

CONTEST FOR RICHES

EFFORT BEING MADE TO BREAK WILL OF RICH CALIFORNIAN.

Wife and Daughter of Dr. Mariano Gonzales Are Not Satisfied with His Bequests to Them—Million Dollars Involved.

San Francisco.—Another big will contest is on the tapis. The law firm of Bishop, Wheeler & Hooper are preparing papers to contest the will of the late Dr. Mariano Gonzales. Their clients are the widow, Mrs. Edna Gonzales, who was Dr. Gonzales' second wife, and Miss Anita Gonzales, a daughter by the first wife, whose maiden name was Crooks. She got a divorce from Dr. Gonzales quite a number of years ago. She afterward married James Smith, and with him makes her home in Paris most of the time. The second wife was a Miss Westphal, and she and the daughter by the first wife have always been on the best of terms and make their home at the Palace hotel.

Dr. Gonzales, who lived at the Palace hotel for many years, died there a little over a year ago. He is a descendant of an old Spanish family that settled in this state long before its occupation by the Americans. It was from Gonzales' ancestors that he inherited a great deal of valuable property in the Salinas valley and in Fresno, San Joaquin, Sacramento and other counties in California. He gave all of this valuable land a great deal of his personal attention, and at the time of his death he had an estate worth between \$300,000 and \$1,300,000.

The will he left was not at all satisfactory to the widow and the daughter. While he gave each of them a life interest in the large estate, they are very much dissatisfied that under the pro-

HER KINDNESS REPAID.

English Woman Gets Good Returns from Her Charity to an Orphan Pig.

London.—Amazing are the fruits of patience. Who would imagine that taking pity on a pig would bring in \$400 of pocket money? Yet such stands to the credit of the fine pig seen in the picture, and the lady with it.

When this pig was a tiny little mite, a couple of days old, it lost its mother, and the young lady seen in the picture, taking pity on it, gave it shelter in her warm kitchen, and nursed and tended it with all the care it required, even to



PIG AND ITS MISTRESS.
(It Has Been Taught Many Tricks and is Very Tame.)

feeding it with milk through an india rubber teat as one would a baby! No wonder that piggy learned to know its kind benefactor, and, in fact, became quite a pet. The lady taught it, after a time, to lap milk out of a dish, like a cat, and still allowed it a cozy corner in her kitchen. As the pig grew older it would follow her about like a dog, answer to her call, and even accompany her on a walk, as seen in the picture. Then her pigship grew really too big for the house, and a clean, snug sty was found for her, where she welcomed her mistress several times a day. During the last three years she has presented the lady with 70 or 80 other piggies, which sold have brought in the return named. At present a fine young lot are coming up—the latest edition. Being on the highway near Accrington and Great Harwood, Lancashire, no wonder this unique pet pig attracts considerable attention.

W. H. KNOWLES.

ICE YACHTING IS POPULAR.

The Sport Is Making Rapid Strides in the Northwest States and in Canada.

Minneapolis.—Ice-yachting is extremely popular on the frozen rivers and lakes of our northern states and Canada.

It was in 1861 that the first regular club was organized, and since that time many clubs have started.

The hull portion of an ice yacht is quite simple, consisting of two pieces



A THRILLING MOMENT.
(Sailing Before a S.W. Northwester on a Minnesota Lake.)

—the center timber, running fore and aft, and the runner plank. On the centerpiece the mast is stepped, the forward part constituting the bowsprit and the aft part carrying the box and rudder post. The runner plank is a stout timber from 14 feet to 28 feet long, tapering in thickness toward the ends, to which the runners are attached.

The biggest yachts will weigh 3,000 pounds. Some of them have a sailing area of over 1,000 square feet. They travel a mile in 2:08.

Sleeping in Life-Preservers.

"Passengers on ocean liners may soon be able to sleep in life-preservers, if the plans of E. Salvator, a New York inventor, do not go awry," says the American Inventor. "To sleep with a cork jacket on is out of the question, so the inventor decided to make a preserver that would become effective only by its coming in contact with the water. It works on the principle of a water-generated gas which fills a belt and gives it buoyancy. Uninflated, the belt is a light thing, which would hardly be felt if worn by a sleeper, but when filled with gas it is blown up to the size of an ordinary cork jacket. The belt is made of rubber, and is about eight inches wide and can be blown up by means of a small cylinder. In this cylinder is placed a composition of acids which, when acted upon by water, instantly inflates the belt. The belt has been tested in the ocean, and it has been found that the water acts upon the acids and inflates the rubber in less than three seconds. The ingredients in this composition Mr. Salvator keeps secret."

Spending His Money.

Howard Gould is not saving much money just now. He is building a sea wall around his Long Island home which will cost \$1,000,000. His cow shed cost \$250,000, and his chicken coop, \$150,000, and the new Killarney castle will cost \$5,000,000.

After a Long Bath.

The engines of the first steamer that ever crossed the Atlantic have been recovered off the coast of Cork, after more than 50 years' immersion.

KUROPATKIN IS CALM

MOST STRIKING CHARACTERISTIC IN OPINION OF A FRIEND.

Hostile Criticism of the General Is Never Heard Behind His Back—Deadly Enemy of All Kinds of Favoritism.

Stockholm, Sweden.—The first time I personally had the honor to meet Gen. Kuropatkin he was military commander of the new province of Transcaaspia. That was in October, 1890, and at Askabad, where he had his headquarters. When I called upon him my overcoat was taken charge of by a Cossack and I was ushered into a large hall, where I was received and my visit announced by an aid-de-camp.

When I left the remark that on my return home I intended to write a book about Turkestan Kuropatkin replied, humorously that there were no secrets in Askabad. I was at perfect liberty to go where I liked; I might freely visit all the institutions in the town, might count the soldiers in the barracks, as well as the big guns, the rifles and the cartridges in the magazines, sketch whatever I thought fit, and he added: "You may even write articles about it all to the London Times if you like." If I met with any difficulty I had only to report the matter to him and he would see me righted.

In April, 1899, I met Kuropatkin several times. On one of these occasions we were sitting at his writing table discussing my contemplated journey when a Cossack entered bringing a huge bundle of papers in a sealed portfolio. While the general was turning them over I took the liberty of asking him what was the meaning of the peculiar marks in blue pencil which I saw on the margins. Kuropatkin told me that they were the



GEN. KUROPATKIN.
(Dr. Sven Hedin, the Swedish Explorer, Says His Characteristic Is Calmness.)

military reports of the week, which the czar had just read, and that the blue pencil marks were made by his imperial majesty's own hand.

One particular mark meant "I approve," another expressed the opposite, while a third signified "I want further details," and so on. I gave utterance to my astonishment that the czar found time to read through all those reports, whereupon Kuropatkin answered: "Yes, and it is even more astonishing how he finds the time for reading through all the reports of all the other ministries."

Everybody who has been brought into personal contact with Gen. Kuropatkin must acknowledge that it would be difficult to meet a more amiable and attractive personality. What most impresses one about the powerful yet harmonious nature of the man is the air of untroubled calm and serenity which sits upon his features. His face bears the unmistakable stamp of goodness, consideration and self-control.

At this moment he knows that all his tactical and strategical movements are matters of history and will afford a subject of study and of criticism to numberless eager students. But I am convinced that even amid the thunder of the cannon at Liouyang he was possessed of the same absolutely unshaken calm with which he reviewed the Turkoman militia on the plains outside of Askabad. Never has a deprecatory word been uttered about him behind his back and never has a Russian general been regarded with greater confidence and love by all, from the czar himself down to the meanest soldier in the ranks.

He will have nothing to do with favoritism or nepotism; he is known for his incorruptible sense of justice and in making his promotions he has never been guided by any other considerations except those of merit and capacity. If he has any favorites at all in the army they are the simple Cossacks. He has never abused his power.

SVEN HEDIN.

A Famous Timekeeper.

The world's best timekeeper is said to be the electric clock in the basement of the Berlin observatory, which was installed by Prof. Forster, in 1865. It is enclosed in an airtight glass cylinder, and has frequently run for periods of two or three months with an average daily deviation of fifteen-thousandths of a second. Yet astronomers are not satisfied even with this, and efforts are continually being made to secure ideal conditions for a clock by keeping it not only in an airtight case, but in an underground vault, where neither changes of temperature nor of barometric pressure shall ever affect it.

A Musical Prodigy.

The London Academy of Music medal for pianoforte playing, counterpoint and harmony has been won by Max Darenski, eight years old. There were 39 others competitors, the youngest of whom is 25 years old.

Cotton Mills.

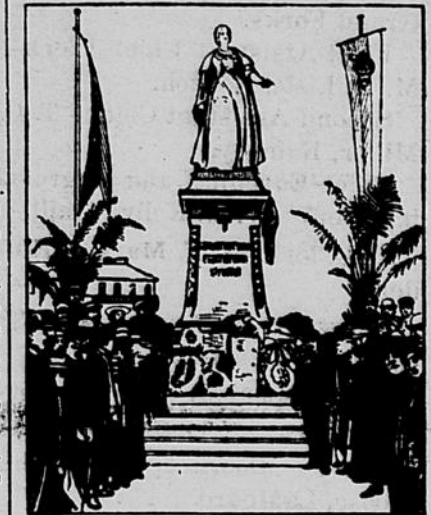
In 1900 there were in Russia 730 cotton mills, with 279,500 horse power, 339,903 employees and pay-rolls amounting to \$33,902,068.

MONUMENT TO CATHERINE.

Its Erection at Vilna, Poland, Was Not Pleasing to the Polish People.

Warsaw, Poland.—The statue to the famous Russian empress, Catherine II., was unveiled in the presence of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, brother of the czar, and Prince Svyatopolk Mirski, the new minister of the interior. The ceremony was the last act in which the prince figured in an official capacity at Vilna before he left for St. Petersburg to take up his new office.

The erection of the statue was naturally not received at Vilna, a strong



STATUE OF CATHERINE.
(Erected at Vilna to Commemorate the Annexation of Poland to Russia.)

Polish center, without some protest, to which the prince replied: "I understand the difficulty because the monument recalls to your minds the partition of Poland. But I beg you this time not to be led by your feelings but by your reason."

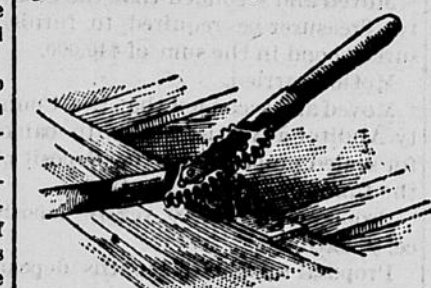
"This monument, erected not at Warsaw but at Vilna, is from the point of view of the Russian empire evidence of the pacification of the country, and a proof of that equality for which you have so strongly striven." The statue is the work of a Jewish sculptor, Antokolsky, a native of Vilno, and of very poor parentage.

THE ARTICULATED OAR.

An Ingenious Invention That Is Being Widely Talked About in France.

Nantes, France.—An ingenious invention, which may or may not be already known in the United States, is being talked about just now in the French journals. It is an articulated oar for rowboats, which enables the rower to row his boat while facing in the direction in which he is moving instead of turning his back, as the old system requires. The inventor is M. Doyen, of 66 Rue de Namur, Brussels, Belgium.

It is claimed for this invention that while permitting the rower to face in the direction in which he desires to propel the boat, it does not in any other manner affect the old system of rowing or weaken the effect of the stroke. Consequently, no training or practice is required to enable any oarsman to use



MECHANISM OF THE OAR.
(Showing How It Is Attached to the Boat and How It Operates.)

the new oar. It is formed of two arms, which are joined at the oarlock by articulating coated sectors, which are firmly attached to the boat. This mechanism produces an inversion in the movement of the two arms of the oar. The cleats which join the two arms are so adjusted that the oarsman gives to the articulated oar the same movements of raising or lowering and of propulsion as with ordinary oars. The accompanying illustration gives an idea of the invention.

BENJ. H. RIDGELY.

New Use for the Potato.

The use of potato alcohol to furnish light, heat and motive power has been developed very rapidly, and to a very high degree in Germany. Germany produces about 55,000,000 tons of potatoes a year, and uses for human food, stock food and starch only about 35,000,000 tons. The remainder is converted into alcohol, and used as a power generator for both land and water motors, and for cooking, heating and lighting. The alcohol vapor is burnt like gas in chandeliers and street lamps, and gives a very bright light. In districts distant from mines it is cheaper than coal. It is claimed that a ton of potatoes will generate as much candle-power or horse-power as a ton and a half of anthracite coal.

Substitute for Nickel.

A new substitute for nickel, "Patrick metal," is being placed upon the English market. The feature of this metal is that it is silver-white right through, and retains its bright appearance permanently. The luster does not tarnish with use—in fact, it becomes brighter. It retains a high degree of polish, and will not rust even under the most unfavorable conditions, nor oxidize easily. It is malleable when cold, and can be easily soldered or brazed.—Scientific American.

To Install Electricity.

The Grand Trunk Railway company will substitute electricity for steam in the Sarnia tunnel, and it will install a plant for that purpose to cost \$500,000. The third rail system will be used.

NORTH DAKOTA NEWS

Postal Changes.

Changes in the postal service in North Dakota are announced at the postoffice department as follows:

Special service discontinued: Stevenson to Janesburg. Leave Stevenson Tuesday and Saturday at 7 a. m., arrive Janesburg 8 p. m. Leave Janesburg Wednesday and Sunday at 7 a. m., arrive Stevenson by 8 p. m. Effective Dec. 27, 1904.

Hennault, Ward county, from Deslacs. From January 2, 1905.

Linausville, McHenry county, from Balfour. From Dec. 31, 1904.

Star route service discontinued: 61435. Anamoose to Martha. From Dec. 31, 1904.

Postoffice discontinued: Cuba, in Barnes county, 161018. Mail to Fingal.

Star route service established: 61493. Linausville, by Martha, to Drake, 20 miles and back, two times a week. From Jan. 3, 1905 to June 30, 1906. Edward Erickson, Balfour, \$375.

61491. Hennault to Deslacs, 15 miles and back twice a week. From Jan. 2, 1905, to June 30, 1906. Jens I. Hjelmsat, Hennault, \$250.

Gas Explosion.

The Columbia hotel, a two-story building opposite the Great Northern passenger depot at Grand Forks, used for a hotel, restaurant and grocery store, was wrecked by an explosion of the acetylene gas plant, located in the rear of the building.

None of the lights were burning, and the cause of the explosion is a mystery.

The entire front of the building for a distance of seventy-five feet was blown out, and the brick walls between the several departments were crumbled and the roof blown off.

A porter named Carvel was in the room with the machine at the time of the explosion and was picked up fifty feet away in an unconscious condition and taken to the hospital. He is probably fatally injured.

James Ham, clerk, and Mary Finn, waitress, were seriously injured by flying glass.

A Close Call.

The new town cistern at Glenburn saved the last of Jack Fortune had put the last drop of water into it. The whole lot went down, taking the water tank of Jack Fortune's along. The cistern was built in the shape of a jug and the top came within two feet of the ground. From the top of the street was a space of about two feet and Fortune had just come out of this place as the thing went down. It was very fortunate for him as the tank would undoubtedly have crowded him under the water. With the assistance of bystanders the tank was fished out and the cistern now remains uncorked. It is said that the city has not yet paid for the work.

Fire at Portal.

Fire at Portal destroyed a block of frame buildings on Front street. The fire originated from a chimney in A. S. Way's bowling alley and billiard building and spread rapidly to the adjacent wooden structures, quickly consuming Rombough's clubrooms, the dwelling of B. Alm and L. Simmon's building, occupied by J. L. Alfano as a restaurant, S. Bartz's shoe shop and M. Finzel's blacksmith shop. All were a total loss, and excepting the Simmon's building are partly covered by insurance. One man is missing and is reported to have been burned, but no trace of his remains have been found.

Going out of Business.

The announcement is made at the interior department that during the next few months fourteen land offices scattered throughout North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska will be abandoned because the public land still remaining in some districts has become so limited in area that there is no longer necessity to maintain land offices in them.

Postmasters Appointed.

Postmasters in North Dakota were appointed as follows: John Thompson at Bathgate, Pembina county, vice Eben Bowen, resigned; Elsie G. Armstrong at Helocog, McKenzie county, vice Fred Hoeruf, resigned; Annie C. Vernon at Conaway, Walsh county, vice John A. Vernon, resigned, and Oscar Lindholm at McKinney, Ward county, vice C. A. Swenson, removed.

Inaugural Ball.

The inaugural ball will be held at the state capitol, Bismark. The ball will be held in the new house chamber, recently completed and pronounced by architects and builders the handsomest assembly hall in the state. Two orchestras have been engaged, the Rupert orchestra at Fargo and the Capital City orchestra.

News Notes.

Rolls is just now without jail facilities, as the county commissioners at their recent meeting instructed the sheriff not to allow prisoners arrested for the infraction of town ordinances to be placed in the county jail.

The Forman flour mill has been discontinued and the machinery has been moved to the Canadian northwest.

The industrial school at Ellendale will ask the legislature for \$50,000 at the coming session.

The biggest and handsomest turkey in Ransom county was proudly exhibited by Jacob Wilbert at LaMoure. The bird was only a year old when guillotined, yet it weighed, dressed, 25 pounds.

The new building for the Y. M. C. A. was opened at Grand Forks.

It appears to be conceded that the Soo will build across North Dakota next summer, striking none of the large towns on the Great Northern.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

For the Week Ending Dec. 30.

The president has appointed W. Hall Harris postmaster at Baltimore.

A church census puts the total population of New York city at 4,000,000.

In a fire at Villa Ridge, Ill., John Mahoney, a farmer, has been burned to death.

The Japanese government has agreed to negotiate an arbitration treaty with the United States.

The newly built Majestic theater at Fort Wayne, Ind., was gutted by fire, causing a loss of probably \$35,000.

Three persons lost their lives in a fire which totally destroyed the farm residence of Charles McMillan, near Geneseo, N. Y.

Great Britain has assumed control of the legal and financial administration of the Tonga islands, the native chiefs consenting.

Rev. Father T. F. Lillis, of Kansas City, was consecrated bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Leavenworth, Kan.

President Marvin Hughtitt, of the Northwestern railway, opposes President Roosevelt's plan for the interstate commerce commission to fix rates.

President Roosevelt has appointed J. Hampton Moore, of Philadelphia, chief of the bureau of manufactures of the department of commerce and labor.

The will of the late William Alvord, president of the Bank of California, at San Francisco, makes his stepsons heirs to his estate, valued at \$1,000,000.

A modern hotel containing 400 rooms, and costing more than \$1,000,000, is to be erected on the site of the Pike opera house building in Cincinnati.

Rev. Richard Lovett, M. A., secretary of the Religious Tract society since 1899 and a well-known writer on religious subjects, died suddenly at London of heart disease.

The St. Croix Shoe company assigned at Calais, Me., for the benefit of creditors. The liabilities are said to slightly exceed \$150,000. The assets are not known.

The station of the Crescent Oil & Gas company, near Hartford City, Ind., was blown up. One man was killed and five injured. The destruction was complete. Loss, about \$10,000.

A. D. Lewis, a white man 33 years of age, whose home is in Chicago, was lashed in the woods near Natchez, Miss., and ordered out of the state. He had insulted a woman.

Fire at Council Bluffs, Ia., completely destroyed the four-story warehouse and the entire stock and fixtures of the Fuller & Johnson Shugart company, causing a loss of \$150,000.

It can be safely asserted that it is Mr. Choate's intention to tender his resignation as ambassador to the court of St. James soon after the inauguration of President Roosevelt.

In a rear-end collision at Stamford, Conn., between the Boston express and a local, both going west, Conductor Holland of the express was killed and six others were badly injured.

The last shipment on a contract for 1,000,000 pounds of barreled beef has been sent from the Cudahy Packing company at Sioux City, Ia., to the besieged Russians at Port Arthur.

Justice Olmsted handed down an opinion in the New York court of special sessions, holding that the law against the selling or giving away of street railway transfers is constitutional.

From December 1 to December 24, the night before Christmas, no less than 334,084 international orders were forwarded to foreign lands from New York, and these orders called for \$4,667,628.90.

The Chinese government has presented the Chinese world's fair pavilion, which was erected at a cost of \$135,000, to David R. Francis, president of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company.

While Mrs. Pasquale Dell and little son were eating breakfast at Fairmont, W. Va., a lamp exploded and ignited the clothes of both. They were so horribly burned that they died within a few hours.

Of the 705 steerage passengers brought over on the steamer Merion, which arrived at Philadelphia, more than 550 were Russians. Most of these were able-bodied men, between the age of 20 and 30 years, and liable for duty in the army.

THE MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 30.

LIVE STOCK—Steers	44 00 @ 53
Hogs, State, Penn.	4 85 @ 5 10
SHEEP	3 00 @ 5 00
WHEAT—Min. Patents	4 40 @ 4 75
WHEAT—May	4 70 @ 4 80
July	1 02 1/2 @ 1 03 1/2
CORN—May	51 1/2 @ 51 3/4
OATS—Natural White	1 14 1/2 @ 1 15 1/2
BUTTER	16 @ 27 1/2
CHEESE	8 @ 12
EGGS	18 @ 55

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Fancy Steers	25 25 @ 55
Fair to Fancy Export	5 00 @ 5 75
Fed Texas Steers	2 75 @ 4 50
Medium Beef Steers	3 90 @ 4 25
Calves	2 75 @ 5 00
HOGS—Assorted Light	15 50 @ 4 65
Heavy Packing	4 25 @ 4 70
Heavy Mixed	4 75 @ 4 80
SHEEP	3 45 @ 5 60
BUTTER—Creamery	18 @ 22 1/2
Dairy	14 00 @ 25
EGGS—Fresh	16 @ 29
LIVE POULTRY	34 @ 3
POTATOES—Per bu.	1 14 @ 25
GRAIN—Wheat, May	1 12 1/2 @ 1 13 1/2
Cash, No. 2 Red	1 14 1/2 @ 1 15 1/2
Corn, May	47 1/2 @ 48 1/2
Oats, May	21 @ 23 1/2
Barley, Malt	40 @ 50
Rye, December Delivery	70 @ 75

MILWAUKEE.

GRAIN—Wheat, No. 1 Nor'n	11 13 @ 14
Corn, May	45 1/2 @ 45 3/4
Oats, Standard	30 1/2 @ 31
Rye, No. 1	77 @ 77 1/2

KANSAS CITY.

GRAIN—Wheat, December	1 04 1/2 @ 1 04 3/4
May	1 05 1/2 @ 1 05 3/4
Corn, December	40 1/2 @ 40 3/4
Oats, No. 2 White	21 1/2 @ 21 3/4

ST. LOUIS.

CATTLE—Beef Steers	33 00 @ 6 75
Texas Steers	2 00 @ 4 50
HOGS—Packers	4 50 @ 4 70
Butchers' Best Heavy	4 75 @ 5 00
SHEEP—Natives	3 75 @ 5 00

OMAHA.

CATTLE—Native Steers	33 00 @ 6 25
Stockers and Feeders	2 50 @ 4 00
Cows and Heifers	2 50 @ 4 00