

Dakota County Herald

DAKOTA CITY, NEB.

JOHN H. REAM, - - - Publisher

The general European situation continues bilious.

With the spelling reformers nothing is sacred. They have cut the "a" out of heaven.

Do you think the person who invented this season's millinery was in his right mind?

At last we have a President who can write a short message to Congress: The country is safe.

A hundred years from now they will be pointing to some great man who was born in a flat.

More women are making speeches, and they are making better ones, but the same can't be said of their pie.

Since it has been discovered that it is absolutely innocent the Standard Oil Company may decide to be more careful in the future.

Though Lieut. Shackleton did not discover the south pole, he can give a good description of the ice that abounds in its vicinity.

According to statistics, only five per cent of marriages are dissolved by divorce courts. The other ninety-five per cent grin and bear it.

Scientific advancement is to be encouraged, and yet it has evolved perils which our forefathers never knew. The live wire is one of them.

In order to see the preacher the Elgists people make the women take off their hats in church. They like to "watch" things at Elgin, you know.

Consider Explorer Peary: How long it will take him to post up on what has happened in the world at large since he betook himself beyond the news belt.

The optimistic inventor who has constructed a fish rod which automatically measures and honestly weighs each fish as it is caught, will never die a millionaire.

Ten thousand Sicilians arrived in New York in one day. If America can help them to prosper, it will be a greater service than the gifts of money for the relief of those they left behind.

A deaf and dumb man in California worth \$100,000 wants some one to love him for himself alone, not for his money. It hasn't occurred to him that to avoid mistakes he should throw away his money before he goes a wooing.

On April 1 the law went into effect which forbids the importation of opium into the territory and dependencies of the United States. The kind used for smoking is debarred absolutely, and the forms used for medicinal purposes are placed under severe restrictions.

The management of a London magazine, having advertised for "a lady to dance in the lions' den," received four hundred and thirty-seven applications for that perilous post, and chose a "lady" who did the Highland fling and escaped in safety. The lions took no notice of her. If human beings would follow their example, fewer persons would seek notoriety by foolhardy feats.

The value of a friendly spirit and a kindly manner were accurately appraised in the British House of Commons the other day, when Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, said, in discussing the foreign visits of the King, that "The King in his own person has the exceptional gift of conveying to the people abroad the impression of good-will and the good disposition of the British nation toward them; that is a great national asset." It is fitting that the attention of the world should be called to the worth of these qualities.

There is no longer any danger of over-production of breadstuffs and meat and dairy products in this country. Extension of the area of cultivation approaches the limit more and more, and it does not keep pace with increase of population. The demands of the domestic market for consumption advance out of proportion to production, and the surplus for export is relatively diminishing while the world's requirements increase. The export of farm products is still our mainstay for paying for imported merchandise and will continue to be so while the cost of manufacturing is artificially kept up, for exports necessarily come into competition with foreign products of the same kind. We not only need to extend the area of land cultivated for the staple crops, but to improve methods of cultivation and reduce cost of production so far as practicable.

A short time ago, in an interior village in Kiang Su, a woman, ambitious to become educated, killed her self after bad treatment from her husband's relatives. Her farewell letter was everywhere copied by the Chinese press. It has become a national document, and almost a charter of the new movement. In it occur the following sentences: "I am about to die today because my husband's parents, having found great fault with me for having unbound my feet and declared that I have been diffusing such an evil influence as to have injured the reputation of my ancestors, have determined to put me to death. Maintaining that they will be severely censured by their relatives once I enter a school and receive instruction, they have been trying hard to deprive me of life, in order, as they say, to stop beforehand all the troubles that I may cause. At first they intended to starve me, but now they compel me to commit suicide by taking poison. I do not fear death at all, but how can I part from my children, who are

so young? Indeed, there should be no sympathy for me, but the mere thought of the destruction of my ideals and of my young children, who will without doubt be compelled to live in the old way, makes my heart almost break." The blood of such martyrs is beginning to make its impression upon the Chinese people and is turning them to favor more liberal popular customs.

A familiar sight on crowded railroad trains is that of a procession of passengers moving hopelessly by seats that are crowded with baggage. The seats are "reserved" by the simple process of placing the baggage on them, and the owner of the baggage feels that he has established a permanent claim. So secure is he that he may pass most of the time after the train starts in a smoking car. This familiar incident of travel led to a dispute which was taken to the courts in New York State, and the Court of Appeals has decided against the smoker. It holds that seats are for passengers, not for baggage, and that no one is bound by the reservation. In the particular case the two contestants had come to blows. The conductor, who was appealed to, would not pronounce upon their claims, and though the intruder was obliged to succumb to superior force, he succeeded in throwing part of the baggage through the window. The victor, not satisfied with this result, invoked the aid of the law and wanted damages for his loss and for the injury to his feelings, as well as a judgment that he was acting within his rights in trying to occupy two seats. But the court was generally unsympathetic. It considered the feelings of the other man and indicated that the smoking baggage owner could get damages only by a separate suit in which he should establish the exact amount of the loss that he sustained because of the window episode. Though the decision is effective in one State only, it will arouse general interest, since the reservations are common in all parts of the country. Whether they are respected or not depends very much, however, upon the character of the individuals concerned. The more aggressive person with the stronger will is likely to have his way unless there is a well-defined authority that can be asserted over him. Sometimes nothing more is attempted than a bluff that results in abject failure when it is called. Or deception is practiced, as in the case when the man with the baggage sits close to the window and becomes absorbed in his paper, letting his grip speak for an imaginary absentee owner. His object is to keep two seats side by side, but often the simple question, "Is this seat occupied?" will suffice to clear the atmosphere and the cushion. And the curious thing is that the same person may take the different parts in the drama at different times. We say curious, but perhaps this is only human nature and not very curious after all.

POPULAR SCIENCE

Incandescent lamps can be colored by dipping them in a solution of white shellac in denatured alcohol, to which has been added aniline dye of the desired hue.

There is said to be \$1,000,000 worth of whalebone locked up in a single Massachusetts storehouse, held for the better prices which are expected in the near future.

A French chemist has figured it out that the oceans of the world carry 20,000 tons of radium in solution, while 1,000,000 tons are contained in the sediment on the floors of the seven seas.

A big company has been formed in London to exploit a new form of chrome leather, which it is claimed is made waterproof by working a rubber solution into its pores after it is tanned.

For the past four years Great Britain has led the world in the per capita consumption of sugar, with the United States a close second, Bulgaria, Greece and Serbia having used the least amounts.

The greatest road builders of the world are the red ants of South America, who line the roads leading to and the galleries and passages within their nests with clay, packed perfectly smooth.

C. E. S. Phillips writes to Nature to say that an astonishing increase of the brilliancy of a lime-light used with a demonstrating lantern can be obtained by simply slipping over the artificial lime cylinder an ordinary Welsbach mantle. The mantle is but slightly damaged by the jet, and if it is turned occasionally, an intense illumination may be maintained for two hours.

Men of science care less for the finding of the actual poles of the earth's axis than for the exploration of the lands and seas surrounding them. Dr. William S. Bruce points out that the only extensive work remaining to be done in the arctic region is the detailed investigation of the north polar basin. In the southern hemisphere almost everything south of latitude 40 degrees, corresponding with that of Philadelphia in the northern hemisphere, requires a thorough investigation.

"MARSHALSEA" STILL STANDS.

Portion of Prison Made Famous by Dickens May Be Seen Yet. Among the few places still strongly reminiscent of one of Dickens' most famous works—"Little Dorrit"—is Marshalsea prison, a portion of which may be seen just across London bridge on the south side of the Thames, says an exchange. This place is often sought by American visitors, but it is by no means easy to find. There are several narrow courts and turnings to negotiate; and, as the inhabitants of the district are of the very roughest element, inquiries as to the whereabouts of the relics meet with little response. Most of the denizens of the district think you mean a saloon when you inquire for the "Marshalsea," and kindly offer to show the way, their good nature being only exceeded by their anticipation of favors to come in the form of liquid refreshment.

Tucked away behind a lot of buildings, after passing through a place called Angel court, there still remains a portion of the Marshalsea prison wall. The paving stones of the little garden which faces this wall are the actual stones which at one time formed a portion of the prison. In the introduction to "Little Dorrit" Dickens thus describes this spot: "Whoever goes into Marshalsea place, turning out of Angel court, leading to Bermondsey, will find his feet on the very paving stones of the extinct Marshalsea jail; will see its narrow yard to the right and to the left, very little altered, if at all, except that the walls were lowered when the place got free; will look upon the rooms in which the debtors lived, and will stand among the crowding ghosts of many miserable years."

If you stand in the little recreation ground facing the wall you can read a tablet inscribed as follows: "On this site was originally the Marshalsea prison, made famous by the late Charles Dickens in his well-known work, 'Little Dorrit.'" Just above this is the name of a firm of machinists. The prison bars in the windows still remain as in the days when the place held its motley crowd of debtors. Among these, it will be remembered, was Dickens' own father, whom the novelist has described under the name of Mr. Micawber.

SHORT METER SERMONS.

Confidence Needed. Confidence is what we present-day Christians need.—Rev. Edward Yates Hill, Presbyterian, New York.

Theology and Christ. A knowledge of theology does not bring a knowledge of Christ.—Rev. E. L. Powell, Christian, Louisville.

Immortality. No man can believe in the Fatherhood of God and doubt immortality.—Rev. Dr. Waters, Congregationalist, Brooklyn.

Loyalty to Church. Loyalty to church should not be contingent upon petty human likes and dislikes.—Rev. Arthur G. Jones, Presbyterian, San Antonio.

Social Position. What satisfaction is it to have social position and political preferment if our conscience is dulled?—Rev. John Hale Larry, Congregationalist, Providence.

Self-Control. Self-control is an essential to manhood; and the only way to change your disposition is to bridle your conduct.—Rev. Robert Gordon, Baptist, Milwaukee.

Greed for Gain. It is the greed for gain that is wrecking society. Money making is all right; but it should be made legitimately.—Rev. J. Wesley Hill, Met. Temple, New York City.

The Christian Idea. Down through the life of character, the life of intellect and the life of the flesh, the power of the Christian idea of the universe goes like the balm of Gilead.—Rev. George A. Gordon, Congregationalist, Boston.

Spiritual Destiny. Each of us, all of us, have an immortal spiritual destiny. The grave has never been the final goal of humanity, and the tombstone has never been more than a milestone on man's journey.—Rev. C. A. Bushirk, Christian Scientist, Louisville.

The Family. Through the family and the home most of the good has come to the world. The State began with the family, religion had its first expression in the family ancestral worship.—Rev. John L. Elliott, Episcopalian, New York City.

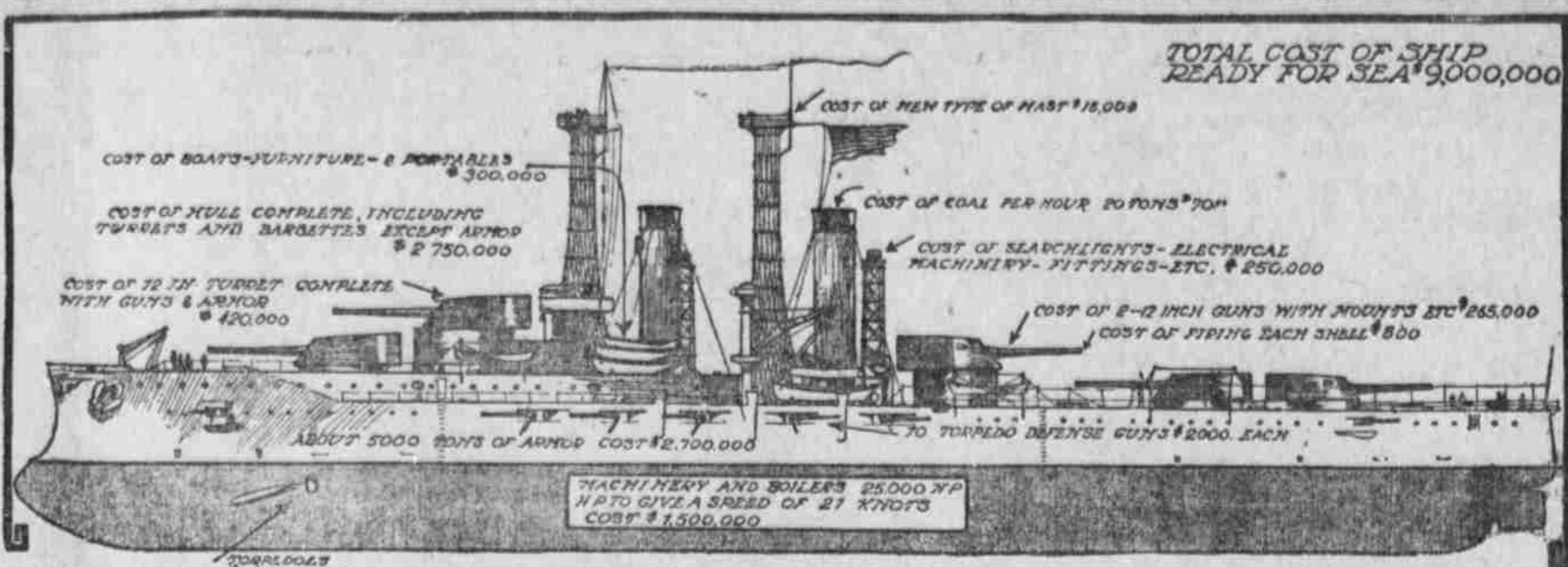
Regard for Honor. The conduct of business merely for profits leads men into corrupt practices. A regard for honor and a spirit of kindness no not hinder profit, but make business a means of soul culture.—Rev. T. Edward Barr, People's Pulpit, Milwaukee.

The Church's Supreme Mission. To restore man to himself, to his place in nature, to society and to God was the comprehensive mission of the Son of Man, and it is the supreme mission of His church in the twentieth century.—Rev. James B. Clayton, Baptist, Washington.

The Sovereign of Will. Christ is sovereign of the will. To will to do a thing is almost to do it. But we must have a sanctified will. God helps a man who helps himself. You can become mentally, spiritually and physically what you will to be.—Rev. A. T. Osborn, Presbyterian, Kansas City.

What Money Can't Buy. Money can't buy everything: There are no admission tickets to a sunset; you wouldn't trade the look in your boy's eyes when he greets you at night for a million dollars; or anybody's money; and if you keep a well-furnished mind you can go into it any time you like as you would into a child's playground and amuse yourself watching your thoughts play leap-frog with each other.—Lillian Pascal Day, Success Magazine.

Why Uncle Sam's New Navy Is Obligated to Grow Slowly.



HEN Congress adjourned at the close of the first half of its fifty-seventh session it was satisfied with its appropriations for the naval establishment of the United States. There were not many ships, it is true, but there were enough, in the opinion of Senators and Representatives. A total of approximately thirty-one and a quarter millions of dollars was turned over to the Navy Department with which to maintain its ships and yards and construct new vessels. And everyone was apparently content. This was in 1897. The following year the Maine was blown up in Havana harbor, and, like a bolt from the blue, the United States found itself forced to go to war. The country was not prepared, the navy was on the scantiest kind of a peace footing, and although the nation was to measure strength with a second-hand power, there was consternation everywhere. This had its effect on Congress. While the regular appropriation bill for the navy carried \$33,000,234, there was a supplementary bill for \$2,547,703, just twice as much as the budget carried two short years previously. This it might be said that the real birth of the modern navy of the United States was due to the war with Spain. Ever since that year there has been increasing activity in the upbuilding of the naval establishment, and for the last two years the appropriations for the maintenance of the navy have been greater than the heavy sum appropriated in the stirring days

of 1898. During the last decade the sums granted each year by Congress to the navy have been ever increasing, with only two exceptions, those being in the years 1906 and 1907. These exceptions to the general rise, however, were more than overcome by the bill of 1908, which was the greatest ever passed in the history of the country for the use of the navy. It was not until 1886 that the first boat of the new navy was authorized. This was the second-class battleship Texas, long since discarded as of small importance. Two years later the first armored cruiser was provided for by Congress, and the New York was the result. Both of these vessels took part in the naval engagement of Santiago in 1898, when Cervera's fleet was destroyed. In 1890 the first of the big modern battleships were authorized. Congress, with the lesson of the Spanish war fresh in mind, did not haggle over terms, but furnished the money necessary to build three first-class battleships; these eventually were the Indiana, Massachusetts and Oregon. In 1892 the Iowa was provided for, in 1895 the Kearsarge and Kentucky, and in the following year the Alabama, Illinois and Wisconsin. There was a lapse of a year, but in 1898 three first-class ships were laid down, the Maine, Missouri and Ohio, while in the year succeeding the Georgia, Nebraska and Virginia were authorized. In addition, the naval bill of that year provided for the powerful armored cruisers that now are a feature of the American sea power. There were two of these laid down in 1899, the California and the West Virginia, and three additional in 1900, the Colorado, Maryland and South Dakota. The increase of the United States navy is due primarily to the fact that this nation has been forced into taking its position as a world power. The war with Spain forced upon the American people the Philippines, Guam and Porto Rico. In addition it was necessary to take over Hawaii. All these outlying possessions need protection, and to afford protection worthy of the name a powerful navy is necessary. There is another explanation of the rapid growth of the navy, and that is found in the increasing necessity for policing the Central American and South American countries. The United States, as promulgator and defender of the Monroe doctrine, is compelled to maintain a naval force great enough to enforce order, whenever that should become necessary. This country is the policeman of the Western Hemisphere and the navy is its club and badge of office.

WELL-KNOWN BOY KILLED.

Paul M. Monfort Falls Through Elevator Car Window. Paul Maurice Monfort, the 4-year-old son of A. W. Monfort, a Chicago commercial photographer, was killed by falling from an open window of a South Side "L" train as it started from Stony Island avenue at 63d street, and the heartbroken parents have been consoled by messages of sympathy from friends scattered through several States, where the boy's face has been familiar for years in advertisements of staples. The child was known as the most photographed baby in America and his father had posed him more than 1,000 times. The most familiar include the



talcum-powder picture of a child smiling in fat particles strewn from a box and one of a babe seated in a bathtub with a cake of soap in his hand.

The boy's mother was with him at the time of the accident. The boy, running ahead of his parental guardian, leaped to a window seat and leaned forward to steady himself on the window pane. But the window was open and, instead of finding glass, the child toppled out into the street below. Mrs. Monfort, only four feet behind him, frantically leaped after him, but missed the child by a few inches. Then she tried to throw herself after it through the window, but was prevented by the train crew.

USE OF ALLIGATOR SKINS.

Consumption of the Leather Is Now Greater than Ever Before. Occasional attempts to utilize the carcasses of alligators in leather manufacture have been made for over 100 years or more, but not with much success until 1865, when this novel leather became somewhat fashionable and a considerable demand developed. The market, however, was not long continued, and after a few thousand hides had been shipped from the Gulf States the demand ended. During the Civil War another bid was made upon these saurians to supply shoe material and they were again slaughtered in thousands, but with the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of free commerce in shoe material the alligators were again left to repose for a period. The rest, however, was only temporary, for about 1869 fickle fashion again

called for the leather for manufacturing into fancy slippers, boots, traveling bags, belts, card cases, music rolls and so forth. An immense demand was soon created for it, resulting in the slaughter of many thousands of the animals every year, giving employment to hundreds of men. The demand soon exhausted the productive capacity of this country and large numbers of skins were imported from Mexico and Central America.

The consumption of this leather at present is greater than ever before, and owing to the large importations the market price is somewhat less than a few years ago. The output of the tanneries of the United States approximates 280,000 skins annually, worth \$420,000. It is a characteristic of all aquatic leather—indeed, of all leathers—that they are curiously checked in oblong divisions, known as "scales" or "bosses," separated by intersecting grooves, and varying in size and character from the rough, hornlike scutes on the back to the smooth, pliable markings on other parts of the body, giving the skin that peculiar effect which makes it so popular for leather purposes.

DOESN'T GO TO MARKET.

Under Present Conditions the Markets Come to Hotel Stewards.

"I run over to the market about once a week to keep in touch with it, but the modern hotel steward no longer goes to market in the old-fashioned sense. He is too busy. He would have to spend the whole day there. In other words, under present conditions the markets come to the hotels," said J. H. Todd to a New York Herald man. "You see, the market men come around looking after business, for they find competition rather keen."

"How do you manage to get the best of everything?" was asked. "We have to depend absolutely upon the dealers, and that works all right, for they could not afford to send inferior stuff. If they did, it would go right back to them, and they would also run a risk of losing business. We also depend upon them to notify us by telephone when they have anything especially fine on hand. You see, there is always a limited supply of delicacies, and the hotel steward who is enterprising gets what he wants of them. For instance, I had the first fresh mackerel that reached New York. That was Tuesday. Then in the middle of the week I captured a small shipment of peaches, nectarines and Japanese plums that came in from South Africa."

"We also have had cateloupes grown especially for us in a Pennsylvania hothouse. They come with the name 'Plaza' on the melon. This is done by placing a metal case and stencil over the melon just before it is ripe and the sun burns the name. The experiment was tried last year of raising cateloupes this way, but only this season has it been possible to raise a number of them. The fruit is red, sweet and of good taste. "We have printed slips of what is on hand every night, and this is sent to me. I go over it and then find out what entertainments are scheduled for the next day, and so cover the day's supply as closely as possible."

Intellectual Diversion. "That psychological-research man entertains some strange theories."

"You have it the other way around," answered Miss Cayenne. "Those theories serve to entertain him."—Washington Star.

GAZELLE LIKE ONE ROOSEVELT SHOT IN HIS FIRST DAY'S HUNT.



COINERS STEAL BELLS.

Taken from Church and Jail—Metal of Counterfeiters. The strange theft of a church bell from the chapter house of Southwark cathedral the other day was paralleled some few years ago by the mysterious disappearance of the big bell of a famous English jail. It was in its place one evening and the next morning it had vanished. The affair was kept a secret from the press, in accordance with the traditional policy pursued by our prison authorities, and for a long while nobody knew what had become of the missing article.

Eventually, however, it leaked out that it had been stolen by one of the convicts with the connivance of a warder. The thief was a professional conner whose period of detention was on the point of expiring and his reason for desiring the acquisition of so much good metal is sufficiently obvious to need no explanation. In all probability the missing Southwark bell was annexed for a similar purpose, although other ends have been had in view in the past by stealers of such articles. There was, for instance, the case of the antiquary who stole the famous St. Killin bell from its place in the tower of Killin Church in Perthshire.

The vulgarly carried away would extricate itself from the hands and return home ringing all the way; and the antiquary, when called to account, pleaded that he took the bell in order to prove the fallacy of this particular popular superstition. Then there was that "Ralph the Rover" of Southey's well-known ballad who stole the Inchcape bell in order that peaceful merchantmen might be wrecked upon the dreaded reef. He perished himself, with all his crew, because of the absence of its warning note, a fact known to every schoolboy.—Pearson's Weekly.

Blackening Heels. "The ordinary bootblack," said the woman who has had much experience, "does not know how to polish a woman's shoes. He thinks if he puts a brilliant shine on the toes and slaps a thin coat of dull blacking over all

the other parts of the shoes he has done a perfect job, because that is the way he blackens men's shoes; but that will not suffice at all for women's shoes. They should be evenly polished all over. "The front part of a man's shoes is all that ever shows, but when a woman crosses the street or goes up or down stairs or steps on or off a car or into an auto or a carriage her whole shoe is likely to show, and nothing looks worse than soiled heels or dingy strips up the back of a woman's boots. A woman who cares to be well groomed is extremely particular about the trimness of her heels and ankles, but it almost is impossible to get a bootblack to give that part of her shoes sufficient attention, although she pays him extra."

The Self-Improvement Habit. The very reputation of having an ambition to amount to something in the world, of having a grand life-aim, is worth everything, says a writer in Success Magazine. The moment your associates find that you are dead-in-earnest; that you mean business; that they cannot shake you from your determination to get on from your deers; that you are not only in the world, or rob you of your time or persuade you to waste it in frivolous things, you will not only be an inspiring example to them, but the very people who are throwing away their time will also admire your stand, respect it, and profit by it, and you will thus be able to protect yourself from a thousand annoyances and time-wasters, and experiences which would only hinder you.

In other words, there is everything in declaring yourself, in taking a stand and thereby announcing to the world that you do not propose to be a failure or an ignoramus; that you are going to take no chances on your future; that you are going to prepare yourself for something out of the ordinary, away beyond mediocrity, something large and grand.

The moment you do this you stand out in strong contrast from the great mass of people who are throwing away their opportunities and have not grit and stamina enough to do anything worth while, or to make any great effort to be somebody in the world. Marriage is a gamble when there is money back of it.