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of a piano is very much like the choice of friends.

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The selection and exclusive use of Stieff Pianos in many of the greatest educational institutions in the United States is a source of gratification to us, and we feel justly proud of the fact that in about two hundred colleges we have more than one thousand Stieff Pianos. There must be a reason.

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a clearance sale of a dozen or more new 1909 Bicycles, some high grade Guns and all kinds of supplies at greatly reduced prices.

Come early and select one of our Iver-Johnson or Reading Standard Bicycles, so cheap in price only. Our Repair Department is more complete than ever. Give us a call.

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King of Repairers.

Bryan is Never To Run Again

Is Determined That Democratic Nominee in 1912 Shall Be One Who Was Loyal to Him Last November—His Income \$60,000 to \$80,000 a Year.

New York, Feb. 15.—"I have not seen any account of the way Bryan takes his defeat, his present position, his view of the election and the ideas his friends have of his future," said a personal friend of William J. Bryan, one who took a very active part in last year's Democratic national campaign. "Mr. Bryan," said his friend, "will not be a candidate for the presidential nomination again, but he is determined that the Democratic nominee in 1912 shall be a man who was loyal to him last November, and who is known to hold what Mr. Bryan calls 'advanced and progressive Democratic views.'"

"During the next four years new men and issues are expected to make their appearance, and an entirely new political alignment may be expected within the Democratic party. At present Mr. Bryan does not look with favor upon the presidential aspirations of Governor John A. Johnson, of Minnesota, or Governor Harmon, of Ohio, although, reduced to a choice of the last two, the Nebraska prefers the Ohio executive.

"Bryan regards Senator Elect Shively, of Indiana, as a 'progressive' Democrat; also Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon; Governor John Burke and Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, who is to be Democratic leader of the house of representatives at Washington after March 4.

"The friends of Bryan don't yet regard Governor Shallenberger, of Nebraska, or Governor Marshall, of Indiana, as progressive, although there is hope that their work will receive the approval of Bryan and that their names may be added to his favored class. Bryan will continue to write for his newspaper and lecture constantly for four years.

"His income ranges from \$50,000 to \$80,000 a year. He was badly broken up and bitterly disappointed over his defeat, for which he was unprepared. He has taken the third defeat much harder than any previous reverse in politics.

"To friends he has revealed his belief that the chief cause of the heavy vote for Taft in large cities was the defection of Catholic voters, and his friends among that persuasion are trying to argue him out of the notion."

FOUND DEAD IN CANAL

Enlisted Man's Companion Held to Await Action of Coroner.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 15.—The body of Mont West, trumpeter in the Fourth company of the Forty-fifth Coast artillery, was found in the Chesapeake & Delaware canal near Fort Dupont. William McCracken, of Chester, Pa., a private in the same company, who was last seen in West's company, is held at the fort to await the investigation of the coroner.

There were no marks of violence on the body.

SUICIDE WHEN SOLD OUT

Blows Himself to Atoms With Dynamite as Sheriff Comes.

Titusville, Pa., Feb. 15.—Charles F. Hull, a well-known farmer, residing near Grand Valley, Pa., committed suicide by blowing himself to atoms with dynamite. Hull was in financial difficulties, the sheriff having advertised the sale of his property. He left a note, saying: "On the day of the sale my troubles will be over."

LOST EYE BY STRANGE TURN

Young Man Looks Up Just as Chestnut Burr Falls.

Newton, N. J., Feb. 15.—Floyd Bennett, a young man, was passing under a chestnut tree in a windstorm, when he was moved to look up. As he did so a chestnut burr fell, struck him in the eye and stuck there. The force of the blow sent the eye back into his head.

Aged Minister Sued by Girl Wife.

Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Mrs. Agnes H. Gaylord, a wife of twenty years, is suing her husband, Rev. Willis C. Gaylord, aged seventy years, for a separation. She admits that she did not love him when she married him, but took him for his money. She believes he has more than \$100,000, but says she refuses to spend any of it on her.

Carried Into Lake on Ice Floe.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 15.—A score of fishermen and their dogs were carried out into Lake Erie when the ice field was set in motion by a shift of the wind. All were rescued except Joseph Catusky, 73, a man and his dog team are missing and are no doubt lost.

\$5000 in Liquor Seized in Maine.

Portland, Me., Feb. 15.—Eight deputy sheriffs made a simultaneous raid on seven express companies and confiscated \$5000 worth of liquor, the largest seizure ever made in this city or in the state.

Washington Once Gave Up.

to three doctors; was kept in bed for five weeks. Blood poison from a spider's bite caused large, deep sores to cover his leg. Mee doctors failed, then "Buckler's Arnica" saved completely cured me," writes John Washington, of Boqueville, Tex. For eczema, boils, burns and piles its supreme. 25c. at W. Allen's and Fetzer & Tucker's drug stores.

FLORIDA HOTEL BURNED

Night Clerk Sounded Alarm and All the Guests Escaped.

Daytona, Fla., Feb. 15.—The Hotel Clarendon, at Sea Breeze, one of the largest resort hotels on the east coast, together with ten cottages adjoining the house, was totally destroyed by fire. The 215 guests, who were asleep at the time, were saved without injury, and many were able to gather up most of their belongings.

When the blaze was first discovered the night clerk rushed the help to each room notifying guests, who made their way hurriedly to the streets.

The ten cottages, owned by H. R. Kochersperger, caught from sparks and all were burned at the same time.

The hotel help was panic stricken and the clerks could do nothing with them, one woman biting the clerk badly on the hand. The hotel was a wooden structure, valued at \$200,000.

AID ASKED FOR HELPLESS CHILDREN

Presidential Message on Dependent Little Ones.

Washington, Feb. 15.—President Roosevelt transmitted to the two houses of congress a special message recommending legislation requested by the conference on the care of dependent children held in Washington Jan. 26 and 27.

The aim of the friends of the dependent children is the enactment of legislation providing for their care. This aim is heartily endorsed by the president. He is thoroughly in favor of bills pending in the senate and house of representatives providing such care for the dependent children in the District of Columbia and the territories, the only sections of the country for which congress may enact such laws. These bills will serve as examples for the rest of the country, it is hoped.

Before the conference at its meeting in the White House on Jan. 25 and subsequently the president expressed the greatest interest in its work. The conference, which was composed of well known philanthropists and sociologists from all parts of the United States, assembled in Washington at his invitation, and its sessions were formally opened by him in a long address.

The president gave his opinion that there could be no more important subject, from the standpoint of the nation, than the care of "the interests of those children whom cruel misfortune has handicapped at the very outset of their lives." He referred to the orphan, the crippled child, the child worker and the child temporarily parted from its parents by circumstances.

For headache Dr. Mee's Anti-Pain Oint.

Niagara Falls Is Ice Bound

A Great Wall of Ice Runs From Goat Island to American Mainland—The Gorge Below the Falls is Choked and the Whirlpool is Barely in Motion.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Only a tiny rivulet, not deep nor swift enough to carry a pulp log over the break is flowing over the American side of Niagara Falls. A strong northeast wind, which has blown since Friday, has held back the water and allowed the ice to gain a foothold. Two employes of the American reservation walked from Prospect point nearly to Bath island. They desisted from completing the trip merely because they did not care to get their feet wet, a stream at one point being a few inches above the tops of their boots.

A great wall of ice runs from the head of Goat island to the American mainland, through which only tiny streams are able to trickle. This wall has even encroached on the Canadian channel, extending out some 200 feet beyond the third Sister island and greatly diminishing the flow over the Horseshoe. Only the very apex of the Canadian fall is left and that is robbed of half its flow. The gorge below is choked and the rapids have lost their fury, while the whirlpool is barely in motion.

This is only the third time that this combination of wind and ice has thus affected the falls since the white man came here. The other occasions were on March 29, 1848, and March 22, 1903.

Storm Wrecks Church; Two Killed.

Learned, Miss., Feb. 15.—A storm struck this place from the northwest with terrific force, blowing down a negro church, killing a woman and one child and injuring eight or ten others. About seventy-five persons were in the building at the time. If it had not been for the arched ceiling they would all probably have been killed.

Oldest Man in the World is 139.

Mexico City, Feb. 15.—Jose Gaudaloup, abenda of Jalisco, state of Jalisco, is said to be the oldest man in the world. The record of his birth in the archives of the parish church shows that he was born in 1779, which makes him 139 years old. He is in good physical condition.

Killed by Sister He Tried to Frighten.

Huntington, Va., Feb. 15.—Pretending to be a burglar in order to frighten his younger sister, Tony Blair started a commotion in their chicken coop, near Nolan. The little girl secured a shotgun and fired, killing him.

Mendik in Best of Health.

Berlin, Feb. 15.—A dispatch to a German news agency from Addi Abeha says that King Mendik has returned from his pilgrimage and is in the best of health.

You need Mothers' Joy every day.

PLANS FIENDISH REVENGE

Discharged Man Gives Horse Apples Filled With Needles.

Bayonne, N. J., Feb. 15.—Alarmed at the evidently increasing pain of a horse for which he had recently paid \$200, Lewis Scalfini, a truckman, summoned a veterinary surgeon, who removed several apples stuffed with needles from the horse's throat.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Lewis Scalfini, a cousin of the owner of the horse, and of the same name, who had formerly been employed by him as a stableman, and the police are seeking him.

The veterinary surgeon declared the agony of the horse must have been intense, and began another operation to remove, if possible, a deadly mass from the stomach.

JACKSON'S TREE BLOWN DOWN

Famous Maple of the White House Grounds Perishes in Storm.

Washington, Feb. 15.—An historic silverleaf maple in the White House grounds, which, tradition says, was planted by Andrew Jackson during the strenuous days of his administration, and which stood within fifteen feet of the oak planted in 1858 by President McKinley, was blown down by a heavy windstorm. The tree, hollow for some years, was the home of a pair of gray squirrels.

KILLED BY POISONED CANDY

"Peanut Sucker" Dead to Little Pittsburg Girl.

Pittsburg, Feb. 15.—The "peanut sucker" has been termed deadly by Dr. J. F. Haugerty, who attended Catherine Lydon, aged seven years, during her fatal illness. The child died after a two days' illness, and the coroner is investigating.

At school the girl ate two "peanut suckers." She was taken ill, and Dr. Haugerty diagnosed her illness as ptomaine poisoning. An examination of the "suckers" in the store where Catherine had purchased showed all were impure.

Dead Lawmakers Eulogized.

Washington, Feb. 15.—Three members of congress who died during the first session of the present congress were eulogized in a special session of the house of representatives Sunday. They were Senator Pinkney Whyte, of Maryland; Representative William H. Parker, of South Dakota, and Representative Abraham L. Brick, of Indiana.

Pony Kills Owner; Chews Body.

Bristol, Tenn., Feb. 15.—Samuel Shipley, a veteran of the Civil War, and former resident of Bristol, was found dead in his stable, near Kingsport, Tenn., with a Mexican pony standing over his body. The animal, a family pet, had kicked its owner in the head, fracturing his skull, following which it knawed off one arm and an ear.

Short Items of General News

The taking of testimony in the Carmack murder trial began at Nashville today.

A bill is being drawn for introduction in the North Carolina General Assembly for the issuance of \$7,500,000 bonds for the erection of a splendid fireproof State office building.

Marble monuments, about 30 feet high, with suitable inscriptions, are to be erected by the Government to the Confederate soldiers buried in the cemeteries in Alton, Ill., and Indianapolis, Ind.

A sensation was created in New Orleans Saturday when indictments were returned in the Circuit Court against the mayor and several prominent citizens of Kenner, charging them with conspiracy.

Tomorrow Rear Admiral Arnold's squadron will meet the returning battleship fleet a thousand miles off shore, and by the end of the week the combined fleet will be moving toward Hampton Roads.

Kentucky, second producing liquor State in the Union, and up to this time unscathed by a State-wide prohibition fight, will be the battlefield for the declaration of total prohibition, from Tuesday, February 16, forward.

Five firemen were killed in Milwaukee Saturday by the toppling over of a brick wall, while making efforts to save adjoining property. An employe of the concern received burns which resulted in his death, and the fire loss is estimated at \$250,000.

C. S. Hanks, of Mt. Airy, has in his possession a book very valuable from the fact that it was probably the first law book ever used by Abraham Lincoln. The book came down to Mr. Hanks from his ancestors, who were closely related to Nancy Hanks, the mother of Lincoln.

President-elect Taft on his return to Ohio from New Orleans, made a speaking tour through Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and was given a hearty welcome at the many places he spoke. He spoke strongly in defense of the Panama canal workers and showed his utter contempt for the hurtful criticisms.

Near-beer scored something of a victory Saturday in the Superior Court when the case against J. Dannenberg, member of a large near-beer concern, was dismissed. The case was a test one, originating in the recorder's court, the charge being that the defendant was violating the prohibition law in selling the "almost" liquid.

Beware the Drug Habit.

Danville Register.

The Reidsville Review suggests that the Law and Order League of that place might accomplish desirable results by waging war on the cocaine habit, which is said to be rapidly growing in that town. Our contemporary says that "dope," as cocaine is colloquially called, is coming into too general use as a substitute for whiskey, and truthfully adds that it is a more dangerous menace to health and morals than is liquor. "It does not betray its victim, as whiskey does, but when the betrayed finally comes the victim is a wreck and frequently a criminal also," adds The Review. What is true of Reidsville is do almost both true and timely of Danville also, since the conditions in the two cities are similar. Persons accustomed by long habit to the use of stimulants and narcotic drugs, if deprived of one, are liable to resort to another. Opium, morphine, cocaine—all are worse in their enslaving power and their degrading tendencies than whiskey. Our contemporary states that the habit in that place is not confined to negroes, as many suppose. It is true that Virginia has a stringent statute against the sale of the drug but it will be hardly difficult to smuggle it across the State line so near Danville. It is even more difficult to detect the traffic in drugs than in whiskey, since its devotees are secretive and the bulk of the package is so insignificant as to make it easily capable of concealment. Of the two habits—drugs and liquor—the drug habit is infinitely more dangerous, enslaving and degrading.

It might be timely for the Law and Order League and the police department to be especially vigilant just now to avoid the adoption of the drug habit in Danville. The drug wrecks the system physically, mentally and morally and quickly begets a condition verging upon insanity.—Danville Register.

Soldier Balks Death Plot.

It seemed to J. A. Stone, a civil war veteran, of Kemp, Tex., that a plot existed between a desperate lung trouble and the grave to cause his death. "I contracted a stubborn cold," he writes, "that developed a cough that stuck to me, in spite of all remedies, for years. My weight ran down to 130 pounds. Then I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery, which restored my health completely. I now weigh 170 pounds." For severe Colds, obstinate Coughs, Hemorrhages, Asthma, and to prevent Pneumonia it is unrivaled. Sold under a guarantee at W. S. Allen's and Fetzer & Tucker's drug stores, 50 c, and \$1.00 a bottle. Trial bottle free.

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