

BOYS RAISE LOBSTERS

COLLEGE YOUNG MEN START IM-PORTANT LINE OF RESEARCH.

Experimental Work on the Atlantic Coast Done to Benefit Fishermen and the Lovers of the Crustaceans.

Providence, R. I.—To live among lobsters from June to October seems an odd part of a college boy's education. Everybody, nearly, has awakened to the fact that the higher training of today embraces something besides Latin, Greek and mathematics, even if those studies are still a proper part of a liberal education.

Or, rather, it would excite their laughter were it not that the work of the college boys already bids fair to make it easier for the fisherman to get his living from the sea—Young Lobsters, it is said, have not for many years been seen in such numbers as since the students began planting them, partly grown, along the shores.

Consequently respect for the university's "book learning," as applied to the problem of preventing the extinction of our valuable shellfish, is on the increase. The work of the commissioners of inland fisheries of the state of Rhode Island, as conducted by teachers and students of Brown university, has given hope that our descendants may also have lobsters.

Of 1,000 little lobsters hatched under natural conditions from the egg clusters borne by the female parent only one, it is estimated, ever reaches maturity. The rest, for the most part, during the first few days of their lives, are devoured by other lobsters or by greedy fishes, or perish through other causes.

In the hatching bags at the experiment station, on the other hand, as many as 480 out of 1,000 have been brought, at very small expense per thousand lobsters, up to a size at which they can be let loose with good chances that many of them will attain the inches prescribed by law for the fishermen.

HEN HAS BROOD OF QUAIL.

Domestic Fowl Makes a Record With Game Eggs.

Marysville, O.—Dr. E. V. Robinson of Plain City, this county, who claims the distinction of having rescued during his boyhood days Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks from drowning in the Big Darby Creek, near this city, is now becoming quite noted for his success in raising quails by hand.

While driving a few weeks ago he came upon a quail's nest containing thirteen eggs, which he carried back home and placed under a bantam hen. In just three weeks the little hen became the proud mother of thirteen little brown quails. They are so small that a person could hold the entire covey in the palm of one hand.

At different times Dr. Robinson has raised no less than thirty-five of the birds, setting them at liberty when they were full grown. If raised where they cannot hide under bushes or brush they become as tame as chickens.

EARN HOME IN PRISON.

Ohio Convict Saves Money While Serving Sentence of Twelve Years.

Columbus, O.—The life term of Ansel Hazlett, which was commuted to twelve years and allowed him to be paroled last year, expired the other day and Hazlett is now one of the happiest men in Ohio. His home is on the banks of the Ohio, in Gallia county, and when Hazlett looks at his property he will well remember his years in prison, because it was with the money that he made selling souvenirs in the annex that he was able to purchase that little home.

Hazlett started on a capital of one quarter, with which he purchased material to make a leather watch chain. He sold this and made more. Then he began to earn. He sold souvenirs and made a commission. Hazlett finally earned enough in prison to buy his home and keep his children. He was paroled March 9, 1906, and has kept its conditions to the letter.

Porcupines Strip a Forest.

Escanaba, Mich.—That one-half of the standing hemlock on 500 acres of timber land near this city has been killed by porcupines is the estimate of a "woods cruiser" returning from a trip of inspection. The district is overrun with the little animals, which in the early spring clip off the budding foliage. Prof. R. H. Pettit, of the Michigan Agricultural college, reports that a heretofore unknown beetle is preying on the forest.

BALL TEAM OF NEGRO GIRLS.

Stranger Sees Practice of Aggregation of Colored Female Athletes.

Kansas City, Mo.—A man was strolling toward the baseball field on the Parade at dusk recently.

A group of dark figures were playing ball on the diamond.

"That's right, Fannie, put 'em over the plate!" "All right, May, look at this." "Heavens!" exclaimed the man. "What names for ball players?" He hastened around the field and came within full view of the players.

Out in the field was a full team of negro girls, ranging in age from 18 to 22 years, clad in short blue skirts, white shirt waists, black stockings, and regulation baseball shoes. They were equipped with every modern device for capturing the frisky baseball. Stooping forward with hands upon knees, they encouraged the pitcher to "put 'em over," "strike 'em out," and do every other thing which is so easy to tell the pitcher to do but so hard for the twirler to perform herself—especially herself. The stranger asked for explanations from one of the large crowd which had gathered to witness the performance.

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN FOOD BILL.

Growing Dependence on Other Nations Shown by Statistical Report.

London—Great Britain's growing dependence upon foreign nations is strikingly illustrated by the statistics issued by the board of agriculture. Twenty years ago the foreign food bill for a year reached a total approximately of \$500,000,000. In 1906 it amounted to \$1,000,000,000, an increase far greater than is accountable by the growth of population.

Detailed tables compared the imports of food per head in 1886 and 1906. The most notable is wheat, the figures for which stand at 146 pounds and 239 pounds respectively. Butter and substitutes stand at 7 1/2 and 13 1/2 pounds respectively. Sugar 69 and 86 pounds respectively, and, above all, meat at 20% and 47% pounds.

In regard to meat it is noteworthy that the figures not merely represent a great import but an immensely increased consumption. The report says there is no evidence of any diminution in the home supplies of meat. Thus the figures indicate that the consumption per head has been more than doubled, showing that the standard of living has been markedly raised in twenty years.

CONGRESS TO HAVE TICKER.

Tapes in All Committee Rooms to Report Events on Floor.

Washington.—The "ticker" for congress is the latest wrinkle devised to lighten the burden of the heavily-laden congressmen. Instruments quoting the market of the New York Stock exchange will be placed in the committee rooms when the new office buildings are completed.

The distance between the office buildings and the capitol is several hundred feet and the ticker will save the congressmen walking this distance many times a day. The idea is to employ a trained newspaper man to watch the proceedings on the floor of the house and senate and send the reports out on the ticker. The House office building will be ready for use during the next congress.

That some ambitious congressman might accidentally have his tape machine connected with the Wall street tickers is a suggestion of wickedness in a national legislator that is purely conjectural.

WILL PAY BIGGEST OFFICE RENT.

Steel Companies to Give \$240,000 a Year for Four Floors.

New York.—The largest rental paid anywhere in the world for business quarters will be that contracted for by the several companies affiliated with the steel corporation.

Nine of the leading concerns in the steel trade, including the American Steel and Wire company and the American Bridge company, have leased four floors in the building which the Hudson Tunnel company is erecting as a terminal for its tunnels under the Hudson. The companies will pay \$20,000 a year for each floor, which equals an annual rental of \$240,000. This vast outlay will be paid for ten years, for which period the leases have been made, this making the aggregate rental \$2,400,000.

Joker Pays \$29,240,000 Off Fine.

Toledo, O.—Thad Stevens, cashier of the Second National bank of Toledo, was informed from Washington that a check on his institution and purporting to be signed by the Standard Oil company, per John D. Rockefeller, had been received by the treasury department. It was for \$29,240,000 in payment of the oil trust's fine, but was only a joke.

MOUNTAIN OF SILVER

AMERICAN MAKES FIND IN CHINA BUT CAN'T DIG.

Is Prevented by Ancestor Worship—Will Ask Uncle Sam for Protection Against Grafting Mandarins.

San Francisco.—After watching patiently a silver mountain for 20 years, unable all that time to attack a pick into it for fear of arousing the predatory instincts of China's grafting mandarins, J. H. Wright, shipbuilder of Shanghai, soldier of fortune, had, he hopes, millionaire, in the sweet by and by, has come to America to induce the government to back him up and protect his property rights when he does begin mining operations.

Wright is going to Washington, but the success of his mission is open to doubt, for the constitution expressly prohibits interference with religious liberty, and it is exactly that which stands between Wright and the little pimple on the face of the earth which he is certain will make him a rival of Midases of Montana and Nevada some day.

It is tung sui, the ancestor worship of the Chinese, that has stayed his hand and kept him tied up in a shipyard in Shanghai while his mountain gleams white with virgin wealth somewhere within 150 miles of the spars towering above the harbor. Just where it is Wright, of course, will not say until he is sure his Uncle Samuel will help him keep the Chinese off, for tung sui, Wright believes, would be a costly adjunct of mining.

All these years he has kept his prospect a secret because if he revealed it every mandarin in the district would at once stop the diggins on the ground that the steam shovels and blais were harrowing the souls of his forefathers, and demand personal injury damages.

Those yellow grafters make your San Francisco brand second rate," said Wright. "They would hold me off until I paid for every alleged pain my giant powder shot through the writhes that inhabit the underground about my mountain.

"Probably it would cost me half of what's in that hill for the mandarins alone, and when it comes to grafting the coolies are as expert and insatiable as your supervisors, who, I am told, take anything from dollars to beer checks or doughnuts. Their tung sui would take what was left, and I wouldn't get anything for the 20 years' guard I've kept on that hill."

Wright says he discovered the ore leads while on a trip into the interior just after he had been sent by a Philadelphia firm to superintend some machine work in the Chinese port. He remained there so as not to let the mountain get away. When he arrives in Washington he will tell Secretary Root about his find and ask him to induce the empress dowager or some of the yamens to guarantee that the ghosts of ancient grafters will not feel more than pay \$50,000 worth of pain.

"WILD" MAN IS ARRESTED.

Was Dancing Without Clothes in the Shadow of a Market House.

Baltimore, Md.—A man rushed up to Patrolman Geraghty as he was patrolling Pratt street, shortly after 1 o'clock in the morning, and exclaimed: "Officer, officer! there's a wild man up the street there." The patrolman, guided, or rather forwarded by the excited citizen, who kept a good twenty paces in the rear, walked up Market space for about fifty yards, and then Geraghty saw that there was really something capering about in the shadows of the Market house.

For a moment the policeman regarded the queer object, and then, taking his spantoon, advanced. The capering figure was that of a man, short and muscularly built, and without a stitch of clothing on him. He did not perceive the policeman until the latter touched him on the shoulder and then he turned only to find his arms pinioned. For a few moments Geraghty struggled with the nude figure, but finally placed nippers on his wrists and mastered him. The prisoner was taken to the Central police station. His name, he said, was Joseph Florio. He is 48 years old, and a native of Italy. For a time he appeared to be in his right mind, and admitted that he had been drinking heavily. Then he became incoherent again, and said the "spirits told him to take off his clothes and dance."

A second-hand suit of clothes was given to Florio, but he tore them nearly all off before he was brought before Justice Grannan for a hearing this morning. Justice Grannan fined him \$5 and costs on the charge of being drunk on the street, and committed him to jail in default of payment. Florio appears to be well educated, and between his ravings spoke in English, German, French and Spanish.

Smallest Watch in the Universe.

What it said to be the smallest watch in the world is in the possession of a London jeweler. It once belonged to the late Marquis of Anglessey, whose taste in garments was extravagant and bizarre. The size of the gold case of this illustrious watch is just that of the smallest English coin—a silver threepence. The minute hand is an eighth of an inch long.

FIND INDIAN SKELETONS.

Railway Employees Discover Bones of Many Red Men in Gravel Bed.

Sioux Falls, S. D.—Skeletons are being found in a gravel pit from which the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company is obtaining ballast for its extension through western South Dakota, from the Missouri river to the Black hills. The gravel pit is situated on the eastern end of the extension, near the town of Oacoma, and but a short distance from the Missouri river. In the neighborhood of 50 human skeletons have thus far been unearthed.

Most of them were found at a depth of from four to eight feet beneath the surface of the ground, and all were buried in either a standing or sitting posture. The majority of the skeletons are those of people of small stature, much below the ordinary or average height of the present North American Indians.

One skeleton, however, is that of a man who in life must have been fully seven feet in height. In close proximity to the skeleton of this giant were found implements of copper and bone, these being found in each of the graves near that of the giant, while in another grave was discovered a copper idol about eight inches in length.

OWL RINGS FIRE ALARM.

White Bird Wanders into Belfry and Scares Jersey Town.

Clinton, N. J.—Clang! Clang! sounded the bell of the Methodist church early the other morning.

Instantly the village sprang from its profound sleep, for the church bell is its fire alarm. Clinton has no fire department or water system, but every man here is a volunteer fireman, and when the church bell calls him helps to form a bucket brigade which draws from a well. So every man jumped into his clothes and ran toward the church.

No one could find the fire, but the bell kept on ringing spasmodically. Now it would peal half a dozen times rapidly, then remain silent for an interval, then toll slowly and mournfully.

Henry Van Ness, sexton of the church, and Giles Van Riper went to the church and climbed to the belfry. There they found a huge white owl swinging from a loose strand of the bell rope. In its struggles to get free the bird had died by bursting a blood vessel.

BIG DEMAND FOR "HORSE BOOK."

Million Copies of Famous Volume Printed by Government.

Washington.—Uncle Sam is a successful publisher. He issues annually the "horse book" which has an enormous circulation. Over a million copies of the book have been printed, and still the public demand for it is not satisfied. Another edition of 250,000 copies of this famous volume, the full title of which is "Special Diseases of the Horse," has just been ordered. This makes over a million copies ordered, but before the demand is supplied there will find it necessary to go down in their pockets to have copies of the book printed for congressional quota. An idea of the magnitude of the work may be formed from the statement that the first edition of 361,000 copies if laid out to end would cover a space fifty miles long, and if piled up flatwise would make 108 piles as high as the Washington monument.

Polar Bear Steak.

According to Max Fleischman, who has not only killed polar bears, but has eaten the same, the meat was fairly palatable, although it was necessary to cut into very thin strips and hammer it thoroughly before broiling in order to get the blubbery taste out of it.

"In addition to this precaution," says Mr. Fleischman in the National Geographic Magazine, "I would advise that a plentiful admixture of onions be used in broiling fresh bear meat, and if the onions are strong enough and one has a penchant for onions one won't really mind bear steak. It is the opinion of the writer and also of the ship surgeon, who was the taster of all new food, that young seal is a great deal more palatable than bear meat.

Something Substantial.

"Did you ever try egg soup. No? Then you have lived in vain. Beat thoroughly six strictly fresh eggs. Add one quart of good cream and season with butter, pepper and salt. Simmer. When thick enough, serve with gristal broken in short bits, or, if you can not get the stick bread, with toasted dice made of yesterday's bread. You can not imagine anything more palatable or nourishing in this weather or in any other weather.

A Fugitive Poem.

"This," said the party with the unbarbered hair, as he pulled a manuscript from his pocket, "is a fugitive poem."

Not the Music He Leved.

"Mrs. Talkmore—"Your husband is a great lover of music, isn't he?" Mrs. Chatters—"Yes, indeed. I have seen him get up in the middle of the night and try to compose." Mrs. T.—"What?" Mrs. C.—"The baby."—Stray Stories.

NOVEL REFORM PLAN

LAWYER PROPOSES GARDEN COLONY FOR MILD CRIMINALS.

Moral Suasion and Fruit Diet in Model Country Town Advocated for Criminals of Amiable Disposition.

Chicago.—A garden colony for amiable criminals where they will learn to be good by growing peaches and roses is the latest idea to be advanced in criminal reformatory methods. The author of the Arcadian principle is John F. Geeting, editor of the American Criminal Records, and a Chicago criminal lawyer.

Mr. Geeting does not refer to criminals of a dark and bloody turn of mind, but to those kindly souls who practice the gentle art of selling gold bricks to the unsophisticated rustic. These men, with their vast army of brothers, who earn a precarious living through various forms of swindling, Mr. Geeting declares, aside from their irritating propensity to put their hands in other people's pockets, are pleasant companions and not infrequently blithe and witty souls.

The present method by which the rude law casts these men into the common jail with murderers and anarchists is, according to Mr. Geeting, the destruction of many of them, who are only suffering from a slight moral twist which might be straightened out by the application of much milder methods.

The scheme which Mr. Geeting intends to urge on the governor and legislature of Illinois is the formation of a little town along novel lines. The town will be situated in the center of a little garden, where peaches and roses may grow. For fear the rural simplicity of the place might pall on the city bred inhabitants and tempt them to return to wicked places like Chicago, a stout wall will be erected all about the town, whose ugliness can be concealed with trailing vines and gooseberry bushes.

OUR GUNNERS GOOD AS ANY.

Recent Practice on British Ship Recalls American Performances.

Washington.—For several years the navy department has not regarded it as good policy to acquaint foreign nations with the performances of the American naval gunners. It was felt that the publication of a good record made by our men would only serve to stimulate the gunners of other nations to better their own performances.

But the publication recently of the fact that during target practice on the British channel fleet in the presence of King Edward one gun made nineteen hits in twenty-one shots, thereby earning a decoration from the king, has naturally touched the pride of some of the American naval officers, but they find no reason to fear a comparison with the gunners of any other navy.

Taking some of the six inch guns in the Atlantic fleet, one gunner on the armored cruiser Maryland made eleven shots and eleven hits in one minute. A gun on the battleship Ohio was fired with a perfect score at the rate of 10.31 a minute. A six inch gun on the battleship Maine has a record of a perfect score at the rate of 10.41 a minute, and the battleship Missouri's best record was 10.30 shots a minute, each lodged in a target.

229 MINE BOYS KILLED IN YEAR.

State Report Says a Foreman Should Be Sentenced to Prison.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The annual report of the state department of mines shows that there were 22 employees killed between the ages of 16 and 18 years and 74 employees between the ages of 18 and 21 years in the anthracite and bituminous regions of Pennsylvania during 1906. In addition to these fatalities there were killed outside the anthracite mines 15 boys between the ages of 14 and 15 years and 21 between the ages of 16 and 21 years. In the bituminous region no fatalities occurred among the outside employees under 21 years.

In the bituminous mines 25 boys were killed whose ages range from 14 to 18 years and 27 killed or fatally injured between the ages of 18 and 21. The report says that it is a regrettable fact that three of the so-called miners killed were boys 14, 15 and 16 years old, respectively, and that the foreman who hired these boys to do a miner's work should be sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

Paper Coffin Did Not Sell.

Cincinnati.—The failure of a unique industry is recalled by the shipment of hundreds of paper mache coffins to be sold to paper mills as junk. A company composed of prominent Cincinnatians was formed to make the coffins, but no market was found and the industry was given up. For years the coffins have been stored, but recently they were disposed of to a junk dealer. Paper mache coffins sold cheap, but even public institutions and those in charge of pauper funerals failed to take advantage of the paper shulls, though made to represent the finest woods.

Edelweiss Now Paris Flower.

Paris.—Edelweiss, which this year is more fashionable than ever, is mostly grown near Copenhagen and exported to Switzerland where the flower is so rare now that gathering of it is forbidden. Not to be outdone, Paris gardeners are cultivating edelweiss in the suburbs and recently have exhibited specimens. Large quantities will appear at the next greenhouse exhibition and soon the Swiss gardeners will sell only Parisian products.

Carpet Task Restores Speech.

Utica, N. Y.—Edward Cox of Williamstown months ago suffered a stroke of paralysis that left him speechless. The doctors thought a blood clot had formed on the brain and they said Mr. Cox would never recover the use of his speech. The other day Mr. Cox sat on a carpet tack. He swore—and was cured.

MILITARY ROAD TO YUKON.

Canada is Building 1,800 Mile Trail to Back Door of Gold Region.

Edmonton, B. C.—An important work that is being carried on by the Dominion government in the Canadian northwest, concerning which people in general know but little, is the building of a military road from this city to the Yukon territory. For two years the construction has been under way in charge of the royal northwest mounted police.

From Edmonton the road stretches 70 miles away to Fort St. John on the Peace river, and then takes an almost direct course over the Rocky mountains for 200 miles to Fort Graham, in British Columbia, and thence in a northwesterly direction for 700 miles more to Atlin. This long trail of 1,800 miles lies through a region but little civilized, and where nature as times opposes her sterile barriers.

It is not a wide road—only eight feet—and at regular intervals of 20 miles small log houses are erected as halting places. The principal work so far has been from the eastern side of the Rocky mountains, and last fall the construction party, under the command of Capt. Camies, reached Fort Graham, where they have wintered. This summer, another party of workmen, under Inspector McDonald of Whitehorse, will push the work from Atlin until the two forces meet, which they hope to do before winter.

And the purpose of it is because one of Canada's richest treasure houses, the golden Klondike, lies cooped up beyond the great mountains. In two front doors to this country lie the United States territory of Alaska—one opening in from Skagway by means of the White pass and Yukon railway, the other further north, the estuary of the Yukon river at St. Michael.

HUSBAND SELECTS SUCCESSOR.

Wearing Widow's Weeds, Obedient Relict Again Becomes a Bride.

Philadelphia.—Fulfilling a deathbed promise, to her husband, nine months ago, that she would marry his chum, Mrs. Maria Di Cicco, 23 years old, of South Sixth street, has become the wife of Antonio Di Mattio, in the home in which her former husband died.

The late husband of Mrs. Di Cicco and Di Mattio were playmates in Naples, and one day the latter saved Di Cicco from drowning in the bay. Di Cicco never forgot the brave deed, and even after coming to this country and marrying he kept up a correspondence with his boyhood chum. When Di Mattio came to this city Di Cicco insisted that he make his home with himself and wife.

Then Di Cicco contracted tuberculosis, and although everything was done to save his life, he rapidly wasted away. When he saw that death was near he called his young wife and Di Mattio to his bedside and made them promise to wed each other at the expiration of nine months after his death. They agreed and Di Cicco died happy.

The bride was attired in the black dress which she wore at her husband's funeral, and despite the occasion, relaxed none of the literal or figurative mourning, which she has expressed continually for Di Cicco since his death. She makes no pretense of loving her new husband, but frankly states that she is simply fulfilling her former companion's wishes. Di Mattio, on the other hand, states that he has always loved his new wife.

\$8,000,000 on Office Walls.

Kansas City, Mo.—The wall paper in the offices of a commission company at the stockyards exchange in Kansas City represents an outlay of \$8,000,000. This remarkable wall paper is made up of canceled checks. There is no check on the wall that represents less than \$1,000. The total is for \$30,000.