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A PRESIDENT'S CABINET.

SOME SECRETARIES HAVE ATTAINED GREATER FAME THAN THEIR CHIEF.

While Appointments Are Political, the Cabinet is Usually the President's Closest Adviser.

James S. Henry.

According to the old saw "it takes nine tailors to make a man," so in the Government of the United States it takes nine Cabinet officers to make an administration. Primarily American cabinet officers are selected to become the heads of the nine great executive departments of the Government. As one star differeth from another star in glory so one cabinet officer differs from another in opportunity, ability and the power to make a lasting impression upon the history of the country. These nine heads of departments are chosen by the President and although the approval of the Senate of the United States is required to make their appointment legal and constitutional, the preference of the Executive is invariably respected and the nine Cabinet officers represent his personal choice, so far as politics leaves him a free agent.

To be a member of the President's Cabinet has filled the ambition of many statesmen. It is a place only one remove from that to which all native born citizens of the United States have a right to aspire—the Presidency itself. If there have been disappointments and unrealized ambitions on the part of the great men who have been President the world has not heard of them. The disappointments, the discouragements, the disillusionment, the restrictions that have been experienced by statesmen who had hoped to achieve glory and fame as Cabinet officers can be read in the national records from the foundation of the Government to the present time. Failure to accomplish great plans and to realize hopes of a lasting place in history has sent many Cabinet officers

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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND HIS CABINET 1904.
Taft, Wilson, Hay, Morton, Hitchcock, Moody, Wynne, Metcalf, Shaw.

embittered and disappointed back into private life.

May Not be Personal Friends.

While the President of the United States is entitled to choose the nine gentlemen who shall sit about his council table as his Cabinet advisors, the political system in effect in the United States often robs this selection of its personal character. A newly elected President may know of nine men in his circle of business, social and political acquaintances whom he would like to have around him as counsellors and whom he believes would make efficient heads of departments in the administration of Government laws and business. The exigencies of politics, however, usually compel him to choose his Cabinet officers from different sections of the country and in acknowledgement of certain potent influences, sometimes commercial, sometimes economic, sometimes religious, and often purely political that helped make his election sure. The Chief Executive before deciding upon the composition of his Cabinet inquires carefully into the qualifications, ability and character of the men whom he will invite to sit at his council table, but it often happens that the first time he has come in personal contact with his future advisor is when he meets him to extend the invitation to him to enter the Cabinet.

In the economy of Government and in the social life at the nation's Capital, an American Cabinet officer occupies a commanding position, but in the accomplishment of great deeds of statesmanship and as a power in fashioning the policies of the nation, the Cabinet minister's own personality, his ability and genius can alone make success. There are conspicuous examples in the history of the United States where Cabinet ministers have dominated the Executive and carved their names higher on the pillar of fame than the Presidents with whom they served. The impress made on national affairs by such men as Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun and James G. Blaine, as ministers of state, is greater than that of many Presidents of the United States. It is not necessary to refer to musty history for examples of Cabinet ministers who have won international fame. The late John Hay, Secretary of State under President McKinley and President Roosevelt, seems yet a living actual personality in the affairs of the world. If no other monument had been established by his long public service, the "open door" policy for which he obtained recognition in the Far East would mark his statesmanship for all time. With his colleague, Elihu Root, who is now his successor, he shared the glory of the late President McKinley's administration in which both men were superlative influences.

Sherman's Earlier Fame.

Going back a little further we find the late John Sherman standing as the monument of sound finance and marking the otherwise colorless Hayes administration from 1877 to 1881 as an epoch in the financial history of the country. In the days of the Civil War, Stanton, at the head of the War Department, earned the name of being the greatest Secretary of War the United States ever had and was the mainstay of the immortal Lincoln in the latter's heartbreaking experiences with traitors, politicians and self-seeking army officers. The 130 years of national life of the United States furnished many brilliant examples of what a Cabinet officer can accomplish and the influential part he can play in the achievements of an administration.

It depends largely upon the President of the United States to what extent a Cabinet officer may achieve prominence in national affairs. During the last generation most of the Presidents of the United States have been men of iron will and commanding personality. Most of them, however, have depended upon members of their Cabinet for expert advice on great national and international issues. In the administration of Grant, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt certain of their ministers were pre-eminent in the direction of affairs of state and domestic policies. These Presidents were and are strong men, but ever ready to listen to the advice and appreciate the statemanship of the strong men they had chosen for their Cabinet.

Different Treatment of Cabinets.

Each President has had his own conception of the functions of a Cabinet officer. Each one has adopted his own method of Cabinet consultation. President Roosevelt might be said to have a Cabinet of specialists. He has selected men whom he believed peculiarly fitted to administer the affairs of the different departments. At the bi-weekly Cabinet meetings, which are held when the President is in his executive office in Washington, each Cabinet officer presents a short resume of the condition of his department. If there is any matter that has arisen under his jurisdiction that is of a widespread, general character it is reserved for discussion by himself and the President, and perhaps one or two other members of the Cabinet who remain after the formal meeting. Great questions of national and international policy are not matters of general discussion in Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet. They are taken up and debated by the President and those Cabinet officers whom he believes are specially qualified to give expert opinion upon them.

The late President McKinley had an entirely different method and the meetings of his Cabinet were actual state councils. Every matter affecting the nation at large or bearing upon our international relations was brought up at these meetings and each one of the President's advisors was requested to submit his opinion. The Secretary of Agriculture was asked for his views on the advance on Pekin, while the opinion of the Secretary of State on the type of battleships to be adopted by the Navy was welcomed. Mr. McKinley believed in this way that he secured the best results and it also gave his cabinet officers an opportunity to exhibit whatever of talent or genius of statesmanship they possessed.

To Remove a Tight Ring.

A very simple way of removing a very tight ring from the finger is to take a piece of small cord or wrapping thread and push one end of it under the ring. Then, taking hold of the other end of the string, begin winding arcund the finger from close up against the ring to the very tip of the finger. Then, to remove the ring, take hold of the end of the cord that was slipped under the ring and unwind the cord. As the unwinding progresses the ring will be carried along with it and removed without difficulty.

LEPERS IN AMERICA.

Three Hundred of Them in Twenty States and Territories.

"Unclean, unclean." This is a cry which has struck terror to the hearts of many people who have journeyed through the Orient and our Asiatic and Pacific possessions, but it has probably never ocurred to them, that in the United States proper there are nearly 300 lepers. These are scattered over 20 states and territories, but the states of Louisiana, California, Florida, Minnesota and North Dakota

SENATOR CRANE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

have all but about 50. Over 155 cases are in Louisiana alone; a number of these, however, are among people who have come from Southern Europe. In something like 190 cases the disease was contracted in this country.

For Federal Supervision.

Senator W. M. Crane, who succeeded the late Senator Hoar, at the last session of Congress introduced a bill providing for government supervision. It was passed by the Senate, but when it came up for consideration at the hands of the Representatives, Delegate Rodey of New Mexico, smarting under the sting left by the failure of his statehood plans, charged that the provision in this bill which planned to locate a leper colony on some abandoned military reservation was, in fact, a plan to foist the "unclean" upon New Mexico, as there are several abandoned reservations in that territory.

The bill failed to pass the House. It is believed that Senator Crane proposes to again introduce this bill early in the next session. It will be introduced in a somewhat different manner from the old one. It will provide for a "Lepers Home" instead of "Leprosarium", as this latter term conveyed the impression that the disease was more prevalent in the United States than it really is.

To Search For Cure.

Leprosy was regarded by the Israelites as incurable. In fact the records of ancient times show the great fear in which it has always been held. Medical science has learned little or nothing regarding leprosy. One of the strongest arguments for the care of the "unclean" is, that such an institution would make possible a careful study of the disease and, perhaps, in time result in the discovery of a cure. There is a government institution for the care of lepers in Hawaii,

LEPER AT WALLS OF JERUSALEM.

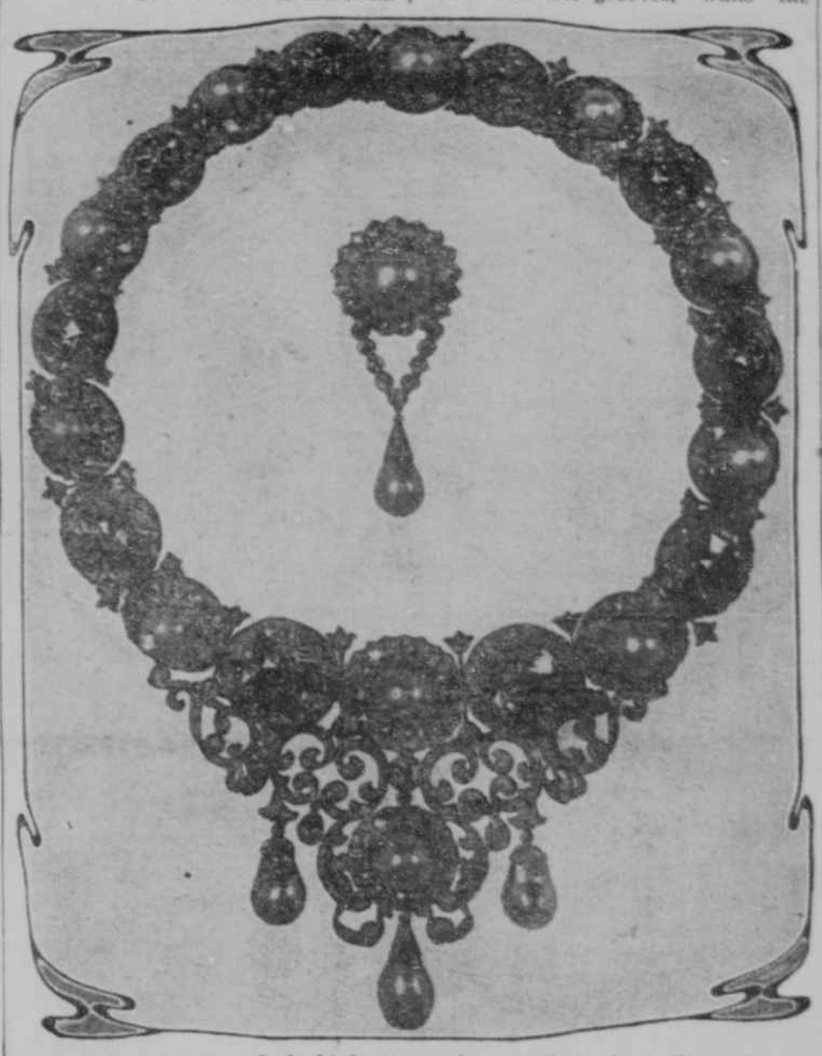
at Molokai, where often a leper is separated from his family by forcible means. Fathers and mothers are taken from their children, a child from its parents, a friend from friend—and all this at a time when the afflicted is to all intents and purposes perfectly well. Government officials state, however, that is not the idea in the establishment of this new institution under the Crane bill, to take any leper from his family by forcible means. The plan will be merely to isolate all cases.

MILADY'S DIAMONDS.

HISTORY OF THE NECKLACE. ITS MANUFACTURE AFFORDS MUCH EMPLOYMENT.

Raw Diamonds as Dug Are Comparatively Cheap—Great Cost Comes From the Polishing, Cutting and Filling.

One morning last spring there appeared in the London papers graphic descriptions of the arrival at Southampton of the "Cullinan," the 3,032 carat (25 oz.) diamond found in the Premier mine, Johannesburg, in January. Details of the appearance of the two agents from South Africa, the black bag carried by the older and said to contain the biggest diamond in the world, the crowd at the docks, the detectives sent from Scotland Yard, filled a column. As a matter of fact, the Cullinan made the trip from Johannesburg to London in an ordinary, inconspicuous package through the registered mail, postage two shillings. It is not impossible that the Southampton romance was conceived and paid for at advertising rates by the owners or underwriters to divert attention, for the diamond was valued at four million and insured for two and a half million dollars.



This necklace took the highest award at the Saint Louis Exposition. Its value is $250,000. It contains French Crown Diamonds presented by Napolean to Josephine on their divorce, and which later passed through many hands, including the notorious Mme. Humbert. It has always brought disaster to the possessor. It also contains two big stones which served as cuff buttons for "Boss" Tweed of New York; three diamonds from Lady Hope's (May Yohe) collection; Alvin Joslin gems and Maximillian diamonds. Exhibited by Maurice Bower of New York.

Two more large diamonds have since been found in the same mine, one weighing 334 carats and the other 460 carats. One wonders who can afford to buy these stones. It will cost enormously to put them on the market. Most diamonds are sold outright by the miner to the cutter, and one of the biggest South African diamond kings has said that the margin of profit upon which the entire diamond industry is carried on is but little larger than the percentage of gain in any other line of business.

The jewellers of Paris claim that in proportion as the value of the diamonds in a necklace decreases, so does the cost of setting increase. A diamond necklace that sells for $14,000 has cost the jeweller $600 in mounting, while one that sells for $200,000 will require an expenditure of only $300 in the mounting. From the $199,700 remaining in the latter case, still further deduction must be made for the expense of preparing the stones. The figures obtained on a $200,000 necklace in a Paris shop indicated that the diamonds composing it were valued at much less than $80,000 when rough. The woman who buys such an ornament contributes more to the actual prosperity of the working class than many of the so-called social reformers who rave at her extravagance.

How Diamonds are Cut.

So far, Europe has been the center of the diamond-cutting industry. In Amsterdam there are more than 15,000 cutters, in Antwerp 3,000, in the Jura Mountain district 600, in Paris 200 and in London only 150. They are divided into three classes, cleavers, shapers and polishers. The cleaver examines the rough diamond, and if he finds a flaw cuts it into as many perfect gems as the grain of the carbon will permit. For this purpose the rough stone is set in a mold to which it is securely attached with aluminum, and then applied to the cutting tool—a circular saw about 5 inches in diameter, made of soft copper, with a mixture of oil and diamond dust rubbed into the edge. The saw rotates at a tremendous speed, being turned by a leather belt running from an engine. An expert cleaver, if paid so much per diamond cut could make from $60 to $80, and as one cleaver furnishes work for 50 or 60 shapers, would quickly work himself out of a job. Consequently, he prefers to go slowly and receive a monthly wage of $120.

The shapers or "bruteurs" outline the form in which the diamond will ultimately appear. In this operation, the "bruteur" takes two stones of similar size and hardness, fits each into a metal cap, sets one in a machine that resembles a carpenter's lathe, and as it revolves the second stone is pressed against it. The dust caused by the friction is caught in a tiny box. Before the invention of this machine, the "bruteur" held the diamonds between the thumb and forefinger of each hand and rested the little fingers on the sides of the tank, which is made of brass. In time the constant pressure on the brass wore the sides of the box into grooves, while the continued effort of rubbing the diamonds against each other brought on a nervous jerking of the forearms, and the strained attitude of the head, always bent forward to watch the shaping of the gems, caused great swellings at the back of the neck. Usually the "bruteur" spends three days on the shaping of a stone and makes from $2.40 to $3.00 a day.

The polisher who makes the facets, uses a machine which carries a metal disc placed horizontally and revolving at the rate of 2,800 revolutions per minute. The disc is of steel with a preparation of diamond dust and purified olive oil rubbed into the surface. By means of a copper holder and a metal fork which form part of the apparatus, the diamond is held against the revolving disc, and as sometimes a stone less than an eighth of an inch in diameter has 100 facets, great nicety on the part of the workman is required, and the position of the diamond is changed more than 100 times before the requisite lustre and finish are secured. The polisher works always with a magnifying glass, and makes from $3.00 to $4.00 a day.

Three Hundred Diamonds in Necklace

In the $200,000 necklace mentioned there were 300 diamonds. Allowing three days' brutage (rough shaping), and three months' polishing on each, the sum expended for these two items alone amounts to $110,700.

After the stones arrived at the jeweller's, they had, of course, to be mounted. To this end the big shops of Paris employ a staff of designers, goldsmiths, silversmiths, setters and polishers. Usually, the designers are men who have come into the shop in a less important capacity, shown talent, been sent by the firm to an art school and put through a course of instruction. According to his ability, a designer earns from $60 to $100 a month. He may work for months without producing a single sketch that goes to the studios, then in a week he will turn out two or three that meet the difficult taste of the employer. Designs are done in water colors.

In Paris, the real jeweller is not the owner of the shop, but the craftsman who fashions the gold or platinum into the skeleton that holds the precious stones. In America he is called a gold or silversmith. Each separate clasp or gem-holder, goes first to the polisher. Then to a jeweller who assembles, or joins together, the entire frame for the necklace, tiara, or whatever the design may call for, and again to the polisher.

The setter, as his name indicates, fastens or sets the diamonds into the framework, and sends it on a last visit to the polisher.

Polishers are Women.

The polishers are usually women. As a rule they work in groups of five or six under a patroness, who keeps a little apartment in a narrow street of Montmartre, Gaillon, Mail, or some other cheap and crowded quarter of Paris. With good luck the patroness makes from $1,000 to $1,200 a year. The polishers are taken as apprentices at 14 years of age. At 16 they may get forty to sixty cents a day, and at 18 a dollar to a dollar twenty.

The labor of all these craftsmen on the necklace in mind amounted to about $300, which added to $110,700 for preparing the diamonds, and deducted from the selling price of $200,000 left only $89,000 to cover cost of rough stones, incidental expense of handling, etc., could not have left any phenomenal profit for the mine owner who dug and delivered them to the cutter. Such a necklace is said to furnish work enough to support 400 families for a year. Of course, this does not take into consideration the workers in the mines, nor the heavy staff of clerks and officials necessary to carry on the big diamond producing fields. The business of finishing the raw diamond for the final purchaser offers the best paid labor to be found in Europe. Owing to the duty on cut gems brought into this country, American dealers are building up a similar industry in the United States, and it is rational to suppose that the craftsmen employed in this country will receive even still higher wages than those paid abroad.

Have Several Lives.

"At this height," said the guide, as they paused on the mountain side to gaze down the valley, far below, "people with weak lungs often die."

"Wonderful country, wonderful climate," murmured the visitor.

"How's that?" said the guide, suspiciously.

"Why I suppose of course you have a way of bringing them to life again for the next dying."