QUERIES FROM TIMES READERS AND ANSWERS TO THEM
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The Invention of Photography.

J. J. C.—Will you please tell me how long ago photography was invented, and by whom? I should like to know the exact date.

The earliest experiments in the direction of photography were made by Wedgwood and Day, but the first photograph was actually produced in a camera made by Daguerre and a partner about 1839. In 1840 the first photograph-portrait was made by Professor John W. Draper, an American. Progress was made in the work of Fox Talbot, 1841, and Scott Archer, 1851, with the glass plate. The gelatine-bromide dry plate was invented in 1871 by Maddox, and greatly improved by Bennett in 1878. As in many other inventions, it is practically impossible to lay one's finger on one man and one date for the specific "invention" of photography; it has been so largely a process of experiment and improvement.

National Political Conventions.

REPUBLICAN.—Will you kindly tell me when, where, and for how long a session the last convention of the Republican Party was held? If possible will you tell me how long these conventions usually last?

The last National Convention of the Republican Party was held in Chicago, June 18-22, 1912. There is no general rule for the duration of these conventions, but the entire amount of time covered, including the gathering together of the delegates and recesses in the convention, is seldom more than eight or ten days.

Languages in South America.

B. J. O'BRIEN.—I should like to know the languages chiefly spoken in the business sections of South America.

The business language of the South American countries is Spanish, except in Brazil, where Portuguese is spoken. There are many English and German firms in the South American cities, and it is always possible to find places where English is freely spoken. But a knowledge of Spanish is necessary for business dealings with the people of the country. Even in New York City, South American firms and agencies employ men who speak Spanish in carrying on their business with the southern continent.

The British Election.

J. P. L.—Please state how many voters registered in Great Britain at the time of the last Parliamentary election, and also how many members were elected to Parliament?

The number of voters by the count of 1913 was 8,058,025, about one-sixth of the country's population. The vote polled at the election of 1910 was, however, only 6,651,214. The entire House of Commons is elected at a British general election; the number of members of Parliament chosen in 1910 was, therefore, 670. A general election would normally be held this year, but has been postponed on account of the war.

The "Honorable."

L. THOMAS.—Could you tell me what gives a man the right to the title of "Honorable"? Is this title proper merely during tenure of office, or during a lifetime? Is the Controller of the Currency, the Secretary of State, or other such appointed officer entitled to such a title?

The title of "Honorable" is used loosely in the United States, being given by courtesy to almost any one who holds or who has held an important public office. The title is especially bestowed upon members of Congress, Governors, State Senators, Judges of the higher courts, and high Federal officials. In Great Britain the title of "Honorable" is borne by the House of Commons as a body, by the members separately when referred to in debate, by Judges of the High Court of Justice when not peers, and by all the children of dukes, marquises, earls, (except the oldest son, who bears the courtesy title of Lord,) viscounts, and barons.

The Duty on Blankets.

E. VERVIER.—Will you kindly tell me if there is a duty on blankets imported from Scotland?

There is a duty on the importation of blankets and flannels into this country. The duty on blankets under the tariff of 1913 is 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. ad valorem.

Florida Temperatures.

B. F. C.—As you have given an inquirer the temperatures for several months of the year at Miami, Fla., would it be asking too much for you to give the mean monthly temperatures for each month of the year for Key West and Tampa?

The mean temperatures, taken from records for thirty-three years back, are as follows: Tampa—January, 57.4; February, 60.9; March, 65.9; April 70.6; May, 75.5; June, 78.7; July, 80; August, 80; September, 78.3; October, 72.6; November, 65.4; December, 59.5; annual mean temperature, 70.4. Key West—January, 68.8; February, 70; March, 72.8; April, 75.5; May, 79; June, 82.2; July, 83.7; August, 83.8; September, 82.5; October, 78.7; November, 74.3; December, 70.1; annual mean temperature, 76.8. The mean maximum temperatures for Tampa are taken from a record of twenty-three years, and are as follows: January, 68.7; February, 70.3; March, 76.6; April, 80.2; May, 85.7; June, 88.6; July, 89.1; August, 89.2; September, 88; October, 82; November 75.8; December, 69.9; annual mean maximum, 80.3. The record of mean maximum temperatures for Key West goes back forty-two years, and is as follows: January, 74.2; February, 75.4; March, 77.6; April, 80.4; May, 84; June, 87; July, 88.7; August, 88.9; September, 87.4; October, 82.8; November, 78.3; December, 74.3; annual mean maximum, 81.6. The mean minimum temperatures are as follows: Tampa (record for twenty-three years)—January, 50.7; February, 52.4; March, 58; April, 61.4; May, 67.3; June, 71.5; July, 73.2; August 73.5; September, 71.9; October, 65.5; November, 57.6; December, 52; annual mean minimum, 62. Key West (record for forty-two years)—January, 64.9; February, 66.2; March, 68.9; April, 71.1; May, 74.6; June, 77.8; July, 78.6; August, 78.4; September, 77.3; October, 74.6; November, 70.4; December, 69.9; annual mean minimum, 72.4. Maximum and minimum temperatures will be quoted if desired.

A Regents' Certificate.

J. D.—For what cause can the Regents revoke a certified public accountant's certificate, and has a certificate ever been revoked?

A Regents' certificate to a public accountant can be revoked "for sufficient cause" after written notice to the holder and a hearing. The ruling only states that the certificate can be revoked for "sufficient cause"; this cause is, generally speaking, unbecoming conduct or incompetence, but all specific questions as to the history and procedure of such cases should be asked of the Board of Regents direct.

Naturalization.

F. D. S.—Will you kindly solve the following problem in your Sunday column: A is 30 years old, and came here from England with his father when less than three years of age; his father declared his intention of becoming a citizen, but never completed the process of naturalization. Does A have to take out first papers and make a declaration of intention? Are any witnesses required when making a declaration of intention? Can a resident of Brooklyn be naturalized in the State or Federal Courts of New York County? Are there any night sessions in Brooklyn for naturalization, and if so where?

E. A. B.—A Canadian came to the United States and brought a boy one year old. The man was naturalized as an American citizen; the boy grew to manhood in the United States. He is of age now and has no papers. Is he an American through his father's being naturalized?

The minor children of a naturalized citizen take his citizenship. If a man dies after taking out his declaration of intention his widow and minor children are exempt from the necessity of making a declaration of intention. But any children who have attained their majority must make declaration of intention. No witnesses are required for the declaration of intention. A resident of Brooklyn can only be naturalized in the United States District Court for the Eastern District, Brooklyn, or the County Court in the Hall of Records, Brooklyn. There are no night sessions for naturalization in Brooklyn.

The Great Eastern.

READER.—When was the Great Eastern taken out of commission? When was it broken up? To what use, if any, was it put after its last voyage? How old is "Phoebe Snow" of the Lackawanna Railroad?

The Great Eastern was purchased by the British Government for a coal transport; in 1886 she was converted into an exhibition and concert hall, and in 1888 was sold at auction and broken up for old iron. "Phoebe Snow" has been in existence about twelve years.

Peter the Great.

C. H.—I have heard that at the end of the Thirty Years' War Peter the Great issued an edict permitting all soldiers to take as many as ten wives. Can you tell me if this is true, and give me additional information about it?

Peter the Great reigned in Russia from 1672 to 1725. The Thirty Years' War took place in Germany between 1618 and 1648.

The Feminist Movement.

B. C. M.—Kindly give me some facts concerning the feminist movement. When and where did it originate? Who have been some of its most noted leaders? What may it be said to include? I do not want arguments, but historical or literary points.

The word "feminism" originated in France about the year 1890, and for the last twenty years it has been used more and more as an English word to describe generally the ideas, principles, and motives which lie at the root of the modern "woman movement." The movement itself is, of course, of far less recent growth. As a modern movement it traces its origin to the ideas that gave birth to modern democracy and brought about the French Revolution. Probably the first historic trace, however, of what we now know as the feminist idea is found in Plato's "Republic," where the principle of complete social and political equality for the sexes is advanced; Plato declared that there was no qualitative difference between the sexes, and that in the ideal state they should co-operate in all their activities.

At the time of the Renaissance also there were certain anticipations of modern feminism; women were carefully educated, appeared in public as artists, poets, and orators, and—although in a purely aristocratic and individualistic way—shared in the culture, scholarliness and broadening life of the time. In the fifteenth century a French poetess, Christine de Pisan, wrote a book called the "Cité des Dames," in which she made a plea for the emancipation of women; somewhat later Mlle. de Gourmy, Montaigne's foster daughter, declared the equality of the sexes; Marguerite de Valois, Queen of Henry IV., made an effort to prove woman the superior sex; in 1655 Jacquette Guillaume published "Les Dames Illustres," with the same object. In Germany there was a pronounced movement in the seventeenth century for the higher education of women; but this, like the culture of the Renaissance, was purely individualistic and aristocratic. In England a more truly modern discussion began with Mary Astell's publication, in 1694, of "A Serious Proposal to the Ladies, by a Lover of Their Sex," in 1969 "An Essay in Defense of the Female Sex," and in 1700 "Some Reflections Upon Marriage." Greeted with general ridicule and contempt, she found a strong supporter in Daniel Defoe. A greater English precursor of feminism was Mary Wollstonecraft, whose "Vindication of the Rights of Women" applied the stirring French philosophy of democracy to woman as well as to man. But the prophet of the modern English feminist movement was John Stuart Mill, whose "Subjection of Women" (1867) is quoted as a classic of the woman's movement.

In France the theories of the "Utopian Socialists," much in vogue before the economic day of Marx and Engels, produced a new feminism, extremely radical, and often mistakenly confused with the ideal of feminism in general. But the gradual change in the economic basis of society from the end of the eighteenth on through the nineteenth and into the present century, has naturally done more than anything else for the growth of a different attitude in regard to woman's position in society, industry, and the State. To quote the "New International Encyclopedia," "The evils of woman and child labor have occupied the attention of economists and reformers with ever-increasing force for the last century, and have been one of the most serious problems which the woman movement has had to face." The article continues:

"The most important scientific contribution to feminism during the last century has been the growth of knowledge with regard to the position of woman in the past and its causes. Beginning with purely historical works, such as those of Segur (1803,) Laboulaye (1843,) and Legouvé (1848,) the research on this question extended into the field of anthropology, and a number of important works on the position of woman and the nature of marriage in primitive society have introduced the evolutionary point of view into discussions of the woman question. The institution of marriage and of the family, and the position and sphere of woman appeared in the light of science to have evolved gradually to their present state, and to have differed greatly according to the special society in which they were found.

This dynamic standpoint has revolutionized discussion upon feminism. In the field, too, of a realistic understanding of sex great advance has been made. The work of Forel, Krafft-Ebing, and others on the Continent, and of Havelock Ellis in England, are examples of this movement." The sociological and economic side of woman's right and duty to work have been emphasized by such writers as Olive Schreiner and Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Briefly, the feminist movement is a movement for the complete emancipation of woman, political, economic, social, and personal, and with it, as a natural corollary, the improvement of conditions under which women live and work—whether in the home, the factory, or the professions—and the fullest opportunity of complete personal development, whether this be considered from the viewpoint of the individual, the unit in society, or the mother of children. It is impossible to define any uniform program for the feminist movement. It includes education, the entrance of women into the professions on equal terms with men; the betterment of industrial conditions, such improvement in the accepted attitude toward marriage, laws having to do with marriage, property, and legal rights, as will completely do away with the subordinate position of women in marriage; equality before the law, and equal suffrage are the most general demands at present; "more radical proposals involve salaries for wives, widows' pensions, the State endowment of motherhood, and the State responsibility for the rearing of children, and the emancipation from domestic work of the highly trained woman. Lastly, feminist thought has developed aesthetic and moral ideals of its own." It includes such things as dress reform, outdoor life, fresh air and exercise, and it aims at the development of a more healthy type of woman who will also have better ethical principles, "a stronger feeling of social responsibility, and a higher ideal of love and maternal duty."

In the United States the agitation for woman suffrage is the most conspicuous phase of the feminist movement at present. But it must be remembered that woman suffrage is only a part of the feminist movement. In some countries it is not emphasized.

The feminist movement is active in England, France, Germany, the Scandinavian countries, and, in fact, in practically all countries, including Turkey, India, China, and Japan.

It is impossible to trace the development of feminism without tracing at the same time the development of feminist thought and belief. And the limited space of the Query Column forbids a detailed history of the workers, the books, the laws that have been part of the feminist movement. But if any further specific details are desired they will be given in answer to more specific questions.

A War Correspondent.

A. H.—Please give me some information about Frederick McCormick, the war correspondent, who he is, where he lives in this country, and where he is now.

Frederick McCormick was born in Brookfield, Mo., Feb. 21, 1870, the son of Isaac Newton and Sarah Elizabeth Bryce McCormick. He was art editor of the Woman's Home Companion for four years, served as special correspondent for Harper's Weekly and London Graphic in the Boxer uprising, and for New York and European newspapers and syndicates in Pekin, 1901-3; with the Russian Army in Manchuria for twenty-three months, in Korea in 1905, Peking 1907-10, Chinese revolutionary rebellion 1911-12, and in 1912-13 organized the Asiatic Institute for the consideration of certain Far Eastern questions. He is the author of "The Tragedy of Russia in Pacific Asia," "China's Monuments," "The Flowery Republic." He lives in New York City. The Query Department cannot supply either his permanent or present address, as it does not publish addresses.

Forestry.

S. S. K.—I am perplexed about the choice of studies in college, and a future profession, and should be much obliged if you would tell me something about forestry; it is a new study in this country, and I should like to have some information about it, and the chances for work in that profession, as well as what foresters are paid.

THE TIMES cannot offer personal advice in its Query Column, or supply information of purely personal interest. The following general facts about forestry, its progress in recent years in this country, and especially the work being done by the United States Government, will, no doubt, however, give you the groundwork of facts desired:

The Forest Service, one of the bureaus of the United States Department of Agriculture, has charge of the administration and protection of the national forests, the dissemination of information regarding forests and forestry, and the carrying on of investigations to promote the practice of forestry. The work of the Service has grown of recent years. It was first undertaken in a small way in 1876, when Dr. Franklin B. Hough was made a special forest agent in the Department of Agriculture; in 1881 a special division was created in that department, which, in 1901, became the Bureau of Forestry. In 1905 the care of the national forests was given to this bureau, and it became known as the Forest Service.

It is the aim of the Forest Service to open these national forests to the widest use consistent with their proper protection. During the years 1913 and 1914 the following sums were expended for the protection and care of the forests: 1913.—Administration and protection, total, $4,653,560.48; per acre, $0.0249; permanent improvements, total, $470,825.50, per acre, $0.0025. 1914.—Administration and protection, total, $4,758,422.48; per acre, $0.0256; permanent improvements, total, $617,980.35; per acre, $0.0033. The total regular appropriation for salaries, general expenses, and improvements for the fiscal year 1915 is $5,548,256, with a further provision of $100,000 for fire-fighting in case of extraordinary emergency. The value of public property administered by the National Forest Service is estimated at more than $2,000,000,000. The present area is 185,821,202 acres with an additional 190,755 acres acquired by purchase in the White Mountains and Southern Appalachian regions for national forest purposes. In the fiscal year 1914, 746,981,000 board feet of lumber were cut from the national forests.

The Forest Service is organized under a Forester and Associate Forester, and is divided into the branches of operation, lands, silviculture, products, and grazing; there is also a products laboratory, and a branch of acquisition of lands under the Weeks law. There are 163 national forests, grouped into seven districts, with a District Forester in charge of each. The Forest Service force numbers 3,953 persons, 3,352 being engaged in active work on the national forests. Of the forest workers, 2,397 are engaged in protective work, as follows: Forest rangers, 397; assistant forest rangers, 856; forest guards, 1,143, and one game warden. But a comparison with the protective force employed in German forests leaves it plain that the force of the United States is really very small; we have about one man for each 80,000 acres; Prussia has one man for each 1,700 acres, and Baden one man for every 750 acres. Among the various kinds of work done by the Forest Service are the following: The branch of silviculture not only directs the management of the national forests in the cutting and planting of timber, but co-operates with private forest owners who wish to practice forestry on their own lands, and carries on investigations of the problems of silviculture in the United States; there are eight thoroughly equipped forest experiment stations for these investigations; the branch of grazing allots grazing privileges and supervises grazing, but also works to develop the forage-producing capacity of the national forests by the restoration of depleted areas; the branch of products carries on investigations aimed at the more complete utilization of the forest products, including timber.

The movement for national forestry, which is of recent growth, and increasing, has been followed by a widespread upspringing of State interest in the preservation and improvement of State forests, and a marked development of State forest activities. New York and Pennsylvania, to be sure, were the pioneers in the field before the National Government had awakened general interest, but the development of forestry as a State industry is largely a growth of the last decade. Ten or twelve years ago New York and Pennsylvania were almost the only States that took any interest in forestry; today thirty States have forest departments, twenty-one employ professionally trained foresters, and practically every State in the Union is interested in forest service work. There is an American Forestry Association, with headquarters in Washington, the objects of which are "the promotion of a businesslike and conservative use and treatment of the forest resources of this country; the advancement of legislation tending to this end, both by the States and the Congress of the United States; the inauguration of forest administration by the Federal Government and by the States, and the extension of sound forestry by all proper methods; the diffusion of knowledge regarding the conservation, management, and renewal of forests, proper utilization of their products, methods of reforestation of waste lands, and planting of trees." The association publishes a monthly magazine, American Forestry, and a quarterly.

St. Patrick's Cathedral.

R. L. S.—Will you kindly advise me through your question bureau if the Catholic Cathedral is built on city property? What sum is paid yearly for its lease? Also did the Catholic Church purchase the property from the city? If so, when and what price was paid? Any information about the property will be appreciated.

The ground is the property of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York. The site was part of the common lands and was sold as Block 62, official map of 1796. The sale was made in 1799 to Robert Lilburn for four hundred and five (405) pounds and a quit rent of four bushels of wheat, payable May 1 every year. In 1810 Lilburn sold it to Francis Thompson and Thomas Cadle, who sold it to Andrew Morris and Cornelius Heeney, who gave a mortgage to the Eagle Fire Insurance Company. In 1821 it was sold to D. Doyle under the mortgage. In 1828 the mortgage was foreclosed and at the Sheriff's sale it was purchased by Francis Cooper, who conveyed it to the Trustees of St. Peter's and St. Patrick's Churches under joint title. The Trustees of St. Patrick's bought the half title for $5,550. The deed is recorded in Liber 620, Conveyances, p. 364.

The Irish in America.

Replying to an Irishman's request for information as to a society in this city for the purpose of uniting the Irish-Americans and promoting their general advancement in this country, James F. O'Kelly writes as follows:

An association exclusively devoted to the uniting of all Irish people and their advancement in general in this country has just been established, and has within its ranks and on its rolls many hundreds of our best Irishmen, who, though they may differ on Irish and European politics, are one on the necessity of a real united Irish race in this country. The association meets at the Irish-American Athletic Club, where all information can be had relating thereto. Most all Irish societies in the city are enrolled with all their members as auxiliaries, and no doubt the new association will in future be in a position to represent the entire Irish and Irish-American element in this city.

The Four Great Revolutions.

E. A.—Will you please explain what are the "four great revolutions"?

The four great revolutions of modern times are the English Revolution of 1688, which finally put an end to Stuart power in England; the great French Revolution of 1789; the French Revolution of July, 1830, which was followed by several revolutionary outbreaks in other parts of Europe; and the almost general revolutionary outburst of 1848. The July Revolution in France in 1830 was followed by attempts which were unsuccessful in Germany and Italy, but in Belgium the present kingdom of the Belgians was established, and in 1832 the passage of the English Reform Bill was directly attributed to events and processes of thought set in motion at that time. The Revolutions of 1848 resulted in France in the fall of the bourgeois monarchy, and brought about a political upheaval in Europe from many causes from Ireland to the Danube.

Quebec.

W. B.—Will you kindly tell me whether Quebec, Canada, is a fortified city?

The fortifications of Quebec are obsolete as fortifications, but remain as picturesque additions to the beauty and interest of "The Gibraltar of America." The fortifications standing consist of walls and a citadel built in 1823-1832 at a cost of over seven million pounds. Between 1865 and 1871 three forts were built on the Levis side of the river, but were not armed or manned. The citadel occupies more than forty acres. No trace of the old French fortifications remains.

The Times Building.

P. T. GUARENTE.—Is there a barber shop on the ground floor of The Times Building? If not, was there ever one there?

There is a barber shop on the ground floor of The Times Building now.

The Smithsonian Institution.

JOHN R. CASE.—Can you furnish me through your columns with the name of the founder, also the purpose, of the Smithsonian Institution?

The Smithsonian Institution "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men" was established by statute in 1846. It was founded by the bequest of James Smithson, who in 1826 left his fortune to the United States to be used for the purpose quoted above. The institution aids investigators with grants for research and exploration, supplies of books, apparatus and laboratory accommodation, and in other ways. It occasionally provides lectures, which are published. It has initiated numerous scientific projects of national importance, some of which have been turned over to the Government and have resulted in the establishment of separate Government bureaus. It acts as adviser to the Government in matters of scientific importance, co-operates with national scientific bodies, issues three regular series of publications (annual reports, "contributions to knowledge," and "miscellaneous collections,") which are distributed gratis to libraries, maintains a large scientific library of its own, and has administrative charge of several branches which have grown out of its scientific activities.

Cockloft Hall.

S. S. D.—Can you tell me whether the Cockloft Hall of Irving and Paulding's "Salmagundi" is still standing, and if so just where it is located? It was the old Kemble mansion on the Passaic River, somewhere near Newark. I should also like to find an authentic picture of the place.

Cockloft Hall, remodeled, now stands at 208 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Newark. Further information about the building and its history may be found in "Historical Houses of New Jersey," by W. Jay Mills, Pages 101-107, and in "Literary Rambles at Home and Abroad," by Theodore F. Wolfe, Pages 42, 55, and 58.

Commission Government.

W. W. N.—Kindly inform me what "Plan C" of a commission form of Government, to be adopted by Newburg, N. Y., in 1916, implies? How does it differ from the regulation style of city control?

The plan adopted by the city of Newburg at a special election recently was not a commission form of government in any sense, and has only one characteristic in common with the commission form of government, namely, the short ballot. Plan C provides for a legislative body consisting of a Mayor and four Councilmen, all elected from the city at large. The Mayor has not the power of veto, but has a vote on all matters going before the council. He differs from the other Councilmen only in being the presiding officer of the council, and in representing the city on ceremonial occasions. The council elects a City Manager, and the City Manager appoints all the other officials of the city, excepting the judiciary and the members of the Board of Education. The limited space of the Query Column forbids an outline in greater detail, but complete information as to this plan of government can be found in the Optional City Charter Bill passed by the Legislature of the State of New York in 1914.

Monument in the Bronx River.

A. M.—Kindly give me the history connected with the placing of a soldiers' monument in the Bronx River, near the bridge on Gun Hill Road. The Mount Vernon trolley cars pass near the monument. I have asked several persons whom I thought should know, but have been unable to obtain any information.

The story is that the stone was made for a monument in a cemetery but was rejected, and the stonecutter, at the rear of whose garden it now stands, placed it in the river.

Local Option in Texas.

E. J. W.—Can you give me any information on the following subject: Has Texas State prohibition, county prohibition, or no prohibition at all? What success, if any, partial or wholly, was attained through the last attempts? Can a city pass a law prohibiting the sale of liquors? What, if any, large cities in Texas are dry?

Texas has county local option, which has voted prohibition through the greater part of the State. One hundred and seventy-seven counties are wholly dry and fifty-two are dry except for one or two saloons in each county. Only twenty counties are entirely "wet." Of the entire population of Texas (3,896,542) recent returns show 3,409,477 persons to be living in territory where the sale of liquor is not allowed, and of the entire area of Texas (262,000 square miles) 222,000 square miles are prohibition territory. A recent effort to make Texas entirely a prohibition State was defeated by a majority of 2,000 votes, but the liquor fight is "on" once more in the Legislature, to refer the question again to popular vote. The matter of local option, whether for counties, cities, towns, election districts, varies in different States. Some States have both county and city local option. In Texas the county is the only unit for the local option vote. Prohibition obtains in the Cities of Abilene, Amarillo, Brownwood, Cleburne, Corsicana, Denison, Ennis, Gainesville, Greenville, Hillsboro, Houston Heights, Longview, Marshall, Sherman, Sulphur Springs, Paris, Weatherford, and Tyler.

The First United States Treasurer

REGULAR READER.—On the United States $10 gold note there is a portrait of Michael Hillegas, and it reads, "First Treasurer of the United States." Is not this a mistake? I always supposed that Alexander Hamilton was the first Treasurer of the United States, when he began his first term in 1789. If that is true, who was this Michael Hillegas?

Alexander Hamilton was the first Secretary of the Treasury, (1789-95.) Michael Hillegas was the first United States Treasurer. Hillegas was appointed to the office July 29, 1775, when he and George Clymer were chosen together in the formation of what was the germ of the Treasury Department. Hillegas served alone through practically his entire term, however, as Clymer soon resigned to take a seat as delegate to Congress. Hillegas's term expired Sept. 11, 1789, and he was succeeded by Samuel Meredith. Both men were from Pennsylvania. The Treasury Department was formally organized by act of Sept. 2, 1789, but, strictly speaking, this was merely a reorganization, for the department under various names had been in existence since 1775.

State Constitutions.

CONSTITUTIONAL.—Has a Constitution ever been accepted in New York State by proclamation instead of being submitted to the voters? Has this method of adopting a Constitution ever been legal even though not used? A says that there have been five Constitutional Conventions, including the one in 1777; B says that there have been seven. Which is correct?

It is not and never has been possible for a State to adopt or amend a Constitution without the ratification of popular vote. The Constitution, being the organic and fundamental law of the State, must be submitted to the will of the people. The Constitution of the United States is amended by the vote of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the States. There have up to the present been four Constitutions adopted by the State of New York—in 1777, 1821, 1846 and 1894.

The Frank Case.

READER.—Will you please let me know if Leo Frank's slayers have been caught and if there is any place where donations are received to help catch them?

The Grand Jury's inquiry into the identity of the slayers of Leo M. Frank has been held. It had practically no results, as no evidence was forthcoming to enter indictments or make arrests.

Evening Lectures.

L. I. CLARK.—I wish to attend evening lectures on the sciences, art, politics, &c., and would appreciate information from you regarding a calendar of the same; also a list of churches with prominent and liberal ministers.

Columbia University, New York University, Cooper Union, and other institutions maintain evening extension courses, and the public school system of the city includes series of public evening lectures on various topics. Detailed information should be sought from these various educational sources direct. THE TIMES cannot answer your second question, as it does not fall within the scope of the Query Column.

The Disraeli Family.

The following letter regarding the entrance of Benjamin Disraeli into the Church of England has been received from the Rev. Henry S. Morais, author of "Eminent Israelites of the Nineteenth Century":

Isaac Disraeli never did withdraw from the Jewish Church. He simply withdrew his name from the list of members of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation of London, England, owing to an unfortunate dispute caused by an election against his wishes to the Board of Trustees (ma'amad) of that congregation. In those days service on the board was not optional, but compulsory, and Mr. Disraeli refused to bound down by arbitrary rules, and likewise declined to pay what he regarded as an unjust fine (finta) for his non-acceptance of office. And this withdrawal from membership resulted after a lengthy correspondence with the "powers that be" in the congregation named. But Isaac Disraeli never formally withdrew from the Jewish Church, nor, in the least, renounced his adherence to Judaism. At least one of his works testifies to this statement. As to his sons, both Benjamin and Ralph were born in Judaism, and were named in accordance with the rites of the Abrahamic Covenant. But Benjamin early formed the acquaintance of the English poet, Samuel Rogers, and through the latter's instrumentality was admitted into the Church of England, though he, too, constantly asserted his Jewish lineage, and the pride he felt when, in the language, he answered Daniel O'Connell, "My ancestors were priests in the Temple," not to mention declarations time and again in various of his novels.

"Bulgarian Culture."

MRS. E. V. H.—Could you tell me what "Bulgarian culture" is?

Bulgarian culture is a name sometimes given to the sour-milk bacillus and the sour-milk treatment used by Metchnikoff. He introduced sour-milk treatment for intestinal auto-intoxication, on the supposition that the lactic-acid bacillus displaced many of the pathogenic bacteria. He found the Bulgarian bacillus most potent.

The Painter Henner.

W. F. A.—Will you kindly tell me if Henner, the well-known painter, was English, and if the name is pronounced as if he were French?

Jean Jacques Henner was born in Alsace in 1829. He was educated at the Beaux Arts in Paris. In 1889 he succeeded Cabanel at the Institut de France. His name is pronounced in the French fashion.

The Polo Grounds.

EDWARD COTTER.—Will you please tell me the seating capacity of the New York Polo Grounds?

The seating capacity of the Polo Grounds is about 38,000.

The Titanic Band.

NETTO.—Will you please tell me whether the band of the Titanic was playing "Nearer, My God, to Thee" or "Autumn Leaves" as the ship went down?

The band of the Titanic was playing "Autumn" during most of the time when the passengers were being aroused and the boats were being lowered. Several survivors have spoken of the strains of that air as being the last they heard of the ship. During the last few minutes, however, as the boat was finally settling, and as long as possible while she actually sank, the band played "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

The Constitutional Convention.

F. S.—Please give me in your Sunday Query Column the total cost of the Constitutional Convention, as follows: The expenses incurred for the vote last Spring, the cost of the Summer session, the expenses to be incurred by the Fall vote.

It is impossible even to make a satisfactory estimate on the figures you ask. The expenses of the elections, &c., have not yet been computed and made public, and the expense of the election to come cannot be guessed at in any reliable way. There were one hundred and fifty delegates to the Constitutional Convention, and each delegate was paid a salary of $1,500. But no adequate information on the total cost of the new Constitution is available.

Taxation in Germany.

A READER.—Will you please tell me something of the system and rate of taxation in Germany? A skilled mechanic here says his taxes are larger than they would be in Germany. What is the cost of a marriage license in Germany? I have read that it costs $30 to be married, and that was given to account for the large percentage of illegitimate children in Germany. Is this percentage greater there than in other civilized countries?

It is impossible to answer questions of German taxation in any adequate detail because different systems and rates prevail in the twenty-six different States of the Empire. The Imperial Government of Germany cannot levy any taxes, except customs and excise duties (beer, tobacco, liquors, salt, and sugar). The several States make contributions, of varying amounts and proportions, to the Imperial Treasury. Prussia is assessed more than 60 per cent. of the entire Federal contribution. The budget in 1913 was $879,650,000, and of this the amount contributed by taxation by the Governments of the various provinces was $62,196,560. More than half the entire Imperial expenditure goes to the support of the army and navy. Naturally the burden of military taxation has been increasing for years past.

During the past twenty years the population of the German Empire has increased by 30 per cent. and its expenditure by 230 per cent. Prussia had, according to counts made some time before the outbreak of war, a total indebtedness of about $60 a person, Bavaria about $80 a person, and Hesse about $90 a person. It has been the policy of the Empire from the beginning to depend largely upon indirect taxation for the imperial revenue—customs duties, stamp duties, &c.—and keep direct taxes as low as possible. In "The Evolution of Modern Germany," written, before the outbreak of war, by William Harbutt Dawson, an English authority on such questions, the following general statements are made: "The question whether Germany under modern conditions is a land of high or low taxation is evidently one which does not admit of a summary answer. A well-known German statistician, Dr. F. Zahn, recently estimated the amount raised in direct taxation per head of the population at eight shillings twopence, and that raised in indirect taxation one pound six shillings sixpence, and in view of these figures he contended that Germans were not so highly taxed as either Frenchmen or Englishmen.

"Obviously, however, no comparison of the kind can profitably be made which omits to take into account the relation of taxation to income. Moreover, comparison between the United Kingdom and Germany is invalidated owing to the fact that a large part of the revenues of the German Empire is drawn from taxes upon corn and other foodstuffs which have no place in the British fiscal system, and it is of the nature of such taxes that they entail upon the community a charge far larger than that represented by the revenue actually yielded to the Treasury." For various reasons general comparisons between Germany and the United States cannot be made profitably or satisfactorily. In the same way—owing to the different rates and systems existing—it is practically impossible to estimate adequately the cost of marriage generally obtaining in the German Empire. The general average of illegitimate births in the German Empire is about one-eleventh of the annual number of births, but percentages in the different States vary greatly. There are more illegitimate births in Bavaria than in any other German State, the latest available record giving the percentage as 15; Berlin has 14 per cent. of illegitimate births; Saxony, Mecklenberg-Schwerin, and Saxe-Meiningen each over 12 per cent. The lowest percentage of illegitimate births is in Westphalia, 2.6 per cent., and in the Rhine Provinces, 3.9 per cent.

The Calendar.

Regarding the computation of the calendar to determine the day of the week upon which a given date fell or will fall, Delaplane Wilson writes as follows:

In the Query Department of Aug. 29 "E. G." asked for a rule to find the day of the week on which any date fell or will fall, but no rule was given. The following is the rule to determine the question: To the two right hand figures of the given year add the one-fourth part of these figures, omitting fractions, if any; then add the day of the month; then add the ratio of the month, then add the ratio of the century. Divide the sum by 7. If, after the division there is a remainder of 1, it indicates Sunday, the first day of the week; a remainder of 2 indicates Monday, the second day of the week; a remainder of 3 indicates Tuesday; a remainder of 4 indicates Wednesday; a remainder of 5 indicates Thursday; a remainder of 6 indicates Friday; if there be no remainder it indicates Saturday.

The monthly ratios referred to are as follows:

January, 3.	February, 6.	March, 6.
April, 2.	May, 4.	June, 0.
July, 2.	August, 5.	September, 1.
October, 3.	November, 6.	December, 1.

The centurial ratios referred to are as follows:

For the years 1 to 99, 2.

100, 1.	700, 2.	1300, 3.	1900, 5.	2500, 2.
200, 0.	800, 1.	1400, 2.	2000, 3.	2600, 0.
300, 6.	900, 0.	1500, 1.	2100, 2.	2700, 5.
400, 5.	1000, 6.	1600, 4.	2200, 0.	2800, 3.
500, 4.	1100, 5.	1700, 2.	2300, 5.	2900, 2.
600, 3.	1200, 4.	1800, 0.	2400, 3.	3000, 0.

To find the day of the week on which June 4, 1859, fell, therefore

to 59 add the one-fourth part of the year, omitting fractions,
14 then add the day of the month,
4 then add the ratio of June,
0 then add the centurial ratio (1800)
0
7 | 77 Sum
11 and no remainder. Indicating Saturday, as stated by you.

American Tennis Players.

J. G. K., Jr.—Will you please tell me what the official ratings are of the first twenty tennis players in this country for the last five years?

Records and ratings of the first twenty players are not available, as the official lists are made up and the counts published only of the first ten. The ratings of these for the last five years are as follows:

1910.—First, W. A. Larned; second, T. C. Bundy; third, B. C. Wright; fourth, M. E. McLaughlin; fifth, M. H. Long; sixth, N. W. Niles; seventh, G. F. Touchard; eighth, T. R. Pell; ninth, F. C. Colston; tenth, C. R. Gardner.

1911 (in order of official rating).—W. A. Larned, M. E. McLaughlin, T. C. Bundy, G. F. Touchard, M. H. Long, N. W. Niles, T. R. Pell, R. D. Little, Karl H. Behr, W. M. Hall.

1912 (in order of official rating).—M. E. McLaughlin, R. N. Williams, 2d, Wallace J. Johnson, W. J. Clothier, N. W. Niles, T. C. Bundy, Karl Behr, R. D. Little, C. R. Gardner, G. F. Touchard.

1913 (in order of official rating).—M. E. McLaughlin, R. N. Williams, 2d, W. J. Clothier, W. M. Johnston, T. R. Pell, N. W. Niles, Wallace J. Johnson, G. F. Touchard, G. P. Gardner, Jr., J. R. Strachan.

1914 (in order of official rating).—M. E. McLaughlin, R. N. Williams, 2d, Karl Behr, R. L. Murray, W. J. Clothier, Wallace J. Johnston, G. M. Church, Fred B. Alexander, W. M. Washburn, E. F. Fottrell.

The complete and official lists for this year have not yet been given out. Wallace J. Johnston stands first, however, with R. Norris Williams, 2d, second, Karl Behr third, and M. E. McLaughlin fourth.

The Population of Rome.

M. C. L.—Will you kindly give me some information as to the following: In a conversation I was told that ex-Mayor Nathan of Rome, a Jew, being for so many years re-elected Mayor of Rome, proves that the home of the Catholic Church lacks a large number of Catholics. Is this true? Will you please give me the population of Rome and the number of Catholics in the population?

The estimated general population of Rome in 1914 was 576,435. The Catholic population for that year was, in rough figures, 560,000. The official population of Rome by the latest available census count, that of 1911, was 542,123. The Catholic population of Italy by the latest official census is approximately given as 32,400,000, the non-Catholic population as about 100,000.

Senators and Congressmen.

W. J. E.—Can you give me from your records a list of the present United States Senators and Congressmen?

The United States House of Representatives number 435 members, so that the list of names is of course too long for publication in the limited space of the Query Column. Questions as to the names of the Members of Congress from any particular State will of course be answered. Politically, the House contains 232 Democrats, 194 Republicans, seven Progressives, one Independent, and one Socialist.

The list of United States Senators is as follows: Alabama—John H. Bankhead, Oscar W. Underwood; Arizona—Henry F. Ashurst, Marcus A. Smith; Arkansas—Joe T. Robinson, James P. Clarke; California—John D. Works, James D. Phelan; Colorado—John F. Shafroth, Charles S. Thomas; Connecticut—George P. McLean, Frank B. Brandegee; Delaware—Henry A. du Pont, Willard Saulsbury; Florida—Nathan P. Bryan, Duncan U. Fletcher; Georgia—Thomas D. Hardwick, Hoke Smith; Idaho—William E. Borah, James H. Brady; Illinois—Hamilton Lewis, L. Y. Sherman; Indiana—John W. Kern, Benjamin F. Shively; Iowa—William S. Kenyon, Albert B. Cummins; Kansas—W. H. Thompson, Charles Curtis; Kentucky—Ollie M. James, J. C. W. Beckham; Louisiana—Joseph E. Ransdell, Robert F. Broussard; Maine—Charles F. Johnson, Edwin C. Burleigh; Maryland—Blair Lee, John W. Smith; Massachusetts—Henry C. Lodge, John W. Weeks; Michigan—Charles E. Townsend, William A. Smith; Minnesota—Moses E. Clapp, Knute Nelson; Mississippi—John S. Williams, J. K. Vardaman; Missouri—James A. Reed, William A. Stone; Montana—Henry L. Myers, Thomas J. Walsh; Nebraska—G. M. Hitchcock, George W. Norris; Nevada—Key Pittman, Francis G. Newlands; New Hampshire—Henry F. Hollis, Jacob H. Gallinger; New Jersey—James E. Martine, William Hughes; New Mexico—Thomas B. Catron, Albert B. Fall; New York—James A. O'Gorman, James W. Wadsworth, Jr.; North Carolina—F. McL. Simmons, Lee S. Overman; North Dakota—Porter J. McCumber, Asle J. Gronna; Ohio—Atlee Pomerene, Warren G. Harding; Oklahoma—Robert L. Owen, Thomas P. Gore; Oregon—Harry Lane, George E. Chamberlain; Pennsylvania—George T. Oliver, Boies Penrose; Rhode Island—Harry F. Lippitt, Le Baron B. Colt; South Carolina—Benjamin R. Tillman, Ellison D. Smith; South Dakota—Thomas Sterling, Ed S. Johnson; Tennessee—Luke Lea, John K. Shields; Texas—Charles A. Culberson, Morris Sheppard; Utah—George Sutherland, Reed Smoot; Vermont—Carroll S. Page, William P. Dillingham; Virginia—Claude A. Swanson, Thomas S. Martin; Washington—Miles Poindexter, Wesley P. Jones; West Virginia—William E. Chilton, Nathan Goff; Wisconsin—Robert M. La Follette, Paul O. Husting; Wyoming—Clarence D. Clark, Francis E. Warren.

Italian and English.

MRS. M. de ADAMO.—I should be much obliged if you would tell me which is considered the more difficult language to learn, Italian or English? Which language presents greater difficulty to a person who does not know either one?

It is very hard to give such a comparison as the one asked for. The most difficult feature of Italian, to one who is learning the language, is its verbs. Otherwise it is considered a comparatively easy language. English grammar lacks the intricacies of many foreign tongues, its declensions and conjugations being of the simplest and the constant use of auxiliaries narrowing down the amount of grammar that must be committed to memory. English pronunciation, on the other hand, is exceedingly difficult to master, as it has so few general rules, and English grammar, while ordinarily simple, is full of irregularities.

The Buckeye State.

A. V. M.—In reading up about the State of Ohio I find that it is popularly known as the "Buckeye State," and for information as to the term "buckeye" am directed to "see horse chestnut." In regard to that the statement is made that "both the leaves and the fruit of the buckeye or American horse chestnut (Ae. Ohiotensis) are very poisonous." Will you kindly enlighten me as to the term "Ohiotensis" and give any other information possible regarding this matter and the connection of the name "Buckeye" with Ohio?

"Buckeye" is the popular name of certain American exogenous trees and shrubs of the genus Aesculus and the family Sapindacae. The "Ohio Buckeye" is a particular kind of buckeye, and Ohio is popularly known as "The Buckeye State." The Ohio buckeye has the botanical name of aesculus glabra; it is a large tree, with strong-smelling bark, small obscure flowers, and prickly fruit containing the seed. The horse chestnut (aesculus hippocastanum) is a near relative of the same genus.

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