sits and traces signatures or obliterates writing with such a high degree of delicacy and perfection that even banking experts are deceived. Since the forger is the 'brains' of the organization, he must be accorded the greatest possible protection. Consequently, there are the 'go-between' men who hire thieves to rob the mail boxes and presenters to 'put down' the forged checks. These men never come in contact with the forger, and the result is that the arrest of subordinates seldom leads to his conviction.

**"And" Vulnerable Point.**

"Before the introduction of modern protective measures, forgery and alteration had become so simple it had almost ceased being called an art. To raise a check from eight to eighty dollars, all this master criminal had to do was to add a 'y' to the 't' and then another zero to the numerals. To raise six to sixty, seven to seventy or nine to ninety was just as easy, and to change five to fifty or to tack some other zero to fifty, say 100 or 1,000, was equally simple. The word 'and' has always been a most vulnerable point of attack, and in many typical cases of forgery it has been made to call for thousands by writing 'thous' before it.

"For many years the forger had as his greatest foe the designer of check writing machines that shred the amount in colors and at the same time impregnate the paper with insoluble ink. The introduction of these devices only hampered the crook's plans, however, for he could still, with the use of his acids, erase the payee line and substitute for names the words 'cash' or 'bearer.' And, likewise, he could change the number and date lines.

"To meet this new move of the check raiser a safety paper that could not be erased or altered in any way without detection was needed, and by a gradual evolution which led nearer and nearer to perfection the manufacturers have only recently been able to produce a safety paper which has thus far withstood all tests of the criminal. Thus, the check forger has again been defeated, and check users who today employ the modern measures of protection afforded—the modern writing machine, as well as the safety paper—have no reason to fear that their checks will be altered."

**How to Be Doubly Safe.**

To make checks absolutely safe against the depredations of forgers and raisers, Mr. Smith suggests the following measures:

1. Write your checks on paper that

### Famous Tree, 800 Years Old, Shows Signs of Wear

Mexico City.—The "great tree of Tule," in Santa Maria de Tule, state of Oaxaca, after 800 years, is beginning to show signs of wear. This giant cypress, with a trunk so huge it takes 30 persons with outstretched arms to span it, is known to have been a fair-sized tree when Columbus discovered America.

History also recounts that Cortes and his Spanish soldiers slept beneath its branches four centuries ago en route to Honduras following their conquest of Mexico.

There is no immediate cause for worry, however, that Tule, as Indians call the tree, will wither away before the present generation has passed on. And even if it should, Tule has a son some fifty yards away that is showing signs of maintaining the family honor. Hijo (son) already is so large 12 persons are needed to span it. Hijo is only a couple of hundred years old.

The tree rises 175 feet. The spread of its branches is almost 150 feet.

defies alteration by inks or chemicals.

2. Never typewrite a check or permit a check to leave your office that contains an erasure.
3. Write the name of the payee and the amount of the check clearly and plainly, never leaving any margin before the amount or between the written figures.
4. Keep your blank checks under lock and key and know where every one of them goes. They are worth as much money as your credit once they have your name in the right-hand corner—and some one may be able to deceive a bank or a storekeeper into believing that a check with a forged signature is yours.
5. Finally, to be doubly sure, insure yourself against loss by forgery or check alteration. The makers of the best safety check paper and check writing machines are so sure their devices defy the efforts of the most ingenious criminals that they carry their customers' insurance themselves at a merely nominal cost.

**Dissolving Salt Raises Ship.**

Norfolk, Va.—Capt. L. P. Power of the schooner Cumberland Queen and his wife, given up for dead in the wreck of the ship, arrived in Norfolk one day recently. The ship, after grounding twice, finally sank, Power said, in the deep water. The captain and crew were taken to Charleston. Then the salt cargo, with which the vessel was heavily laden, dissolved and the lighted ship bobbed up again, to be rescued by the coast guardsmen.

**Makes "Pearls" of Fish Scales.**

Heathsville, Va.—In Fleeton they have employed a French woman, who is engaged in making imitation pearls from the essence of fish scales. She is said to have made some fine specimens of "pearls."

This new and novel enterprise is attracting considerable attention. The fishermen are being paid 10 cents a pound for fish scales.

### Mrs. White Took a Tip From Noah



Mrs. Margaret White, seventy years old, resident of St. Paul's lower levee district, took to the boat when the waters of the swollen Mississippi rose to her doorstep. She did not neglect, however, to load as many of her pets as possible into the small craft.

### Dress Goods a la King

By R. RAY BAKER

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Agnes Morton appeared to be in one of her cold, calculating moods this afternoon; but Cecil Sargent had the temerity to approach her, and not on a matter of business connected with Chalmers & Chalmers, wholesale dealers in dress goods. It was a more personal subject that he had to broach—a much more personal subject.

He stopped at her desk and fidgeted for a few seconds, shifting his weight from one foot to another. Agnes appeared unusually beautiful this morning; in fact, Cecil could find only one word to describe her, and that was "gorgeous"—and of course that wasn't the right word.

Cecil's hesitation was not occasioned by the fact that the young woman was his boss, by reason of her holding the position as sales manager, while he was but a salesman. He felt trepidation because he knew he was not in her good graces; she had showed it all too plainly on more than one occasion of late. But he just had to speak once more concerning the subject that made his world go round.

"Agnes," he said, in a voice that almost faltered, "isn't it about time you set the date for our wedding?"

She looked up from the letter she was reading and smiled slightly, rather pityingly, it seemed.

"Well, hardly," she returned. "I don't remember that I have definitely accepted your offer of marriage as yet. I was considering it some time ago, I'll admit, but you've been such a wretched business failure lately that I'm on the point of giving it up. You don't imagine I want to marry a failure, do you? Do you realize you haven't sold a hundred dollars' worth of goods in a month?"

Cecil realized it all too well. But what was he to do? He was a good salesman, and he knew it; but he had been so worried lately over Agnes that he couldn't keep his mind on his work. Every time he failed to make a sale he sank that much lower in her estimation, and every time he dropped a notch in that respect he lost just so much of his business ability. It was an endless chain, with nothing but disaster pulling on the end of it.

"I know it," he confessed in answer to her indictment, "but if you would only give me some definite encouragement, perhaps I'd come back as a salesman. You've got me worried, Agnes."

She tapped her lips with the eraser end of a pencil and studied him intently. He was a nice looking young man, she realized that, and he was bright and clever, too. Still, those things counted for naught unless they brought results. Agnes had no intention of supporting a husband; when she became tied in a nuptial knot she expected to retire from business and devote herself to housekeeping. As she looked at Cecil in that scrutinizing manner she realized that he was becoming careless in regard to his appearance.

"Don't you think," she suggested, "that a shoe shine would help to sell goods? And do you know that your tie is crooked and the pointed end of your tie-pin is sticking out like a sword. And you have a dinner engagement with Adelaide Amberson this evening; don't forget that."

"Tell you what I'll do," she continued, "if you sell Miss Amberson a good bill of goods I'll set the date! How is that for something definite?"

Cecil gulped.

"Oh, all right, fine!" he replied, and went away, feeling more discouraged than ever.

Sell a good bill of goods to Adelaide Amberson, eh? That would be a herculean task. Adelaide represented Smith & Brown, the biggest dress goods buyers in the state. Every time she came to town the salesmen made a wild scramble to see her; but for three years Chalmers & Chalmers had not sold her for a cent, although one of their representatives always took her out to dinner. James Brothers had been the lucky ones, and Cecil knew the reason. They employed a "he vamp" for a salesman, a fashion-plate of a dude, one Henry Watters, who charmed Adelaide—somehow of a "vamp" herself—into buying goods.

Women in business certainly were making a mess of things. Agnes was too practical and Adelaide too impractical. The former demanded too close adherence to business principles and the latter had no regard for them. The man who could captivate Adelaide with his clothes was the one who landed the order, and Cecil certainly was not a good dresser; that is, he could not go to extremes. Henry Watters stunned her with his clothes and made her buy while she was unconscious.

Thus Cecil soliloquized as he made his way to the street. In a very unpleasant dream he walked along, until suddenly a flash of red from a window caught his notice. It was an extremely loud tie containing big blue checks.

Cecil had an idea, and it made him gasp. Here was something that had stunning possibilities. He considered a moment, then went in and purchased the tie. He had suddenly decided to make a strenuous attempt to get Adelaide's order. He had to in order to be happy.

At the family hotel where he lived he struggled with the red-and-blue tie—struggled long and hard, and it was not until half past five o'clock that he acclaimed himself the victor, standing before the mirror and blinking his

eyes at the red blaze below his neck. Then suddenly he discovered that his trousers needed pressing, and he called a boy, who took them away. The only other pair he possessed were close to shabbiness, so he remained in his room and waited.

The tailor was slow, and when the hour of six arrived Cecil was fuming with impatience. He called the tailor and was assured the trousers would be right up. The dinner engagement was for seven.

At 6:30 he called again.

"They'll be right up," the tailor assured. "They're ready now and the boy is just waiting for Mr. Carson's trousers. Mr. Carson's in a hurry, too."

Confound Mr. Carson! So he was delaying the game. He was a young Englishman, the last word in fashion plates, who was touring America.

At 6:40 the boy appeared and Cecil leaped into his trousers. Without stopping to ascertain whether they actually had been pressed, he flung on his top-coat and hurried out to a taxicab, which yanked him toward Adelaide's hotel. But a flat tire caused delay and Cecil arrived fifteen minutes late, to be informed by Adelaide's aunt, who traveled with her, that she had gone to dinner with Mr. Watters, thinking Mr. Sargent had forgotten his engagement.

Disconsolate, Cecil went to a cafeteria to dine alone. He had intended taking the buyer to a fashionable cafe, but this serve-self place was good enough for him. As he hung up his coat and seated himself he noticed several persons looking at him and snickering, and he laid it to the loud tie. He wished it was in the garbage can, where it belonged.

"Why Mr. Sargent! This is a surprise!"

He looked up and saw Adelaide Amberson carrying a tray. Then he noticed Mr. Watters, who had gone on and found a table. How he hated that dude, who, by robbing him of Adelaide, was robbing him of Agnes and happiness!

Cecil stood up and shook her hand. She gasped as she surveyed him and sudden admiration was evident in her stare.

"Mr. Sargent," she said, speaking rapidly. "I want to dine with you. I'm going to give Mr. Watters the slip. Think of him bringing me into such a place! He thinks my order is clucked, but I've changed my mind. Wait in front for me. Why, you adorable boy! Such an innovation—regular King George style!"

She hurried away and Cecil stood in a daze.

"Must be the tie," he decided. "It knocked her cold. But where does the king come in?"

Then he caught a glimpse of his trousers. They were creased on the sides!

"God save the king!" he said fervently, and dropped into his chair.

### HAD HAD DINNER TOGETHER

Soldier and Owner of Crow Both Partook of Dish Not Usually Considered a Delicacy.

The expression "eating crow" which is used synonymously with "eating humble pie" to indicate surrender or enforced doing of something unpleasant, originated in an anecdote of Civil war days.

According to the story, a private trespassed and shot a tame crow. The enraged farmer seized his rifle and declared: "Since you've killed my crow you've got to eat it."

A little later the farmer asked: "Well, how do you like crow?"

"I don't hanker after it," was the reply, "but I can eat it."

Satisfied, the farmer returned the soldier's gun which he found immediately turned upon him with the curt demand to finish the crow. In the name of expediency he did as he was told, but the next day he went to headquarters and lodged a complaint against the offending private. Summoned before the colonel the first question the soldier had to answer was:

"Did you ever see this man before?"

"Sho thing," he remarked, "we ah-dined together yesterday. We both ate crow!"

### Original Meaning of "I. H. S."

The inscription "I. H. S." was originally the Greek letters, "iota," "eta" and "sigma," the first three letters—or, as some authorities say, the first two and the last letter—of the Greek word for "Jesus." In later years the origin of these letters having been lost, they were mistaken for the Latin capitals, "I. H. S.," and a Latin word was found for each letter, as follows: "Iesus Hominum Salvator," Latin for "Jesus, Savior of Men."

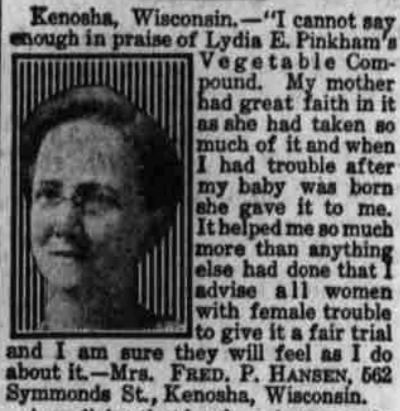
This anagram is said to have originated with St. Bernardine of Siena in 1347. According to other authorities, the letters are the initials of the words, "In Hoc Signo," Latin for "In This Sign," miraculously displayed in the sky before Constantine and his army.

### Fascinating Old Copper.

The Jewish people, by reason of their religion, have always held their copper household utensils and brass candlesticks in loving regard. Their use of copper cooking pots dates back to that ancient time when they were commanded by God to place no iron on the fire of the Altar of Stones; when the tabernacle was raised in the wilderness in the time of Moses, its furnishings were of gold, silver and copper. (In the King James version of the Bible it reads "Gold, silver, and brass," but in the Hebrew text it reads "Gold, silver and copper.")—M. Holden in Country Life.

## YOUNG MOTHER NOW STRONG

Her Mother's Faith in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Led Her To Try It



Kenosha, Wisconsin.—"I cannot say enough in praise of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. My mother had great faith in it as she had taken so much of it and when I had trouble after my baby was born she gave it to me. It helped me so much more than anything else had done that I advise all women with female troubles to give it a fair trial and I am sure they will feel as I do about it.—Mrs. FRED. P. HANSEN, 562 Symonds St., Kenosha, Wisconsin.

A medicine that has been in use nearly fifty years and that receives the praise and commendation of mothers and grandmothers is worth your consideration.

If you are suffering from troubles that sometimes follow child-birth bear in mind that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is a woman's medicine. It is especially adapted to correct such troubles.

The letters we publish ought to convince you; ask some of your women friends or neighbors—they know its worth. You will, too, if you give it a fair trial.

Justifiable.

"I presume you are very particular about observing the conventions of the game," remarked the Easterner as he settled down for a sociable little game of stud in Tombstone, Ariz.

"We're all of that," replied the western dealer genially. "When any stranger get too far ahead we always shoot him on the spot."—American Legion Weekly.

**Sure Relief FOR INDIGESTION**

BELLANS INDIGESTION TABLETS

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**BELLANS**

25¢ and 75¢ Packages, Everywhere

**VICTIMS RESCUED**

Kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles are most dangerous because of their insidious attacks. Heed the first warning they give that they need attention by taking

**GOLD MEDAL HARBLYN OIL CAPSULES**

The world's standard remedy for these disorders will often ward off these diseases and strengthen the body against further attacks. Three sizes, all druggists.

Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation

**MRS. WINSLOW'S SYRUP**

The Infants' and Children's Syrup

Children grow healthy and free from colic, diarrhoea, flatulency, constipation and other troubles if given it at feeding time. Safe, pleasant—always brings reasonable and gratifying results.

At All Druggists

**GREEN MOUNTAIN ASTHMA COMPOUND**

quickly relieves the distressing paroxysms. Used for 50 years and result of long experience in treatment of throat and lung diseases by Dr. J. H. Guild. FREE TRIAL BOX, Treatise on Asthma, its causes, treatment, etc., sent upon request. 50c. and \$1.00.

At All Druggists. J. H. GUILD CO., RUPERT, VT.

**INFLAMED EYES**

Don't treat sore, inflamed, smarting eyes with powerful drugs "drop" in by hand. A soothing, effective, safe remedy is Mitchell Eye Salve.

**MITCHELL EYE SALVE**

At All Druggists.

**NO DYE**

To restore gray or faded hair to original color, don't use a dye—It's dangerous—Get a bottle of Q-See Hair Color Restorer—Safe for scalp—Apply it and watch results. At all good druggists, 50c. or direct from HESIG-ELIAS, Chicago, Memphis, Tenn.

**FORD OWNERS' TROUBLES STOPPED FOREVER.** Use everlasting springs instead of front top straps. \$1.00 per pair prepaid. Industrial Specialists, Birmingham, Ala.

**WATERMELON SEED, THE POINT, POST-PAY.** We grow over thirty different varieties. Send for catalogue. EVANS SEED COMPANY, MONTICELLO, FLORIDA.

**Wanted Young Men to Learn the BARBER TRADE**

Best college in the South. Write Charlotte Barber College, Charlotte, N.C.

(Invests—\$0 for Two Months course price of new cut. Send \$1.00. Charismatic money returned. G. H. TAYMAN, Rawson, Okla.)

V. N. U., CHARLOTTE, NO. 22-1922.

### Profiteer in Leeches as Demand Revives

Paris.—Whenever you had a headache or a pain in the old days, they put leeches on you—the nasty slimy things that get in your way as you walk through your garden after a rain. When contemporaries of Pepys used to get "blood to the head" (a common cranial disturbance with "three bottle men" of the period) leeches would be hurriedly sent for.

For some reason impossible to fathom there has been an increased demand for leeches in Paris in the last few months.

Fifty years ago leeches cost 250 francs per 1,000, but the price soon went down to 60 francs.

Profiteering has now set in. Leech dealers are springing up here and there and the price per thousand has gone up to 100 francs.