

The Mexican Herald

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Chispazos

Secretary Taft did well to decline the proffered gift of a big live elephant which an admirer wanted him to take for a campaign mascot. It is enough to manage the Republican elephant. Vice-President Fairbanks was the tallest dignitary at Quebec, and the Prince of Wales and Lord Roberts looked up to him. Wall street has alternate fits of exaltation and depression, a sure sign of neurasthenia. Sky pilots out of a job should write to the airship companies. The San Francisco girl who drank a bottle of ink with suicidal intent failed to realize her purpose. She might have utilized the ink to write a thrilling human-document novel and so have earned money to buy hats and gowns galore. Brazil now has 11,182 miles of railway and 41,759 miles of telegraph. Another of life's little ironies. Temperance Brown has been locked up in Chicago for being drunk and disorderly. Although Paraguay has a healthy climate, the people buy a good deal of patent medicines and drugs. Italy had a July snowstorm. The Louisiana legislature passed 300 laws in 60 days and has been reproached for inactivity by the inconsiderate. A Hindu prince visiting New York would not look at the tall buildings, giving as a reason that his home was in the shadow of the Himalayas.

THE FOREIGN PRESS.

Protection From the Train Talker. "Silent" compartments in trains are as necessary as "smoking" or "ladies'" compartments. Nothing is more annoying when one is reading an interesting book, thinking, or sleeping, than the conversation—often absurd—of gossiping fellow-travellers.—Gaulois, Paris. Why Physicians Are Short-Lived. Longevity depends far more upon the manner of a man's life than upon the drugs which he swallows; and it is the doctor's misfortune that the exigencies of his calling often make it impossible for him to practice the hygienic doctrines which he preaches.—American Medicine, Philadelphia. The Airship Means Supremacy. Unless the British government wake up and realize that the result of the flight of Count Zeppelin may possibly mean the total alteration of the map of Europe before many years are over, let alone necessitating the expenditure of much money upon protective defences, they will deserve to be executed by posterity should anything go wrong.—Lord Montagu, in the Car. A Peril of Railway Nationalization. British traders who have, thoughtlessly given support to Mr. Lloyd-George's equally thoughtless utterances in favour of railway nationalization may be perfectly certain that unless state management of railways were accompanied, as it virtually is in Prussia, by the disfranchisement of the railway worker, the whole service would be worked, not in the interests of the traders, nor in the interests of the exchequer, but solely in the interests of the employes.—Spectator, London.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Culebra, Canal Zone, July 9.—It is the old story of Yankee brains, Yankee capacity for doing things, and Yankee grit and determination. As fine a force of Americans as one can hope to meet is assembled on the isthmus, and the mainspring of its action is the brains which the United States government has placed over it to direct its efforts. From the east, the west, the north, and the south the flower of the professions has been called to come down here and dig the canal. They have come and have developed the force into a working machine of unprecedented efficiency. The contractor on government jobs in the United States, my well thank his stars that the Panama canal is being dug in a country where everything is more than expensive; if it were not so the United States might decide after its experience at Panama that all public work in the future should be done by this organization.

What U. S. Grant was to the army of the Potomac, George W. Goethals is to the army of the Panama canal. It has been said that the decision to put the building of the canal in the hands of the army was a master stroke. Before that no little disorganization reigned; but when the army took charge every man on the isthmus learned that it was a question of making good or getting out. As soon as the members of the force became acquainted with the man who was to command the canal army they worked as a matter of devotion to the cause rather than as a matter of necessity. Some men have the peculiar faculty of transmitting their enthusiasm into the hearts of all under them. This faculty Col. Goethals has in an unequal degree.

On Bryan's farm he will have four cuttings of alfalfa this year. This may make the commoner sort of farmer jealous, and so votes be lost. Taft's election as a member of the steam shovelers' union may be a happy augury of what will have to be done with his votes in November. Quentin Roosevelt gave Explorer Peary a four-leafed clover for luck. A sanguine German professor explains how the airships of the near future will have all the comforts of first class hotels. Prices will naturally be of the soaring sort, and only people of the high flight will be able to afford to voyage aerially.

Turkey's constitution will probably last as long as the Persian parliament. Six weeks of continuously heated weather in the northern part of the United States is enough to make the dweller on the central plateau of Mexico glad that he is alive. The Democrats will now put in many weeks of hard work in extolling policies which Roosevelt has made familiar to the American people. Lightning struck a big elm near Dayton, Ohio, killing 100 young turkeys roosting in the limbs and two steers which had taken refuge under the tree. Hobnails in the boots worn by Mrs. Josephine Fabe struck some grains of powder in a fireworks factory in Jersey City, causing an explosion in which the woman was fatally burned. Charles Cummings of St. Louis, who has the runaway habit, has been operated on four times on the skull by surgeons in the hope that his desire to wander might be cured, but all in vain. Objections to foreign capital usually come from those who can't get it.

Buttermilk is described by its admirers as the elixir of life. It is said to counteract the taste for all intoxicants. When Mr. Bullen read the story in the ship's log to his shipmates there used to be great arguments as to Robinson Crusoe's doings as far as they were connected with seafaring, "all based upon the perfect assurance that these things actually happened."

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Another hustler on the commission was Jackson, Smith. Former Chief Engineer Stevens said of him in a letter to the president that he was the most thorough master of the question of labor that he had ever met in his thirty years' experience as a construction man. Smith was visiting in Washington when he was introduced to Stevens. Stevens asked him to go to the isthmus and to take charge of the work of recruiting the force. His experience in tropical climates has made him a man invaluable to the work. The labor force changes once every eighteen months. Smith had to get a strong recruiting organization to meet it. He had to look after the quarters of 25,000 people, getting ice, coal, and filtered water to their doors every morning. He had to organize the work of all the hotels, messes and kitchens. In other words, upon him fell the burden of getting together the great force of the whole canal, and then making the living conditions such that they could be comfortable enough and happy enough to carry forward the work. He has done it, and now gives up the position to search for new worlds to conquer. His job was one of the most difficult and certainly the most thankless on the isthmus.

Governor Jo. S. C. Blackburn of the Canal Zone is a good example of the right man in the right place. Thirty years or more in the congress of the United States, most of it in the senate, where all the questions of American diplomacy are settled, have fitted him to occupy any diplomatic position. He is firm, polite, careful and judicious. He has the Panamanian people correctly appraised, and knows just how to take them. It was his firm, strong hand that held the Panama situation in check, and but for his work the United States might today be putting down a revolution in Panama.

Col. Gorgas's Work. Last but not least is Col. Gorgas of the sanitary department. Some one recently observed that no one of the canal commanders could claim entire credit for the work in any one department except Col. Gorgas. He came to the isthmus to put up a fight against overwhelming odds. At one time his labors seemed so unfruitful that he was all but asked to resign. Then Governor Magoon came in and held up his hands. That great quality of learning to labor and to wait won, and today there is no one on the isthmus who will not tell you that an American doctor has made possible the digging of the Panama canal.—Frederic J. Haskin.

ON THE SUBURBAN FERRY. Men in mass are neither beautiful nor impressive to look at in the modern black or sad-colored raiment of everyday custom, and it is difficult, as the eyes rest on the faces in these commonplace rows, to realize the space which love inevitably fills in these lives, so far apart from romance do they seem, forgetful as we are of the worn truth that romance is a flowering weed which grows in any soil. For three-fourths of these men some woman waits. Those dull eyes can gleam, those set lips can kiss; these be heroes, handsome men, arbiters of destiny! There is positive grotesqueness in the idea, seen in this obliterating haze of fatigue that so maliciously dwarfs and slurs. That man over there with the long upper lip and closed lids has an episode in his middle-aged existence to match any in the annals of fiction. That other beside him, short, fat, with kind eyes and a stubby brown beard, is the sum of all that is good and beautiful to the wife for whom his home-coming continues to be the poignant event of the day. This man with the long, thin face is a modern martyr working himself to death for his family; this one was in the newspapers last week in connection with the canal. This one—you could pick him out at once from among the rest—is to be married tomorrow. This man, and this, and this, while presently unconscious of the great law, are still living under it. Not only to youth is the promise given; it becomes a larger and more vital thing as the opportunities of life increase, further spreading in its fostering of good or evil—a thread so deeply interwoven on the under side of the fabric that we forget to look for it.—From "The Wayfarers," by Mary Stewart Cutting.

IRVING AND TERRY. Henry Irving did not treat me badly. He revived "Faust" and produced "Dante." I would have liked to stay with him to the end of the chapter, but I could not act in either of these plays. But we never quarrelled. Our long partnership dissolved naturally. It was all very sad, but it could not be helped.—Ellen Terry, in McClure's.

ROOM FOR GOOD MELODRAMA. Why cannot we have melodrama as good as America sends us? Why not plays which, while really melodramatic, do not make us guffaw at any ridiculousness? There is a vast public which wants to be made to laugh and cry and feel.—Tatler, London.

THE COURTS OF EUROPE. (By the Marquise de Fontenoy). Misfortunes seem to dog the steps of the Eulenburg family. Now the Berlin tribunals are occupied with another cause celebre in which the name of Eulenburg likewise figures. It may be recalled that some time last winter the extremely handsome and ultrafashionable Countess Alexander Wartensleben, wife of the Prussian general of that name, was robbed at Berlin in a most mysterious fashion of a necklace of pearls, which was celebrated for its beauty at the court of the emperor and throughout Berlin society. There were all sorts of mysterious features in connection with this robbery, the police complaining that did not receive the necessary assistance from the countess, who seemed far less concerned about the loss than her husband, the general. Recently, one of the Berlin newspapers of the so-called society order, known as the Great Bell, published an article entitled "Criminal Aristocrats" in which it was intimated that the jewels had been recovered and that the thief was a person of the same social standing as the Countess von Wartensleben. The article was such as to leave the general and Countess Wartensleben no alternative but to proceed against the responsible editor, since the imputation conveyed in the article was that the countess had a lover, to whom she had either given the jewels, or to whom she had afforded the opportunity to steal them.

Defense Made by Editor. When the suit came up for trial a few days ago, the editor declared, through his counsel, that he had no intention whatsoever of ascribing any lover to the countess, but what he did intend to imply was that the jewels had been stolen by the countess' son by her first marriage, namely, Count Botho Eulenburg, that he had pawned them, and that subsequently with his mother's assistance he had redeemed them and restored them to her. In support of this assertion he stated that Count Botho Eulenburg, who is 25 years of age, and an officer of cavalry, was particularly dear to his mother, was frightfully extravagant, was a gambler, and was, in spite of the countess' generosity, continually very hard pressed for money. His difficulties about meeting his debts of honor being a matter of discussion in the clubs and on the race course. The editor added that these reports had been confirmed to him by the young count's brother-in-law, Count Leopoldo Kalnein, lieutenant of the Second Hussars of the Guard, and married to Countess Alexandrine Eulenburg. This defense by the editor, and the permission which he obtained from the court to subpoena as witness Count Kalnein, young Count Botho Eulenburg, Countess Wartensleben and her present husband, the general, have created a tremendous sensation in Berlin society, which is now patiently waiting to see whether the suit for libel against the editor of the Grosse Glocke will be dropped by the general and by Countess Wartensleben, or whether the matter will be thrashed out in court, and Botho Eulenburg and his brother-in-law, Count Kalnein, subjected to a grueling cross-examination.

First Husband Was Divorced. Countess Wartensleben's first husband was Count Frederic Eulenburg, the only brother of Prince Phillip Eulenburg, and the divorce was granted some twelve years or so ago on grounds which have led to the complete ostracism of Count Frederic. They will be best understood when I intimate that at the beginning of the Prince Eulenburg scandal an effort was made by friends to shield him, on the ground that he was being confused with his disgraced younger brother, Frederic. It is difficult to see how this great pearl robbery scandal, which was the talk of all Berlin last winter, will end, for if the suit for libel is dropped and all further proceedings squashed, it will naturally be construed as an admission of the truth of the assertion that Count Botho was the thief; whereas, if the suit is carried on, it will entail the washing in court of an immense amount of very dirty linen.

Appointment Gives Pleasure. Considerable satisfaction has been created in court and official circles in England by the action of the Russian minister of foreign affairs, Baron Iswolski, in appointing Elin Demidoff, princess of San Donato, to be his principal private secretary and chief de cabinet in the place of Count Pahlen, who has just been assigned to the post of minister plenipotentiary at The Hague. Elin Demidoff, who received most of his education in England, and who spent many years in London, attached to the Russian embassy there, is persona gratissima with the king and queen, and is also extremely popular in English society, while his wife, one of the beautiful daughters of Count and Countess Woronzoff-Dashkoff, who were, from the time of the marriage of Alexander III, until his death, the grand master and grand mistress of the Imperial household, is also a great favorite with Edward VII, and his consort. I mentioned some two or three months ago in these letters that Russia had sent as envoy to Teheran M. Poklewski-Kozielecki, who, as first secretary and counsellor of the czar's embassy in London, had become one of the favorite associates and closest friends of the king. In short, Russia is behaving extremely well in all this Persian crisis, and had it not been for the existence of the agreement which she concluded last fall with England, there is no knowing what international complications would have resulted from the troubles in the dominions of the shah.

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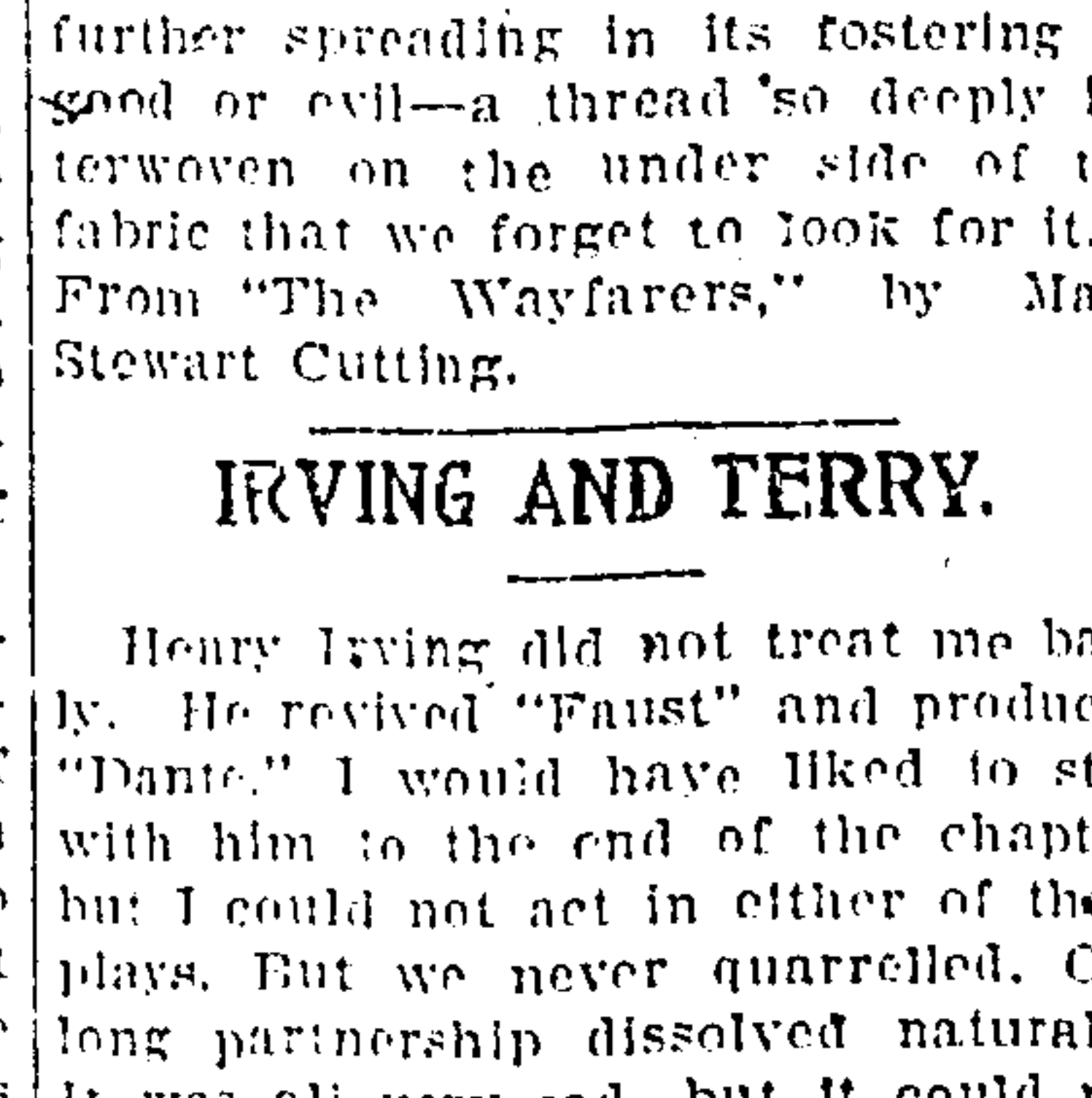
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STATESMANSHIP. The triple qualification of Job's patience, a saint's temper, and a jobber's hide, is the prime requisite of a responsible statesman in these times, according to Mr. Haldane, the British war secretary. American public men can sympathize with him.—Springfield Republican.

SCHOOL NEEDS.

It seems that along with a revival in spelling we are to have more attention paid to arithmetic and algebra. In fact, what the country needs is a little more hard work in the schools and not so many fads in education.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

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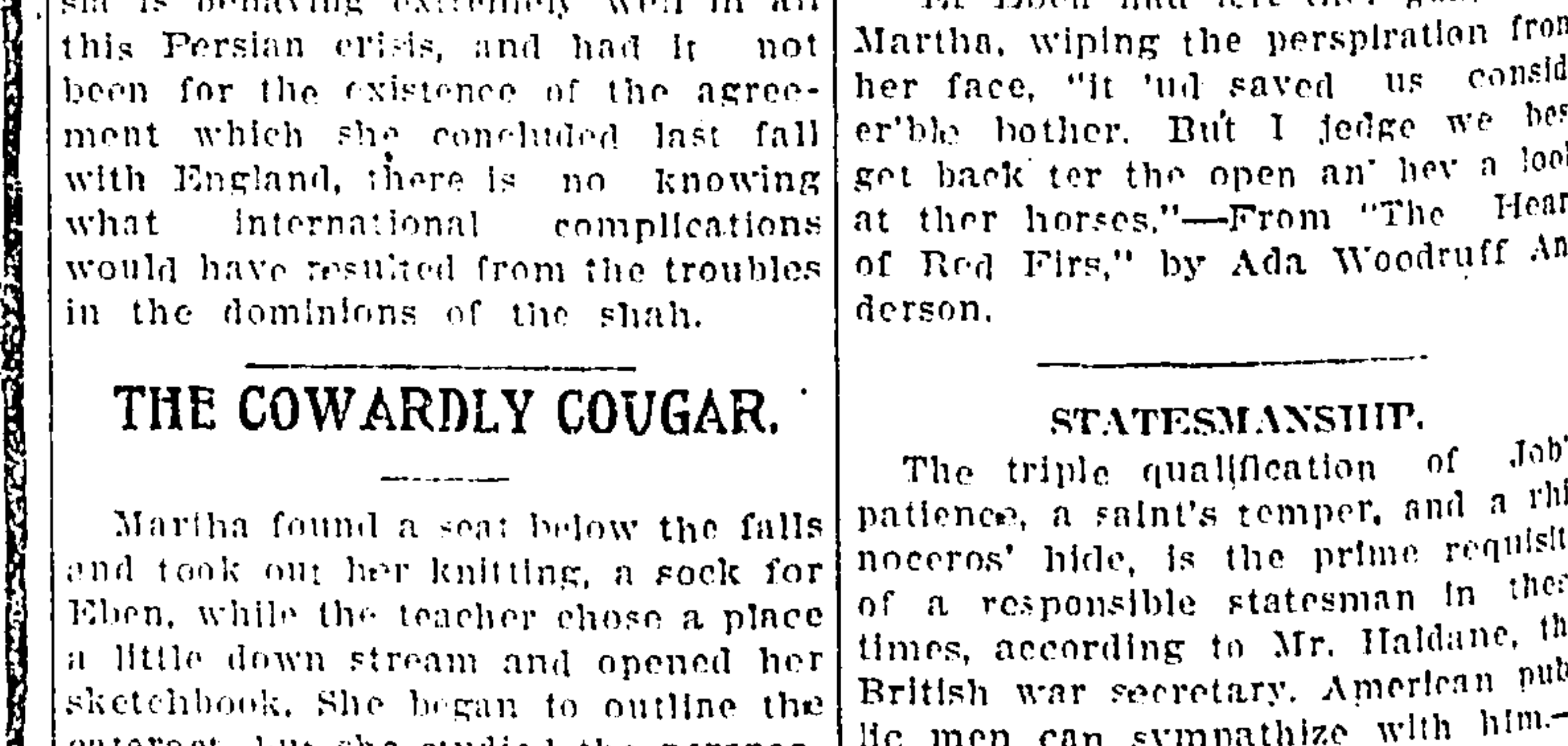
DIETZ No. 2 "Imperial" is fitted with DIETZ No. 3 Pioneer Cog Burner, 1 1/2 inch Wick, 8 inch Silvered-Glass Reflector. Reflects a light of over 100 C. P. These Lamps are packed 1 only to a case. Measurement, 2 cu. ft. Weight, Gross, about 21 lbs. (10 kilos), Net 9 1/2 lbs. (4 kilos). Blue Japan, Each.....\$6.50 (11-7-1)

DIETZ No. 3 "Imperial" is fitted with DIETZ No. 3 Pioneer Cog Burner, 1 1/2 inch Wick, 12 inch Silvered-Glass Reflector. Reflects a light of over 150 C. P. These Lamps are packed 1 only to a case. Measurement, 3 10-12 cu. ft. Weight, Gross, about 35 lbs. (16 kilos), Net 14 1/2 lbs. (6 kilos). Blue Japan, Each.....\$8.50 (11-15-5)

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