

Governor of Illinois.



Before his election to the office of chief executive of his state Mr. Deneen was the prosecuting attorney of Cook county. Gov. Deneen has come into prominence through the bill he caused to be introduced in the state legislature by which he hopes to force the Illinois Central railroad to pay considerable back taxes he claims are due the state.

BRIAR WOOD PIPE MATERIAL.

Increasing American Purchases of the Italian Supply.

Washington.—Complying with the request of a Kentucky firm as to the manner of getting out briar wood blocks in Italy, Consul James A. Smith, of Leghorn, submits the following information:

"The larger part of the Italian briar wood is found along the Mediterranean coast, extending from Savona on the north to Calabria on the south; the Ligurian Riviera, Tuscany, Umbria, the Roman provinces, the three provinces of Calabria, as well as the islands of Corsica and Sardinia furnishing an abundant supply. The work of excavating the root of the briar wood tree is carried on from October until the end of May. A kind of grubbing spade with one sharp edge for cutting away the large billet or heart of the root (the valuable part) from the surrounding small roots is used in this work. The billet is known as the ciocco. After being thoroughly cleaned and trimmed, it is brought to the mill and by means of circular saws cut into small blocks corresponding roughly to the shape of a pipe bowl and stem. These blocks are of various sizes, depending upon the dimension and shape of the ciocco. Afterward they are immersed in boiling water for a period of about 12 hours and then thoroughly dried.

"This process completed, they are sorted, (the imperfect pieces being thrown aside), placed in large jute bags, and are then ready for shipment. The waste pieces unsuitable for pipes are sold for firewood, being an excellent material for this purpose. Exportations of briar wood from this district to the United States have shown a decided increase during the past few years. In 1905, 11,904 bales were shipped, with a value of over \$100,000, while during the first nine months of 1906 nearly 15,000 bales, with a value of over \$125,000, were exported from Leghorn.

WHITTLES BOAT WITH KNIFE.

Ohio Man Makes Miniature of Steam-wheel Packet During Leisure Moments.

Gallipolis, O.—Andrew Wode, of Pomeroy, has made a miniature steamboat which is patterned after an Ohio river steamwheel packet. An ordinary two-bladed penknife was used in its construction, the blades being nearly worn out before it was completed. Mr. Wode did the work during odd hours, and completed it in less than three months.

The hull of the boat is four feet and two inches long and 14 inches wide. From the bottom of the hull to the top is 30 inches. The swing stage is 25 inches long. On the lower deck are the boilers and engines. All the figures and the yaws on the davits were whittled from solid blocks of wood. In the rear is a well-appointed bar room, with bartender and customers. A faucet in a beer keg looks like the real thing. One passenger is in the act of turning down a glass of beer and the nickel is on the counter to pay for it.

A figure on the fore-castle, wearing a tile hat, is credited with being the captain. Nothing is missing from the outfit of the boat—bell, whistle, stove in the pilothouse, spars, etc., are all there.

It is made entirely of pine and poplar, except the wire at the end of the swing stage, the glass in the windows and the small nails used in fastening the various parts together. A man can carry it under his arm. It is painted with great care, and is named Ulika, suggested by a ship of that name, the picture of which Mr. Wode once saw.

FRED GRANT'S AID IN WANT.

Charles Miller, an Old Indian Scout, Robbed of Last Cent.

Lawton, Okla.—One of the most intimate friends in the United States army that Gen. Henry Lawton ever had and one of the most trusted men on detail that Gen. Frederick Grant was ever associated with is practically a beggar to-day, being a laborer on a railroad job at odd times. His name is Charles Miller, and he was knocked down on a street of this city the other day by a ruffian and robbed of \$2.40, the last money he had on earth.

More than 30 years ago Miller enlisted in the United States cavalry back in Massachusetts. He was sent west with the Fourth cavalry, in which Henry Lawton and Frederick Grant were first lieutenants. Lawton was quartermaster in the garrison of a western post to which they went and Grant was lieutenant in Miller's company. The three fought together in many a skirmish and in a few battles with the Sioux Indians on the Big Horn.

Miller came back here recently just to see how Fort Sill looked since the Indians have become civilized and white people have populated the country. Here he sees many objects to remind him of associations with illustrious men and here, amid such memories, he hopes to spend his declining years.

Bible in New Language.

London.—A polyglot printing house here which published the Lord's prayer in 400 languages has been asked by a missionary in central Africa to print the grammar of a new language he has discovered. The missionary had to draw and send sketches of the letters. The grammar is on the Odenford system and the missionary intends to teach the natives of the jungle to read and write.

WEATHER IN CYCLES

MISSOURI PROPHET PREDICTS BY DATA OF YEARS.

Each Decade Much Like One Before—Mild Winter Means Big Wheat Crop, But Visitation of Locusts is Due in Summer.

Macon, Mo.—Macon has a weather prophet whose forecasts seem to hit the bull's-eye. In the latter part of August, 1906, he made this statement, and files of the local papers verify it.

"This will be a fine year to sow wheat. But it must be in before the 20th of September; it will be useless to do any planting after that. We are going to have a mild winter, and that means a big wheat yield."

This weather soothsayer's name is August T. Glahn. He is about 55, and operates a 200-acre farm east of Macon. Such confidence have the farmers of Macon and Shelby counties in Mr. Glahn's forecasts that they planted many thousands of acres of wheat in excess of the normal acreage.

And so far the weather has borne out Mr. Glahn's predictions to the letter. The winter in these parts has been one of unusual mildness, with frequent springlike rains. The thermometer has rarely gone lower than 25 above zero, and has more often hovered about 50.

Mr. Glahn uses no wizard's wand, no crystal globes, and no occult aid of any sort to tell a year in advance what Uncle Sam's weather observer will report. He carries with him a little book, well-thumbed with the passing years, and full of interesting data compiled from 65 years back on down to date.

Mr. Glahn's father was the first historian. He took a notion that the weather came in cycles, and his object was to learn the extent of those cycles. After 11 years of close observation of his weather diary, he came to the conclusion that the seasons repeated themselves every decade; that each year in a decade had a brand of weather peculiar to itself.

Now and then, in a long while, there was a break—a cog slipped somewhere in the universe. But such things were rare. The harmony of the years was as the assurance of the salvation to the just. What happened in 1845 was bound to happen in 1855. There was no getting around it. The diary was continued on until the twentieth century, the son taking up the work when the father passed into a land where the storms of life do not trouble. Now the younger historian, getting well along in years, has, he claims, demonstrated his father's theory beyond any sort of doubt, and he is giving his farmer friends the benefit of it.

"The harvest of this year will be dry," said Mr. Glahn. "The sevens have been almost uniformly dry since 1810, and are fine years for small grain. This year will be good for peaches, and also the year following, including 1906, this will give us three good peach years in succession. The sevens and eights are always fine for this fruit."

"But there is one ominous fight for us this year. There will be a visitation of locusts, which will last about six weeks. The locusts come every 11 years without fail. The record shows that they were here in 1812, 1825, 1838, 1849 and 1894. That puts them due in 1907.

"Being forewarned, however, the farmer can turn his hogs and chickens into his orchards, and they will eat up the pests nearly as fast as they germinate. The locusts have never done near as much damage in this section as the grasshopper and are not to be dreaded as much."

"Unless in unusually large numbers they will not eat small grain. They devour the slender stalks of wheat, but don't touch the stronger stalks. They will appear in the latter part of May and disappear about the 1st of August. The hogs should be turned into the orchards during April. The locusts make fine feed for hogs and chickens. They like them and thrive wonderfully on the insects."

"Corn will do fairly well, but may not be quite up to the average. Next September will be a little too dry for that grain. Wheat is the thing for the husbandman to stick to in 1907 if he has the right character of soil to develop it. The season is bound to do the rest."

THIS MAN IS ALWAYS COLD.

Wears Heavy Clothing and an Overcoat in Midsummer.

Canton, O.—Among the recent arrivals here was Frank M. Bemis, traveling man for a Michigan furniture house. Bemis is to be pitied, for he is afflicted with a strange disease which the doctors are unable to cure, and which renders it impossible for him to keep warm, even during the hottest days of the summer.

The year around he is obliged to wear five suits of underclothing, a heavy overcoat, a large pair of boots and several pairs of socks. Despite all of this he is always cold. He rarely contracts a cold and possesses a hearty appetite, a number of quilts, and does not take off his clothes. Notwithstanding this he is none too warm. While at home his gas bill is in the neighborhood of \$50 a month.

He has been at a number of resorts to obtain relief for his strange disease, but received no help whatever. Physicians are unable to determine the cause of his condition.

REGION NOT YET EXPLORED.

Country as Extensive as Texas in the Heart of South America.

New York.—Four men, constituting a Harvard expedition party, have just sailed from New York bound for No Man's Land in South America. They mean to enter a region perhaps the size of Texas, perhaps much bigger, where Peru, Bolivia and Brazil come together, which no white man is known to have visited.

The departure of this party is a reminder that South America now affords more room than any other division of the earth for the fresh exploration of land surfaces. The headwaters of the Amazon are fertile fields for research. Away to the south, in Paraguay, Argentina and Bolivia, are vast stretches of "El Gran Chaco," defying the explorers of five nations. A recent writer has said that "we know more to-day of inner Africa than the government of Bogota knows of the southeastern third of Colombia."

Sixteen or 17 years ago the Scotch geographer Bartholomew estimated that one-eighth of the land surface of the earth was almost wholly unknown. The march of discovery has been rapid since then and the fraction representing unexplored country has been reduced below one-fiftieth. An area almost one-third as large as the United States is still to be trodden by the pathfinders or mapmakers.

Many points of interest in the Canadian Rockies are yet to be fully revealed. Labrador has not yielded its last secret, the arctic regions of Asia have their unknown territory and nature still has her hiding spots in Africa, despite the marvelous advance of the explorers.

"It is a small world," people have been saying for many years, but the geographers' opportunity to make it smaller through greater knowledge has not vanished.

PROWHISKERS CLUB FORMED.

Girls at Harrisburg, Neb., to Reject All Beardless Men.

Harrisburg, Neb.—A number of young society women of this western Nebraska town have formed a pro-whiskers society and have signed an agreement which binds them solemnly to discourage attentions from young, middle aged or old men who do not wear beards and not under any circumstances to marry men of any age who do not wear full beards.

They read a newspaper story recently to the effect that the girls of another town had agreed not to permit men who wore beards to pay court to them. The Harrisburg girls say that their sisters in the other town have assumed a wrong attitude toward the whiskers question and that they themselves have taken the correct and patriotic stand.

They maintain stoutly that men with whiskers are handsomer and every way more acceptable as lovers, husbands and fathers than are men without them; that in earlier times it was almost the universal custom in this country for men to wear full beards and that such beards were then regarded as genuine ornaments, but that through ridiculous good old custom has been made obsolete.

They say that they have formed their society and signed an agreement not to encourage attentions from beardless men and not in any event to marry men without full beards in order to reestablish the good old custom of wearing full beards.

OIL SOAKED EELS BURN FINE.

Forest of Natural Candles Near Newton, N. J.

Newton, N. J.—A company to market gas or lamps is being formed here. The promoters swear they have "the electric eel beaten by several candle powers." At least 20,000 eels, from six inches to three feet long, are instantly available. All that need be done is to pluck them out of the mud on the banks of the Paulius Kill, where they are standing on their tails.

A big iron tank, full of petroleum and acids, which had been in use at the old Newton gas works, was dumped into a stream tributary to the Kill. The liquid slowly percolated in the Kill. Quickly it poisoned all the fish, and thousands of them were found dead. But the eels were tougher. Soaked with the oil and acids, but trying to escape, they burrowed into the soft mud of the banks.

Then came a hard freeze, and recently a thaw. It left the 20,000 eels preserved by the cold and the acids, saturated with petroleum, "a little forest of natural candles waiting to be lighted."

"Already many families in the suburbs of Newton are using the luminous eel for household purposes," say the promoters. "The light is soft, white, brilliant, and reliable. There is no odor perceptible, and in many ways the new light is considered preferable to any illuminant available to the town."

Buses Railroad 2,140 Times.

Appleton, Wis.—Henry Miller, a farmer, has begun 2,140 suits against the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company for \$21,400, or ten dollars for each locomotive that has crossed his farm since he advised the railroad company to construct a culvert and crossing. The complaints to these cases fill about 600 type-written pages.

Italy's State Lottery.

Rome.—Italy's state lottery took in \$17,000,000 in a year and gave back in prizes \$9,000,000. Much of the money came from the poorest people.

NEW BREECHES BUOY

APPARATUS TO WREST PREY FROM DEEP SEA.

Invention of J. W. Dalton, of Sandwich, Mass., Claimed Great Improvement—Has Been Placed in Many Marine Stations.

Philadelphia.—To increase the efficiency of life saving apparatus over 100 per cent, seems a rather broad statement, yet this is what captains and members of the crews of the United States life saving service declare has been accomplished by an improvement on the old style breeches buoy which has just been adopted by the United States government. The station at Orleans, on Cape Cod, has been equipped with the new device, and has also two stations on the New Jersey coast. The entire service will be supplied with the new "breeches" as fast as they can be made.

The breeches buoy now used by life saving crews all over the world was invented in England over 100 years ago, and in all those years there has never been an improvement on the apparatus that increased its efficiency to any appreciable degree. The old style buoy is a heavy cork ring "life preserver," such as are seen aboard any ship. To this ring is attached a short canvas "breeches" that forms a sort of basket in which the shipwrecked sailor sits.

When a ship in distress is discovered by a life saving crew and it is impossible, because of high seas, to launch a lifeboat, the crew quickly prepare to use the breeches buoy. A light throwing line is shot over the vessel. To this line is tied the heavy hawser used for the breeches buoy, which is pulled out to the ship by those on board. The hawser is attached to a mast, or anything that will hold. On the hawser is a "whip" or pulley rope, and an iron traveling block. This block, to which is hung the "breeches," is pulled out to the ship and back to the shore by the "whip."

Under the old system when the "breeches" leave the shore it is almost impossible to tell just where they are, and when they reach the ship hundreds of lives have been lost because of the breeches being pulled away from the ship before the unfortunate sailor could get in the "basket." Another element of danger in the old style buoy is that no protection is given the occupant of the "breeches" from banging his head against the heavy iron traveling block as he is being hauled through the heavy surf to the shore. Many a poor fellow has been taken from the "basket" with a fractured skull.

The improvements made on the old style eliminate all these "uncertainties." The new feature or improvement consists of a small box mounted on a rubber ring buoy, surrounded by four hollow posts which are affixed to the rubber cushion, and on two to a steel square spreader. It hangs directly under and from the traveling block, and above the ring of the breeches buoy. The lanyards for the breeches buoy, instead of hanging obliquely from the traveling block, run down through the hollow posts.

The spreader arrangement protects the box, holds the breeches right side up, and always in position for an occupant, and when once a man is in the "basket" the rubber cushion above his head protects him from having his brains beaten out by the heavy iron traveling block as he is being pulled through the breakers.

The most important feature, however, is the box itself. It is a storage battery electric light, capable of burning 24 hours, and absolutely non-extinguishable by any action of water or banging or tossing about. The box has three bulleye windows or ports. One is on the under side and sheds a strong light down onto the breeches buoy. Another is on the seaside, and the third on the shore side.

The light on the side nearest the ship is green, the universal safety signal. The light on the shore side, in view of the life savers, is double, controlled by a shutter. As the buoy is hauled out to the ship and as long as it remains empty a white light shows. The instant a man gets into the breeches, or rather, just as soon as his weight rests on the canvas seat, the light changes automatically from white to red. The change can only be made by a weight of more than 50 pounds in the "basket." The instant the light changes to red—and the light is strong enough to be seen many times the distance a breeches buoy can be used—it is a signal for the men on shore to haul away.

The new buoy is the work of John W. Dalton, of Sandwich, Mass., who has written and lectured on life saving, and who is acknowledged to be one of the best informed on the subject outside of the regular service. Mr. Dalton was born on Cape Cod and has always lived there amid scenes of shipwreck and disaster. He has seen every shipwreck on the shore of the cape in the past 20 years, and the present improvements are the result of long study and familiarity with the subject.

Shoes Scarce in Panama. Jacksonville, Wis.—Because they are unable to find "decent" shoes in the Panama canal zone Mary Humphrey and Bertha Knudson, who left Jacksonville to become nurses at Panama, have sent home for supplies of footwear. They claim that the "famine" in shoes is something horrid.

TWO CENTURIES OLD

CELEBRATION FOR CHURCH IN WICKFORD, R. I., PLANNED.

Most Ancient Building Devoted to Worship of Protestant Episcopalians in New England Still Well Preserved.

Providence, R. I.—A celebration to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the erection of the old Narragansett church in Wickford, R. I., the oldest edifice in New England devoted to the Protestant Episcopal worship, is being planned for the coming summer and will be the central attraction of old home week.

A committee has been appointed to arrange for this celebration, of which the present rector of the church, Rev. Frederick Bradford Cole, is chairman.

The old church stands upon a short lane just off the main street of old Wickford, and is surrounded by many marks of the colonial days. It is still well preserved, and save for the loss of the tall tower which once gave it an imposing aspect, it is but little changed either outside or in.

The entrance is in the center on the side, now facing the lane on which it fronts, and directly opposite stands the pulpit, somewhat changed from its original appearance. The center portion of the church is occupied by long pews with high backs, while on either side are square, box-like pews, with seats on three sides, which would accommodate a whole family.

A gallery extends around three sides of the church, and in the early days of the pulpit, reached by narrow stairs, stood nearly even with the floor of this gallery.

In those days, no means for heating the church being provided, each family had to provide its own means of keeping warm during the bleak wintry days, and some now living who can recall their attendance upon services at this ancient church even half a century ago relate amusing experiences of the family "heater."

Much has been written of the early history of this church. Some have claimed that in 1800, when the edifice, then nearly 100 years old, was moved to Wickford, it was stolen and carted away in the night intact with many ornaments.

At the time of the removal a steeple was added and other improvements were made. For nearly half a century it continued in active use.

The old tower was blown down in 1869. Later the building was repaired and put in a condition to maintain it in its near its original state as possible.

Wants to Aid Pupils.

Omaha, Neb.—A plan of paying children to attend school is being agitated by the Omaha juvenile court. Weekly appropriations are taken from churches, friendly societies, woman's clubs, and other organizations. The plan is intended to make it unnecessary for children to work for the support of their families. Working children are to be placed in school, and the exact amount of their earnings will be paid them by the court. One large insurance order has already indicated its willingness to pay weekly amounts to children of living or deceased members of the order for the purpose indicated.

Coffee Cigarettes Are Popular.

London.—Marie Saint Victor, a young French woman, has just applied to the British government for a patent of a new cigarette, which, instead of tobacco, contains coffee. There is already a craze among society people for these cigarettes, which are said to be extremely delicious.

CAN'T AGREE: PART FOR YEAR

Quarreling Couple Obtain Papers for Trial Separation.

New York.—A fashionably dressed couple apparently greatly distressed entered the office of Justice of the Peace Seymour in Hoboken. The man who was about 30 years old, said he was Edward F. Lawson and the woman was his wife. He told the justice that just a year ago to the day he had married them. Lawson then said:

"There has not been a day that we have not quarreled. My wife blames me and I blame her, so we decided, judge, to have you draw up a paper in a separation for a year—one that will leave us free either to make up or to get a divorce. Isn't that what we want?" asked Lawson, turning to his wife.

"But I didn't say anything about a divorce," protested the woman.

"Well, he can leave that out," said Lawson. "You see, judge, we are not sure that we don't love each other. There's just a little doubt. So just make the papers read that we will try living apart for a year; then if we still love it will be easy to take up life together again."

Lawson dictated the agreement and told the judge to put in writing that he would pay his wife and her sister \$10 a week each, give Mrs. Lawson all the furniture in their flat and send her mother in England £5 every week.

"That's fair, isn't it?" said Lawson to his wife.

"Just as you say," she replied, wiping her eyes.

"I'll see you in a year from today," he said as she left the office.

"All right, dear," was the faint reply.

WANTS \$500,000 FOR AN IDEA.

Illinois Girl Claims Her Father Suggested Pan-American Project.

Washington.—A novel bill has been introduced in the senate by Senator Cullom at the request of Bessie Josephine Lynch, daughter and administratrix of John C. Lynch, of Illinois. It asks for an appropriation of \$500,000 to pay for an idea. It is claimed that Lynch in 1880 suggested the holding of an international American conference and the construction of an intercontinental railway.

In substantiation of the claim it is asserted that David Davis introduced a bill in 1880 for holding a conference and the construction of the railroad, and continued to do so every congress while he was in public life. The conference was held in 1889 and out of it grew the intercontinental railway conference of the next year, which sent out surveying parties and made a voluminous report. The conferences were held frequently, the last one being at Rio Janeiro, which Secretary Root attended.

Lynch's claim to be the originator of the idea has been contested by Hinton Rowan Helper, of Philadelphia. It is unusual for congress even to be asked to pay for an idea, unless it has been patented, and it is not probable that an appropriation will be made.

Makes Limit Two \$1.98 Hats.

Jefferson City, Mo.—Representative Norfleet of Morgan county says that on the day the legislature adjourns he will introduce a bill "to prohibit any woman from purchasing more than two hats during any one calendar year; to regulate the price to be paid for such hats, and to prevent the wearing of any plumage thereon."

The first provision of the bill reads:

"Hereafter it shall be unlawful for any woman, either married or single, to purchase for herself, or to receive or in any way procure for her use and benefit more than two hats, each to cost no more than \$1.98, oftener than every 12 months."