

SURE SIGN OF SEA DISASTER

When Fish Get Premonition of Death They Wash Their Faces and Cling Close Together.

New York.—A report received by wireless of miles of dead fish near the Diamond shoals, which was sent in by Captain Johnson of the steamship Merro...

Captain Acheson, formerly of the great ship Lexington, which was sent in a West Indian hurricane some years ago, was among the callers.

"Dead fish at sea, as a rule, mean a hurricane or an earthquake," said the former skipper. "This Captain Johnson seems to have mistaken a school of dead ones for a reef a mile or so long, over which the waves were breaking. Now there is a reason for that. When fish get a premonition of death they cling closely together. I've seen a whole mile of them in death, so that they appear to have grabbed one another in a death struggle."

There is a sure sign of a coming quake at sea. It's when you see a fish washing his face. A fish washes his face in sunshine. He comes up with his face all full of water and it turns it up and keeps it up till it dries. Now, why does he wash it dry, when he goes right down into the water again and gets it wet? Ain't it the same with a man? He washes his face by wetting it, and then dries it off again.

"I'll bet that if Captain Johnson had got out and inspected them fish he would have seen that inside of a few hours every one of them had been washing his face."

Captain Wood, who had sailed the seas longer than Captain Acheson, corroborated the statement that fish wash their faces before any unusual occurrence.

KITTENS STOP A TOWN CLOCK

Litter Gets Tangled Up With Important Part of Mechanism—Trouble Located by Accident.

Trenton, N. J.—For almost a week Trenton was without official time because of the sudden stopping of the city hall clock, by which the residents regulate their timepieces. The factory whistles have been either early or late and the working class has experienced the greatest of difficulty in trying to keep tab on the time. For years the city has furnished to the inhabitants the correct time free of charge.

Such a thing as the clock stopping had never before occurred in the history of the city. Expert clock-repairers were immediately put to work, but "old faithful" could not be gotten in order. The experts diagnosed the case as one of acute indigestion, but nothing in materia medica, nor plain pills or monkey wrenches would provide a cure, the city decided that the old clock was dead, and arrangements were made for a funeral. JEFFERSON Waterbury of the city hall was hired as the undertaker, and instructed to give "old faithful" a decent funeral, interment to be in some aristocratic junk heap.

Bernard R. Walsh, an attaché of the city assessor's office, decided to ascend the tower and bid a loving farewell to his dear friend, "old faithful." With tears in his eyes he glanced at the old timepiece. He was alone in the tower and as it was dark he was startled by "mow, mow, mow."

He got a lantern and investigated. He found a cat and six youngsters huddled together in an important part of the clock's mechanism. The secret was out. "Old faithful" today is giving the city correct time and sounding the half and full hours, and Trenton is joyous.

FORTUNES IN MUSKRAT FURS

Delaware Trappers Richer by Thousands of Dollars This Year—Animals Getting Scarcer.

Milford, Del.—The trappers' season this year was marked by the highest prices paid for furs in years. The season has not seen as many muskrats caught as in previous years, on account of the ice keeping the marshes closed nearly all winter, but the high prices have made up for the small number caught, and Walter Bennett, one buyer, has so far this season paid out to trappers nearly \$5,000, having handled 4,000 muskrat hides, 300 raccoon hides, 1,000 mink hides, 300 opossum, 12 otters and 3,000 rabbits. Another buyer, Thad Windsor, has paid out about \$1,000. One trapper is reported to have made \$1,000 during the season, which lasts from November to March.

The pelts are caught along the Delaware marshes and eastern part of Sussex county, some trappers making as high as \$100 in one day. Probably the most successful of all of the trappers, considering the time she gives to the work, is Mrs. James Jones of Cove Neck who expects to make about \$500 this year.

Sensible and Modest. "She's a very little woman." "Yes, and so sensible. She doesn't even brag about keeping a maid. She takes it for granted that everybody will know that she can afford one."

FOWL BROTH SACRED

Doctor From China Tells How Natives Revere Chicken Soup.

Used by Chinese as Panacea for All Human Ills and Symbol of Strength and Medium to Good Health.

Chicago.—How chicken soup is used by the Chinese as a panacea for all human ills, and how he himself by means of a joking statement increased the faith which the Chinese place in the chicken as a symbol of strength and a medium to good health was told in Chicago the other day by Dr. W. H. Park, who for 28 years has been at the head of Soochow hospital in Soochow, China.

"The chicken, according to the Chinese, is the bird of strength," explained Doctor Park, "and the faith which those people place in it is wonderful. When a child is afflicted with measles, with a fever or with the dreaded smallpox, its mother immediately brews a strong concoction of chicken broth. This she literally pumps into the youngster in the belief that the strength thus taken from the chicken will aid the child in the fight against the disease and prevent its recurrence. The stronger the brew can be made the more good the mother thinks it will do."

"Why, I once had a mother bring her babe to me suffering with lupus, a most dreaded disease and it developed that as a cure the woman had fed the child soup which she had made from a setting hen."

"Unconsciously I myself added to the conviction that the chicken was the sure cure for anything in the line of ailments to which the Chinese is heir. I had just vaccinated a child for his mother, and knowing that the belief in chicken soup was so strong I jokingly remarked to the woman that after four days she feed the child a cup of broth. I said after four days because I knew that in that time the vaccination would have 'taken' and I wanted to see if the woman would attribute it to the soup."

"She most certainly did, and after her baby's arm had healed she spread the news that I was the greatest soup doctor in the land. Her friends came to me and then they told their friends, so that almost before I knew it I could not vaccinate a child without including in my prescription of treatment a stipulated dish which chicken soup should be administered. Then in some way it became a general custom for the rich as well as the poor to bring their children to me on their 'lucky days' designated in the Chinese almanac for vaccination and soup prescription."

"But to change the subject," continued the physician, "China is years and years behind in the medical profession. The country is full of superstition, and those doctors who do practice there are content to rely simply upon the old books which have been left by their ancestors. As a diagnostician those doctors are all right, but they know nothing of anatomy, of physiology or of chemistry. The younger generation is anxious to learn and there are some Americans, including myself, who are doing their best to teach them."

"American dentists in Shanghai are getting wealthy," Dr. Park added. "China is a country of bad teeth and the suffering among inland natives, who have to endure the inhuman treatment of the traveling junk dentists is terrible. They have no means of treatment except to soak the gums with a decaying fluid and then extract the tooth with their thumb and finger. American missionaries who go into the country do a great work by supplying themselves with forceps and pulling teeth for the natives. There is a great field there for professional dentists."

BALALAIKA CRAZE IN LONDON

New Russian Musical Instrument Reaches English Metropolis—Effects Novel and Beautiful.

London.—This city is threatened with a "balalaika" craze. This strange Russian instrument, resembling a three-cornered banjo, took the town by storm some time ago when a Russian balalaika orchestra performed here. The novel and beautiful effects produced made the balalaika instantly popular. Now a band of English musicians has been trained to play the balalaika by Prince Tschagadoroff, who was the soloist with the original Russian orchestra. The instrument is extremely easy to play, so that only a few weeks sufficed for the English players—mostly members of the famous Coldstream Guard band—to become proficient under the prince's tuition. They gave a concert at the Queen's hall the other day, playing pieces of Mendelssohn, Grieg and other classical composers, and scoring a great success. Now numerous amateurs are acquiring balalaikas and forming bands of their own.

Mule Limps: \$50 in His Hoof. San Bernardino, Cal.—A pack mule in from the desert after a five months' prospecting expedition developed a limp. Examination of the mule's hoof revealed a gold nugget estimated to be worth \$50. The mule is the property of Clyde Durham and James Desmond, prospectors, but they have no idea in what part of the desert the gold was picked up.

EFFECTS OF PIANO PRACTISE

Tonic for One, But Drives Another to Hospital With Badly Shattered Nerves.

Paterson, N. J.—It has been effectually demonstrated in this city that while continued piano practise may work as a nerve cure for the man, it does not conduce to the maintenance of health and general peace in an apartment house.

Joseph Swick, who makes pianos and plays them, too, says it does, and offers his own strengthened nervous system as an "after taking" proof, but Christopher Columbus Shelby, who lives in the apartment above Swick's, and who was taken to the "nerves ward" of the Paterson general hospital, holds to the contrary opinion, and offers his shattered system as evidence.

Mr. Swick and Mr. Shelby live in the apartment house at 1106 Washington street. Mr. Swick for years was troubled with nerves and rest cures, soothing sirups and everything else he tried did him no good. He keeps a piano store at 102 Washington street, and one day he noticed that the running of scales by a tuner had a quieting effect. The conviction grew, and when he wasn't waiting for customer or working on his box he would seat himself at a piano and run scales constantly.

The practise was so soothing that about two weeks ago he had a piano moved into his flat. Whenever he felt an attack of nerves coming on, no matter what the hour of day or night, he would arise and run scales. Lately this battle has been going on in the early morning.

Christopher Columbus Shelby used to be a prize ticket seller, and for many years was featured at a big salary with a circus. But the music of the band got on his nerves. He retired and has since devoted his time to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which he is a past president, but ever since he left the circus all kinds of music have been hateful to his ear.

Mr. Shelby took to his bed and a doctor who came told him he was suffering from nervous prostration and would have to go to the hospital. But Joseph Swick is a cured man and he says he owes it all to his scale running.

BOSTON'S PARK LAWN MOWERS

Flock of 250 Sheep Keep Grass Cut in Fine Condition—Collie Dogs Handle the Flock.

Boston.—Every morning at eight o'clock the Boston park department of "lawn mowers" may be seen emerging from the Franklin field sheep fold in charge of Shepherd James Sweeney and his two valuable assistants, Prince and Clyde, a pair of very intelligent Scotch collies.

All day long the sheep roam over the grassy slopes of Franklin park and field, nibbling the sweet grass and cutting it down to the level of a plush carpet. At five o'clock in the afternoon they are hustled together by the dogs and driven back to the fold.

At the present time the flock numbers 100 breeders, about 120 lambs and 25 yearlings, included are two yearling rams.

At shearing time considerable money is returned to the park department through the sale of wool. In 1909 almost 1,000 pounds were taken from the backs of the sheep.

Shepherd Sweeney has worked for the park department for 35 years, the last 18 of which have been spent with the sheep. Throughout the summer it is his duty to see that the grass on the broad sweeps of meadow in the park over which the public plays golf is kept short and velvety. This is the particular business of his "lawn mowers," and right well do they do their work, which to them is undoubtedly a labor of love.

The dogs, Prince and Clyde, play a very important part in the care of the sheep; in fact, it would be almost impossible to handle the flock without them.

RADIUM IN BLOOD IS LATEST

French Scientists Are Trying It on Horses to See Effects—Promised Favorable Result.

Paris.—How would it feel to have a comparatively large amount of radium injected into the blood? Would a person under these circumstances radiate sunshine and always be possessed of great activity and boundless spirits? Would radiumised man have immense superiority over his fellow-creatures? Could he accomplish more? Would it add to his health or happiness?

Such questions as the above are suggested by a paper which was read before the members of the Academy of Sciences by Professor Touchard. It presented the result of experiments of Dominici, Petit and Jalin, three French scientists, who have been occupied with the problem of injecting radium into the blood.

The experiments were conducted with a horse for the subject. The serum injected contained only one milligram of radium, but the effects were quite noticeable. Although some of the radium disappeared from the animal in the course of six months, a considerable amount, apparently as a permanent part of its organism, it is declared to have produced a most favorable effect upon the animal, both in the matter of nutrition and general health.

TEST TINY AIRSHIP

Model of Sky Cruisers Is Used at Experiment Station.

Delicate Instruments Denote Pressure of Wind Upon Craft—Other Strange Scientific Instruments For Aerial Search.

London.—A tiny model airship battling against an artificial gale, created by a great fan twice the height of a man, is one of the sights to be seen at the air office at Teddington. One steps upon a platform and gazes in at the miniature airship through a window in the side of a great tube, through which the gale of wind whistles loudly. Facing the platform are a series of delicate instruments, which register the presence of the wind upon the airship.

"By testing models of all shapes and sizes," explained Dr. T. E. Stanton, superintendent of the engineering department, "we have now been able to tell the constructional experts at the Aldershot aerial factory the precise shape of airship which will glide through the air with a minimum of resistance from eddies of wind created by its pressure. A slim, long craft, tapering finely to the tail, is the ideal."

Other strange scientific instruments for aerial research work were then shown in actual operation. They included:

The Whirling Table.—A wonderful device in a specially built ball, in which a great metal arm, projecting 60 feet from a central platform, revolves at high speed. In order to test the "thrust" of aerial propellers.

The Wind Towers.—Two skeleton structures, 70 feet high, at the summit of which the actual lifting planes of a full-sized flying machine may be placed, and the precise pressure of the wind upon them determined by recording apparatus at the foot of the tower.

The Water Channel.—A long tank, surrounded by scientific records, and with a stream of water of varying speed passing through it, in which the eddies formed by planes of different shapes may be studied and a comparison made between the results obtained in water and in air.

The Aerial Engine Plant.—Here, while the engines of an airship are running at full speed under reliability tests, an artificial wind of 30 miles an hour is directed upon them, and they are tilted at all angles, so as to mimic actual flying conditions.

"In connection with the propeller tests we are anticipating results of the highest importance," said Dr. Stanton. "We hope to evolve a scientific propeller of our own for use in the airship of the army and navy."

In another department experts were busy with intricate tests upon bars of white metal. These were aluminum alloy of extraordinary lightness upon the benches. "We want to find the strongest and lightest metal for the cars of airships," explained the superintendent. "So far an alloy of aluminum and copper has given the best results."

In another part of the laboratory air was being pumped into model airships until they burst. "This is done," it was explained, "so that data may be provided as to what strains an airship's gas bag will stand. The weak places we have found are where the sheets of fabric are joined together."

AMERICANS SHOULD BE WARY

Londoners With Big Houses to Rent at Extravagant Prices, Looking for Yankee Coin.

London.—With a record season for Americans in prospect, and big houses letting at extravagant rents, even prominent firms in London are out for the dollars with both hands. So Americans should be wary of their dealings and keep an eye on their contractors, especially in the house decorating and furnishing line of business.

An interesting case has just gone through the courts, involving several thousand dollars. The American employed a firm of international name and relied on them to give him value. They assured him they were as far above ordinary firms as Mont Blanc is above a hickock. They got the contract and did the work. The American took a holiday and came back to find new doors that would not open, paper that had curled off the walls and a score of other lines of work that had been scamped.

All this came into court and the disclosures fell so thick and fast that the firm settled the case. But the American had to pay his own costs in the action, which were heavy.

Money Returned After Twelve Years. Chicago.—Mrs. Frederick Grubeck lost ten dollars while shopping 12 years ago. A woman who gives her name as "A. M. Honesty" found the money the day it was lost. She has returned it with this explanation of delay: "I kept the money when I found it, for I needed it to pay my way to the country for a much needed rest. Since then I've never had enough at one time before to return it. Now that I have, I return the amount."

The Way It Works. "What is love?" she asked. "Love," he answered, "is a brand of insanity that makes a man call a 100-pound woman his little toady wooty."

BEAR TOO STRENUOUS A PET

Brooklynite, Therefore, Converts His Zoological Specimen Into Ornamental Parlor Rug.

New York.—Brooklyn nimrods who had an idea that bear shooting in that borough had ended with the passing of the noble red man there, sat up and took notice when they heard that a full grown specimen of the game which they had visited in Maine and Nova Scotia to hunt, had been killed. The killing took place in the yard in the rear of the home of Harold L. Burnett, at 42 Livingston street.

Mr. Burnett, who has the most complete private zoo in Brooklyn, recently obtained a black bear for a household pet. It was presented to him by a friend living in Flatbush. The friend did not capture the bear in Flatbush, but bagged it in the Canadian woods. Mr. Burnett had long yearned for a bear. He had boa constrictors, pythons, game cocks, fighting bull pups, and other pets, but no bear.

But he was not so happy after he had possessed the bear for some days. Bruin was clumsy and ill-tempered, and Mr. Burnett found it inconvenient to have him around. He decided that the brute would be more acceptable as a parlor rug.

At his request the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals undertook the work of execution, and it was carried out after dark.

Mr. Burnett's home is in the rear of the Packer institute. Some time ago an assortment of snakes escaped from his private zoo and spread terror among the students. Later a live boa constrictor, found sunning itself on the sidewalk in front of the old Drue Baring Bank building in Court street, caused a wild rush for the "water wagon" in Borough Hall square.

MANY BIRDSHOT IN APPENDIX

Find by New York Surgeons is Attributed by Victim to Eating of Game in Scotland.

New York.—Thirty birdsot were unloaded from the vermiform appendix of William Davidson, chauffeur, by the surgeons of Roosevelt hospital.

The chauffeur was seized by excruciating pains, which failed to yield to pepperoni. He was in such distress that it was considered necessary to take him to the hospital without delay. The symptoms of appendicitis were at once recognized and it was not long before Mr. Davidson and his troublesome appendix had parted company. The operation was performed by Dr. George E. Brewer, assisted by Doctor Sharp of the hospital staff.

The surgeons recognized that the appendix had been subjected to much irritation and made an examination of it to see if they could discover the cause. It rolled a birdsot. Then another. After that there was a birdsot census and the count was thirty. When the patient was able to talk he was asked for more of his history.

It must have been that shooting in Scotland which is responsible for all this," he said. "I went to my off home in the north last July for a rest. The grouse season began on August 12 and I helped around at the shooting. Later I took some shots at the hares. I had all kinds of game to eat, but I do not remember biting into any shot."

RESEARCH BY STAFF WOMEN

Valuable Progress in Exophthalmic Goitre Battling Disease, in Royal Free Hospital.

London.—If exophthalmic goitre, the origin of which has, up to the present, baffled the medical world, is ever proved to be a microbe disease, a great portion of the credit for the discovery will be due to the women workers in the laboratories of the Royal Free hospital in Gray's Inn road.

In recent years the surgeons of the Royal Free hospital have made a special study of goitre, passed from the operative standpoint, and from the material thus gained the laboratory staff have been able to go thoroughly into the numerous theories current as to its cause. As a result microscopic changes in the tissues of goitres have been observed, which almost conclusively prove that some as yet undeciphered microbe is the active cause of the disease.

The success of the experiment of having women on the house staff, begun in 1901, is shown in the annual increase in the number of patients treated since that date. At the annual meeting it was stated that more than 100,000 out-patients had been treated in the last year, and the funds are urgently needed for the erection of a new and greatly enlarged out-patient department.

New Cigar Record

Chicago.—Walter W. Scorgel has broken the long distance cigar smoking record, held by William Mackenzie of Washington, D. C.

Scorgel, a telegraph operator, smoked a cigar of ordinary length 115 1/2 minutes without relighting. The previous record was 84 1/2 minutes.

Japs Supercede British

Seattle.—The superseding of British officers by Japanese on the trans-pacific liners, the officers being removed one by one, generally at the end of the run, is said to be due to the pressure exerted by Japanese public opinion, which demands the manning of Japanese vessels entirely by Japanese.

BROUGHT GOLD DUST

Miner From Alaska Brings 800 Pounds of Precious Stuff.

Unguarded, Save by Himself and Wife, Transfer From Strong Box to Suit Cases Is Made at Seattle—Scatters \$5 Tips.

Seattle, Wash.—When the steamer Humboldt, from Skagway, arrived here she had among her passengers Sam Hagan, a mining man of Dawson, who, with his wife, had come over the White Pass railway to Skagway, bringing with them 800 pounds troy of gold dust, worth \$160,000.

When the Humboldt reached the pier Mr. Hagan, aided by his wife and one of the ship's men, dragged a strong box of the gangplank and with additional help lifted the box to a truck and wheeled it to the entrance of the wharf. While he stood guard over the box the men went back to Mr. Hagan's stateroom, where Mrs. Hagan was carefully guarding a big sack of gold dust. At her direction and accompanied by her, they carried the sack to where Mr. Hagan was standing guard over the strong box.

The men were then dismissed, each receiving a five-dollar bill. Calling an expressman Mr. Hagan engaged the wagon and asked two men who were passing the door to help him lift the strong box and sack into the wagon.

"Here is something for your trouble," he said; "you men can divide it," and he handed one of them a ten-dollar bill.

Mr. and Mrs. Hagan then got into the wagon and instructed the driver to take them to the Stevens hotel.

Arriving there, Mrs. Hagan alighted and asked the clerk for the hotel porter after registering. When the porter came he was asked to get his truck and help unload the strong box and sack from the express wagon. The porter discovered that the strong box was about all he was able to push into the hotel lobby and to the elevator. Mrs. Hagan walked beside him. He then was instructed to return to the wagon. When he got there Mr. Hagan dropped the heavy sack on the truck, gave the expressman five dollars and followed the porter as he wheeled the sack and dropped it alongside the strong box at the elevator. Mr. Hagan then went to the clerk.

"I want the best room in the house," he said to the clerk; "expense is no object."

He was taken to room 122, and with the aid of the porter the strong box and big sack of gold dust were dragged into the elevator, out at the first landing and into the room. A five-dollar bill was handed to the porter. Over more than \$160,000 worth of gold dust Mr. and Mrs. Hagan were the only guards.

In the afternoon Mr. Hagan again called for the porter and said: "I am going out of the hotel for a few minutes. I want you to stay in the hall in front of the door of my room and not let any one enter the room."

Mr. Hagan had a small but heavy sack on his shoulder. He left the hotel and went across the street to the express office. Mrs. Hagan was in room 122 guarding the remainder of the \$160. The porter stood guard in the hall. Mr. Hagan soon returned and dismissed the porter, giving him another five-dollar bill. Mr. Hagan brought with him two strong suit cases.

The following morning Mr. Hagan paid his bill at the hotel, called for an express wagon, and, loading the suit cases and big sack of gold dust, he and Mrs. Hagan were driven to the King street station. Aided by two men, the suit cases and sack were carried to a Pullman car on the Portland train. He said when he left the hotel that he was going to San Francisco.

The gold dust was guarded only by Mr. and Mrs. Hagan as the train passed out. The suit cases gave no evidence of their contents, and Mr. Hagan made no explanation.

EXPLORING SCHEME IS NOVEL

Well-Known German Geologist Would Examine Eastern Sahara by Airship and Automobile.

Berlin.—Africa being the favorite field for German explorers, great interest is taken in a scheme prepared by Dr. Siegart, a well known geologist to explore the eastern Sahara. He figures the cost at \$225,000.

As the region is mostly arid desert and hitherto unexplored, he proposes to use automobiles and airships for the enterprise. Running as far as possible by automobiles he would take to the air wherever conditions made land travel difficult. The Nile valley would be followed to the end of the traffic facilities and then the party would strike eastward into the unknown.

Stray Rail Bafely Home

Darby, Pa.—After practically giving up \$145 for lost, K. H. Wilson recovered the roll, which he had negotiated to remove to a vest pocket when he took it to be pressed at a local tailor shop.

Wilson was on hand when the suit was returned, and, putting his hand in the vest pocket, pulled out the missing roll.

He is undecided whether his vest was thoroughly cleaned, or whether everybody is honest.