

AMERICAN NOTES.

(From our New York correspondent.)

CANNED TROUSSEAU.

American customs officials in their intercourse with immigrants and returning European travellers have seen, heard, and experienced enough to spare, but even they opened wide their eyes when recently an Italian, by name Dominico Petruccio, who arrived in America, carefully opened his three boxes for the customs examination, and showed them full of cans. The officials sent for a can-opener, and cut open the first can, which was 18 inches long. Instead of sardines they found in it an old-fashioned dress of red silk. It was the wedding dress which the new arrival's grandmother and various great and great-great-grandmothers had worn. In the other cans also were all kinds of bridal adornments, more or less valuable. The Italian stated that he had brought over all the things for his bride in Texas. The customs officials estimated the dutiable value of the lot at \$2.30! Petruccio, however, had valued the collection so highly that he had packed it in air-tight cans.

THE STREET-CAR PASSENGER'S PARADISE.

The golden age, in which every man blindly trusts his neighbour, and honesty is trumps, has dawned in Minneapolis, Minn. The local street-car company has found itself in a position to make a positively astounding concession to its public. Persons who enter the cars with dollar bills, which the conductor cannot change, or with no money at all are henceforth no longer to be forced to alight at once. In such cases of inability to pay the fare, the conductor hands a ticket with the following words printed upon it: "Hereby I declare that I owe a five cents fare to the Twin City Rapid Transit Company (such is the title of the Tramways Company). I promise to send it at once to the office of the Company." These tickets the conductor is directed to hand over in all cases where a passenger for one reason or another is unable to pay the exact fare. The Company, it is true, reserves to itself the right of eventually taking proceedings against persons on whose honour they have reckoned without their host.

INDIGENT CHILDREN.

The problem of the care of children needing support of America has become so momentous that the creation of a national Children's Bureau is seriously contemplated; the Bureau is to publish information as to how the question of dealing with these children may be solved in the most desirable ways. Recognising the importance of this social economic question President Roosevelt has issued invitations to a Congress, in which men and women who have enjoyed ample experience in the domain of the care of children, will take part. Among the questions which will come up for discussion at the Congress, will be that of the desirability of removing children in need of support, but physically and mentally normal, from their families, or of allowing them to receive support while remaining in the family circle. The latter course should be preferred in cases where the parents are of respectable character and are only in temporary need.

LYNCH LAW.

In the past year in America 65 persons were handed over to the courts of Judge Lynch. In the majority of cases the persons lynched were negroes, and all of them, save two, occurred in the hot-blooded Southern States. In 1907 51 persons, and in 1906 65 were the victims of popular justice. In a considerable number of the cases of lynch law in the past year, racial conflicts, answerable for the deaths of numerous persons, accompanied the lynchings. As in former years crimes against women, or alleged crimes or murders were the immediate causes of the lynchings. The lynchings of the past year were divided among the following States: Georgia 16, Texas 15, Mississippi 13, Tennessee 9, Louisiana 2, Florida 2, Alabama 2, North Carolina 1, South Carolina 1, Illinois 1, Kentucky 2, California 1.

AMERICAN AERONAUTICS.

The city of St. Louis enjoys the reputation of being the centre of American aeronautic endeavours. It is claimed by the aeronauts of the city of his sacred majesty, King Louis, that the city by virtue of its central position in the American continent is better adapted as the starting point for aeronautic races than any other American city. The Aero Club of St. Louis is now planning to hold an international aeronautic exhibition in the last week of May next, the chief attraction at which will be a large number of aeronautic ascents in a closed building. Aeronauts and inventors from all parts of the world are to be invited to patronise the exhibition.

PROHIBITION IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Prohibition States in the U.S.A., writes a contemporary, have for years given us an object

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Dresden Museums, etc.

Royal Picture Gallery, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 9-5. Sundays and Holidays 11-2 free entrance. Wednesdays, Saturdays 9-8. 11-2. Mondays 9-1. 11-5.

Royal Kupferstich Kabinett (Zwinger), Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays 9-2. Sundays and Holidays 11-2 free entrance. Mondays closed.

Royal Zoological and Anthropological-Ethnographical Museum (Zwinger), Sundays and Holidays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 11-1, Wednesdays and Saturdays 1-3 free entrance.

Royal math.-phys. Salon (Zwinger), Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9-12, Sundays and Holidays free entrance. Saturdays closed.

Royal mineral. geol. and prähist. Museum (Zwinger), Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10-12. Wednesdays and Saturdays 1-3, Sundays and Holidays 11-1 free entrance.

Royal Collection of Porcelain (Johanneum II), Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9-2. 11-2. Saturdays 9-2. 11-5. Sundays and Holidays 11-2. 11-2.5.

Royal Collection of Sculpture in the Albertinum and An der Frauenkirche 12, I. (Cosel-Palais) In the week (except Saturdays) 9-3, Sundays and Holidays 11-2 free entrance.

Körner-Museum (Körner Strasse 7), In the week 9-2, Wednesdays and Saturdays 9-1 and 2-5, Sundays and Holidays 11-2. 11-2.5.

Royal popular Library (Japan Palais), In the week 9-2 and 4-6 (except Saturdays) free entrance. Sundays and Holidays closed.

Sächsischer Kunstverein (Brühlsche Terrasse), Picture exhibition German artists. Open daily 10-5, Sundays 11-2. Entrance fee 1.-; Sundays and Wednesdays 11-5.

Galerie Ernst Arnold, Schloss Strasse. Perm. Picture exhibition.

lesson in the truth that you cannot make people sober by Act of Parliament, but that only an increasing moral sense can cure drunkenness. New Zealand is teaching us the same lesson. A correspondent points out that in the no-licence districts of Invercargill, Oamaru, and Ashburton there has been an increase in the quantity of liquor consumed since the restrictions were introduced. Considerably more than one hundred thousand gallons of beer, two thousand gallons of porter, and seven thousand gallons of whisky and other spirits in the past two and a half years, have been introduced into Invercargill. In the same period Oamaru has taken twenty-three thousand gallons of beer, five thousand gallons of whisky, between four and five hundred gallons of brandy, and nearly forty thousand bottles of beer and spirits. In five years Ashburton has demanded over one hundred thousand gallons of beer, three thousand three hundred bottles of spirits, and getting on for nine thousand cases of whisky and wine. This is an enormous quantity to be consumed in these districts, when it is considered that the entire white population of New Zealand is only nine hundred thousand. The prohibition of licence means that every man must buy his liquor wholesale, free from the restrictions which every publican in his own interest places on his customers.

THE AMERICAN FLEET IN EGYPT.

The *Globe* correspondent at Cairo, writing under date of January 11, has the following interesting details to make apropos of Admiral Sperry's visit to Port Said:

Many fleets have visited Egypt with messages of peace, but never before have such interesting manifestations of goodwill passed between naval warriors and the Egyptian people as this week in the case of the American Armada. An astonishing sight for sophisticated Anglo-Egyptian residents was to see on Monday evening a wealthy Egyptian notable in the act of entertaining a crowd of the American bluejackets in one of the first-class "saloon" with which modern Cairo is bestrewn. His hospitality was as genuine and spontaneous as any sailor's could have wished, and he wound up the feasting by freighting carriages for a general drive round the city. British, French, and German sailors have been "cruising" about the pyramids on ceremonial visits of late years, but never have they been quite as much the rage as the American visitors today.

Admiral Sperry had barely anchored at Port Said when, in accordance with instructions from Washington, he despatched the "Yankton" and "Colgoa" to Messina packed with relief stores, including 100,000 lbs. of bread, 92,000 lbs. of fruits, 95,000 lbs. of meat, and 100,000 lbs. of preserved meat, 88,000 lbs. of vegetables, and so on, for Messina, together with medical stores under the charge of a number of fleet surgeons. The Khedive, in his new character of being the co-partner of the British Diplomatic Agent in working for the good of Egypt, threw himself with unusual zest into the task of entertaining the officers of the Fleet, and after of entertaining a reception in the morning gave a banquet in their honour in the evening at Abdeen Palace. Sir Eldon Gorst, on his part, displayed the hospitality of the British Agency at a luncheon to Admiral Potter and his officers.

IN THE DAYS OF OLD.

It has been stated that such a wholesale vindication of the law as was recently witnessed at Bethune is without parallel in French history. This is not quite correct, but it seems that one has to go back to 1674 to find anything like a similar case, and with the numbers all resemblance outside the Bastille. The Prince de Rohan, the Chevalier des Preaux, and la Marquise de Villars were found guilty of high treason. They were all beheaded. Associated with them was Professor Van den Enden, an aged doctor of medicine; but, not being of high descent, he was hanged after he had suffered terrible tortures. One other point of interest in connection with the events at Bethune: it is not generally known that the sons of the public executioner in France are not liable to military service.

CHURCH SERVICES: DRESDEN.

ALL SAINTS' (ENGLISH) CHURCH, Wiener Strasse.

Thursday, January 21st. 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion. Friday, January 22nd. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany. Chaplain: The Rev. C. A. Moore, M.A., B.C.L.

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WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Westerly winds, cloudy, warmer weather with showers probable.