

PROPOSES LONG RIDE.

Commander of German Army to Attempt to Ride from New York to Chicago in Seven Days.

According to the New York World Theodore Molkenin, once a crack horseman of the German army, will attempt to break the world's record for long distance riding by traveling from New York to Chicago in seven days, without changing horses.

"The record of the world is now held by a cavalryman in the German army, who rode from Berlin to Vienna in eight days and a half. From New York to Chicago the distance is greater, but I propose to make the trip on one horse, and do it in seven days.

CALLS WOMEN DOORMATS.

Clara Hoffman Declares That Women Serve for Naught in the Church and Government.

"Women are and have been but doormats and dishwashers for men in government and church affairs," said Miss Clara Hoffman, president of the Missouri division of the W. C. T. U., in an address before the executive committee of the Illinois Equal Suffrage association in Evanston, Ill., the other day.

"The time is here when woman must rise in her might and demand some recognition for her work. If the church work were left to the men every church in the country would be run in the ground. In sole charge of municipal governments, the mark of their work is signal failure in almost every instance.

Cheers greeted the speaker's remarks and every delegate rose to congratulate her. A reference to "the hide-bound views of the members of the men's monopoly" was the occasion for more cheers.

Dr. Frances Dickinson endorsed the views expressed, and said that the Equal Suffrage association should begin a fight to have intelligent voting taught in the public schools.

PAINTING THE PRESIDENT.

Makovsky, the Great Russian Portrait Painter, at Work on Picture at White House.

President Roosevelt gave a sitting to the great Russian portrait painter, M. Constantine Makovsky, in the cabinet room at the white house the other afternoon. The sittings will take place in the cabinet room, not only for the purpose of securing a suitable background for the portrait, but also on account of the excellent light for the work. M. Makovsky and his wife accompanied the Russian ambassador, Count Cassini, to this country a few weeks ago, since which time they have been house guests at the Russian embassy. Makovsky is painting a portrait of Countess Cassini, the ward of the ambassador.

President Invited to Hunt Moose.

President Roosevelt was invited by Representative Eddy, of Minnesota, to accompany him on a moose hunt during the Christmas holidays. Mr. Eddy told the president that moose could be found in large numbers just beyond the Minnesota border in Canada, and that better sport could not be found anywhere. He offered to have a special train placed at the disposal of the president so as to take the latter within a few miles of the feeding grounds of this large game. President Roosevelt told the Minnesota man he would be delighted to accept the invitation if it were not for the fact that there was an unwritten law against the president going beyond the borders of the United States. The president said he would be pleased to participate in the hunt if Mr. Eddy could induce the moose to come over on American territory.

Pride of Ancestry.

It will be 241 years on the 22d of this month since the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock. They would be surprised, says the Chicago Record-Herald, if they could see all the people who claim to be their descendants.

Division Over a Name.

The white house is good enough for President Roosevelt, but some of the senators, says the Chicago Tribune, appear to prefer an executive mansion.

What Anarchists Don't Want.

Anarchists will, of course, make haste, says the Chicago Record-Herald, to oppose Senator Hoar's scheme of giving them what they are hawking for.

SCORNS THE OVERCOAT.

President Prefers Double-Breasted Box Coat to the Heavier and Longer Style.

President Roosevelt has not worn an overcoat a half dozen times this winter, but goes out attired in a double-breasted box coat, his soft hat well down on his head, and his hands incased in a pair of stout, well-made gloves. Wearing a collar much lower than the present regulation style, his throat is little protected, and yet he seldom has a cold. This characteristic habit of going without an overcoat is partaken of by his sons, and Kermit Roosevelt has scarcely had an overcoat on this winter, though boys who visit him at the white house wear heavy winter wraps.

Archibald occasionally puts on a reefer, but he, too, objects to being hampered by excessive clothing, and generally bolts about the white house lawn at such a rapid gait wrapping up is unnecessary. Even baby Quintin plays about the lawn with only a light wrap on. The president is hardly and wholesome, and without a word of dictation to them in the matter, they partake of his habits to a marked degree.

Their love of company is evidently an inheritance, for while the president dined or lunched with 45 different invited guests in a space of 24 hours last week during Mrs. Roosevelt's absence in New York, Kermit, Archibald and Quintin are seldom without playmates from the outside world. While Kermit goes about without an overcoat, clad in a gray bicycle suit, with a cap of the same material, he never forgets to go down under the east portico each night and cover the great coop of his fine fighting cock, "Red Cloud," and his wife, "Mrs. Red Cloud," with a heavy tarpaulin to keep out the cold.

THE HORSE IN CONGRESS.

Bill Introduced Which Would Prevent Docking of His Tail in District of Columbia.

Senator Gallinger's bill making it unlawful for any person to dock the tail of a horse within the District of Columbia was introduced at the instance of the Washington Humane society, which recently passed resolutions thanking President Roosevelt for his determination not to have a pair of short-tailed carriage horses. Several pairs that were otherwise satisfactory were rejected because they had short tails, and the president's bold stand on this question was heralded far and wide.

What the Humane society did not know at the time it passed the resolutions, and what Senator Gallinger does not know yet, is that President Roosevelt's favorite riding horse, Bleistein, has had his tail docked so closely that there is not enough left to waggle.

However, Mr. Gallinger's bill provides just the same that after it becomes a law every docked horse in the district shall be registered, and that after 90 days from its passage any person driving an unregistered docked tail animal will be held to have violated the law and shall be liable to a fine of \$500 and 90 days in jail for each offense.

HYPNOTISM BECOMES A FAD.

Several of the Students of Syracuse University Become Experts in the Mysterious Art.

The students of Syracuse university have taken up the fad of hypnotism, and several have become expert in making their fellow students do all sorts of funny "stunts." The experimenting was started by J. Richard Street, professor of psychology, who is a firm believer that hypnotism will come to be used legitimately in many useful ways. He taught his students how to hypnotize, and encouraged them in their experiments.

At the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity house the boys perform in a manner highly amusing to spectators. The star hypnotist there is A. S. Hurrell, of the class of 1904, who is an expert hypnotist. He gave an exhibition before several people, and succeeded in putting E. A. Lowther, 1902, into a hypnotic state, and has his fellow student completely at his mercy. Hurrell says he can hypnotize anyone.

Chinaman Has Joke on Americans.

"In the town of Zamboanga, in the Island of Mindanao," said Representative Mercer, who has just returned from the Philippines, all Americans are called "John" by the natives, men, women and children alike. You know in the United States the almost invariable custom is to call Chinamen "John," and they do not relish it at all, as they have their names like any other nationalities. A Chinaman who had some experience with the custom referred to lived in Zamboanga, and when he heard the Americans were coming he hustled around to all the inhabitants of the village and informed them that there was nothing which the Americans regarded as a greater compliment than being called "John." Consequently, whenever an American goes in that village the natives bow and scrape and salute him as "John." Then they look pleased, and their manner indicates that a few copper coins would be appreciatively received, and they cannot understand why the Americans do not respond.

Need of Straight-Jackets.

A New Jersey girl is engaged to be married to her grandfather, but the Chicago Record-Herald expresses the hope that both may be fitted with straight-jackets before they can find a preacher.

ONE GIRL'S BRAVERY

Thirteen-Year-Old Plays Piano While Schoolhouse Is Burning.

Prevents Panic Among the Hundreds of Children as They March Out Through the Clouds of Smoke Rolling Through Corridors.

While clouds of smoke filled the hallways from a fierce fire which raged in the basement of the Lincoln school at Chicago just before noon the other day, Elbel Barker, 13 years old, daughter of Alderman John T. Barker, sat at a piano in the main corridor upstairs and played a lively two-step for the 300 children to keep time by while marching out of the burning building. Miss Barker did not cease playing until the last child had left the building, and when she tried to escape she was twice driven back by clouds of dense smoke, which by that time rolled through the corridors. She finally reached a door and went to the first floor by groping along the walls and along the stair banisters.

When the girl volunteered to play the march she was the only pupil who knew the building was on fire, for she had heard the whispered announcement that preceded the ringing of the fire-drill gong. When the gong sounded she ran from the eighth grade room and began to play. As a result of her coolness all the children were taken out safely, although a panic was narrowly averted when they reached the lower floor and found that the building was on fire.

Talking of the fire, Miss Barker said: "I knew that the building was on fire and was afraid if I did not run to the piano and begin playing the children would get excited and run down the stairs pell-mell. I tried to think of the music more than of the fire. I played a favorite march, and I made my fingers fly over the keys. I guess the pupils marched out in double-quick time. It makes me shiver now to think of being in the building, but I didn't mind it much at the time. The smoke was terrible, but I kept playing until all were out."

TWINS END FAMILY DISCORD.

Both Sides in Lawsuit Are Thus Blessed and Plaintiff Signs Defendant's Bond.

Two sets of twins brought peace in a lawsuit at Chicago the other day in the court of Justice Dooley, and such good feeling resulted that the plaintiff signed the defendant's bonds.

Joseph Krasme, 544 South Jefferson street, appeared to prosecute his relatives Esther, Lena and Anna Halperin, as well as Dora Bauer, 546 Halperin street, on a charge of conspiracy. Attorney Miles Devine represented Krasme and asked that the proceedings be continued.

"My client's wife has given birth to twins," said he. Attorney Elliott, for the defendants, stepped forward and said: "Your honor, I believe the attorney for the prosecution has set up a good ground for continuance. One of my clients, Lena Halperin, has also given birth to twins."

Krasme felt so elated over the state of affairs that he signed the defendant's bonds.

"And, your honor, my client informs me that he intends to name one of the twins after me," said Attorney Devine.

THE BRITISH COAL TRADE.

Causing a Good Deal of Apprehension on Part of Owners and Merchants.

The situation in the British coal trade is causing a good deal of apprehension on the part of owners and merchants, and there is a resumption of the outcry against the export tax which formed so prominent a feature of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's last budget, says the London correspondent of the New York Tribune. Coal exports have decreased by 150,000 tons during the first ten months of the present year, and the average number of days worked by the collieries has generally fallen off, while in most of the principal districts the supply is in excess of the demand. The iron industry, which usually accounts for from 15,000,000 to 40,000,000 tons a year, has greatly reduced its consumption, owing to the reduction in the number of furnaces in blast. In the face of all this, new collieries which were begun and old ones which were reopened during the boom last year are increasing their capacity, and there is every probability of a considerably larger quantity of coal being put on the market. Prices have not yet fallen to anything like the level of three years ago, but the decline that has already taken place leaves them five shillings below the high water mark of last year, and the tendency is to drop still lower.

Promise Immense Speed.

According to the London correspondent of the New York Tribune, promoters of the London & Brighton electric railway make the announcement that they will convey passengers the 17 miles in 22 minutes. The suggested length of their tunneling is enormous. It is proposed that there shall be 14 tunnels, with a total length of 10 1/2 miles. The scheme is looked upon as an interesting but costly experiment.

Another Case of Cruelty.

King Edward's coronation rites will last four hours, says the Chicago Tribune, during which time he will be compelled to abstain absolutely from smoking.

NEWSBOY WINS FORTUNE.

Man Who Once Blacked Boots in Newark (N. J.) Depot Leaves Riches to Sister.

Word has reached Newark, N. J., that William H. Jones, who, when a boy blacked boots and sold papers at the Lackawanna railway station in that city, had died in South Africa recently and left to his sister a fortune in mining interests and other property.

The sister, who is Jones' only surviving relative, is Mrs. Henry McCann, until lately she lived in Newark, but is now in Huntington, L. I.

Jones' father died when he was quite young. His mother was a janitor at the Broad street station of the Lackawanna road. When he was 16 years old his mother died and left him and his sister orphans. The sister, who was a few years younger than he, was taken care of by friends and the boy went west. He tried ranching and mining, with no great success, and finally decided to go to South Africa.

Jones located near Johannesburg and worked as a cook on the Rand for a time and later started a restaurant, and when business in the little eating-house was poor, as it frequently was, Jones worked in the mines. Many of the miners patronized his place, and when they were "broke," as was frequently the case, he accepted in payment for meals "scrip," which stood for interest in some of what were considered useless mines.

A lot of this scrip later proved to be shares in a mine which suddenly became a paying one. There was a rush for stock and Jones was rich. Thence went in for contracting and operated extensively as a builder.

INTEREST STUDENTS.

Berlin Conservatory Says a Pupil for Tuition Which Was Never Given.

Thousands of American musical students are awaiting the outcome of a suit which will be tried at Berlin, wherein one of the most famous conservatories in Europe seeks to recover payment for the instruction of an American girl on the ground that the contract for her tuition was continuous and the absence of any notice that she desired to terminate it.

The defendant was a pupil in the conservatory for three months, paying a term's tuition in advance. Forgetful that she had signed an agreement to give notice, she left at the end of that time without intimation to the institution. She was served a few days later with a demand for another three months' payment. The young woman's counsel, discussing the point at issue with the Chicago Record-Herald correspondent, said:

"I do not wish to try the case out of court, but I believe the attention of intending American music students, who keep the conservatories and teachers of Europe from starvation, ought to be called to this palpable injustice. Nowhere in the United States are the principles of lease law applied to ordinary educational contracts. When young men and women enter the schools and universities there they register and pay for a specific term and when that term is over their obligations are at an end."

TO TRY GLASS PAVEMENT.

Paris Will Place It Upon Her Boulevards If It Proves Successful Under Present Tests.

The Paris bureau of paving believes that it has at last discovered an ideal street pavement in the form of "desertified glass blocks," with which two main thoroughfares are now being laid, after six months' preliminary trial in the city of France. The chief of the paving bureau explained the process to the Chicago Record-Herald correspondent as follows:

"The glass is first ground to a fine powder, heated till it becomes a paste and then molded into rectangular blocks. Our experience leads us to believe that no other kind of pavement is equally strong, durable, elastic and impervious to atmospheric changes. We have placed it in the crowded streets leading off the boulevards, where it will be subject to the heaviest trial of the capital. If it realizes our expectations it will undoubtedly be substituted shortly on the boulevards for the traditional cedar blocks. It is far cheaper than the old system, requires only half-yearly repairs and is more easily kept clean."

Glass pavement has already been tried in the Swiss cities, Geneva, and Zurich, but it is not believed that it will stand the severe strain of metropolitan traffic. The municipal pavement bureau has already tried every form of pavement yet invented without satisfaction.

Houses at a Premium.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. P. had just come to Washington some days ago to secure a house adequate to their needs for a Washington winter, but were so late in their efforts that they failed to find what they desired and have taken a large suite of rooms at the New Willard for the season. So great has been the demand for large houses furnished and unfurnished, for the season in Washington that there is now scarcely an available house to be had.

Main Farmers Looking Up.

There are pessimists here, down in Maryland, the farmers and truck gardeners of that state, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, being enabled by the shortage in the west to command practically their own prices for all products.

Knowledge by Experience.

Queen Wilhelmina is noted on picking out her own husband and the Chicago Record-Herald said to say that next time perhaps she will let her state counselors look him over.

A BRILLIANT SEASON

Washington Society Planning for a Round of Gay Functions.

The New Year's Ball to Be Given by President and Mrs. Roosevelt Will Be Followed by a Series of Other Festivities.

Washington society will revel in dancing this winter as it has not done before in many years. The ball given by the president and Mrs. Roosevelt at the white house on January 3 will, of course, be the most brilliant, but following upon it on January 15 will be the great affair in the ballroom at the New Willard, for which Miss Patten, Mrs. Barney and Mrs. Townsend are patronesses. This ball, like the one to come on January 29, under the same social leadership, will be by subscription.

Miss Keen, sister of Senator Keen, who is a cousin by marriage to President Roosevelt, will give a large ball on January 4 for Miss Alice Roosevelt, and when business in the little eating-house was poor, as it frequently was, Jones worked in the mines. Many of the miners patronized his place, and when they were "broke," as was frequently the case, he accepted in payment for meals "scrip," which stood for interest in some of what were considered useless mines.

A lot of this scrip later proved to be shares in a mine which suddenly became a paying one. There was a rush for stock and Jones was rich. Thence went in for contracting and operated extensively as a builder.

These, with the "small and early" dances, limited in number, but exclusive, and the several bachelors' cotillions with other smaller dances at the homes of prominent officials will make this a notable season in Washington society. Mrs. Draper is having the ballroom in her large Connecticut avenue house enlarged by about 30 feet each way, which indicates a ball or so for that residence.

CONDEMN AMERICAN ENGINES

Superintendent of Burmah Railroad Says They Are Poor in Design and Workmanship.

Bad design, bad workmanship and bad material characterize the mogul engines supplied the Burmah railways by the Baldwin works of Philadelphia, according to the official report made to the government of India by C. E. Cardew, superintendent of locomotives for Burmah.

"These engines," says the report, "suggest the inference that the Baldwin works have had no particular experience in the construction of engines of meter gauge and have merely reproduced on a small scale engines of standard gauge, apparently overlooking the fact that while the size of the engine has been reduced the size of the engineer and fireman remains the same as in the case of standard gauge engines."

"The accuracy of interchangeable parts is nothing like as exact as that of the British engines, and there are clear signs that they received very rough adjustment and manipulation by workmen not too handy with tools. The material used in certain parts is distinctly bad. Some of the engines broke down solely on account of bad metal used in their construction. The consumption of coal is extravagant, and it will need a radical alteration of design to cure this and other defects."

WENT LONGEST WAY ROUND.

A Striking Instance of Intelligent Telegraphic Service in Rural England.

A recent instance illustrates the intelligent telegraph service as it is conducted under government supervision in rural England. A telegraph was sent from Dunwich to Westleton, Suffolk, villages about two miles apart. It took one and one-quarter hours in transit. Inquiry showed that it was first telephoned from Dunwich to Southwold, four miles as the crow flies; then telegraphed from there to Lowestoft, 11 miles. From Lowestoft, which lies in the extreme north of Suffolk, it was telegraphed to Ipswich, in the south, a distance in a straight line of 38 miles. From there it was transmitted another 18 miles to Saxmundham; then a few miles to Dursham, whence it was sent by foot messenger to Westleton. A boy could have walked the distance in about a third of the time.

Woman Who Cannot Laugh.

Notwithstanding her baptismal name, Miss Susie Jenkins, of Philadelphia, is a most serious-minded young woman. She is known as the girl who has never laughed. Not only has Miss Jenkins never laughed in her 20 years of life and never felt a desire to do so, but she finds the performance a physical impossibility. Time after time she has made the effort to produce voluntary laughter. Her friends in their attempts to aid her have employed every known artificial means to induce expressive hilarity. Miss Jenkins is looking for a specialist in nervous diseases who will be able to cure her remarkable temperamental idiosyncrasy.

No Danger for Some of Us.

A Philadelphia bank teller has been stricken with smallpox because he handled germ-infected currency. This is unpleasant news, says the Baltimore Herald, but it will hardly abate the fondness of men, women and children, in Philadelphia and elsewhere, to handle money, even if it is not fresh from the mint or the bureau of engraving and printing.

A NEW TORPEDO.

Application of a Wireless System to the Control of These Terrible Engines of War.

Commander Richardson Clover, United States navy, attaché of the United States embassy at London, who with his family arrived at New York to spend the holidays, will report to the government on an exhibition of a working model of a torpedo operated by the Marconi system of wireless electrical transmission. The inventor is a man named Gardiner. By means of the application of his idea, Commander Clover said the inventor believed that he could start, stop, start again, steer and fire a torpedo from a keyboard on a ship or on land, using the Marconi wireless system in conjunction with his device, which is the apparatus on the torpedo.

In an exhibition of a working model in the inventor's rooms in London Commander Clover said that the inventor did everything that he had said he could do. He showed that he could start and stop the propeller and turn the rudder in either direction at will, as well as ring the bell which represented the explosion of the torpedo.

The Vacacons and the Oring Armstrong systems, the commander said, could only do one thing, and then became powerless. The different operations in the Gardiner torpedo were determined by the length of the wave. One length of wave started the motor of the torpedo, another stopped it, a third pulled the rudder to one side, a fourth to the other, and the fifth exploded it.

A defect in the mechanism appeared to be that there was no position which could be given to the rudder when moved from its normal position except hard astern or hard to starboard, as the case might be. The torpedo to be operated in this way could be only partly submerged. A mast equipped with a wire to receive the wave must be used on it. This, of course, might serve as a warning to an enemy. The torpedo was in the experimental stage, Commander Clover said, and had not been accepted by any government.

USE OPEN FIREPLACES.

President Roosevelt Shows Preference for This Cheery Method of Heating White House.

With a thought to solid comfort, the architects of the white house planned an open fireplace for almost every room in the house, but not since the furnaces were put in years ago have the open grates been generally used until the advent of President Roosevelt and his family. Mrs. Roosevelt always has open fires in the rooms in which she receives her guests on reception days, thus giving the otherwise beautiful but unhomelike rooms a great air of cheerfulness. The president, and, in fact, the entire family, uses the library more than has any president's family in many years, and an open fire glows on the hearth all the time. A lot of the other living rooms have open grates, and they are kept burning most of the time since the cold weather came on.

In the other parts of the white house the open grates also are used, and nothing so appropriate as the southern air of the white house as the carrying of coal in huge scuttles from room to room to replenish the fires.

The wood is carried in a long-handled, hood-shaped article, and it is a matter of unending interest to the northern-bred children of the president to watch the firemen keep the fires going. They are planning great times for Christmas, when, upon popping over the bright coals is to be their chief amusement.

A WONDERFUL CAVE.

Found in Montana—Explorers Believe Earthquake Destroyed Its Inhabitants.

A new and wonderful cave, believed to be one of the largest known, has been discovered in the canyon of the Jefferson, on the line of the Northern Pacific railway, about 50 miles east of Butte, Mont. An exploration party from Butte spent several days in the cave, going over an area of ten miles and to a depth of nearly 1,000 feet.

A large river with a cataract of about 100 feet was explored for a distance of several miles without discovering its source or outlet. A few articles of stone and copper utensils and some bones, believed to be human bones, were also found in one of the large apartments of the cave. There were other evidences that at some time in a prehistoric period the cave was inhabited.

It is believed that an earthquake closed the entrance to the cave and killed its inhabitants. The formation of stalactite and other natural decorations throughout the cave are most beautiful.

Find Mine Rich in Platinum.

The new Rambler mine in Grand Encampment district in Wyoming has been found to be rich in platinum. Assays of the ore give 1 1/2 to 6.80 ounces of platinum to the ton. The ore is worth \$44 a ton in copper and \$100 a ton in platinum. The daily output of the mine is 50 tons. The discovery will make millions of the mine's owners. The Rambler is the only mine in the world producing both platinum and copper. The find places the Grand Encampment district among the richest in the world, as it produces platinum, gold, silver, nickel, copper, lead and zinc.

Western Justice.

Chastity at cards is legally held to be larceny in the state of Washington, but, says the Chicago Record-Herald, in some of the other far western states it is merely suicide.