

GROUCH GERM IS DISCOVERED

New Form of Bacillus Particularly Active in Hot Weather Found in Kansas City.

Kansas City, Mo.—A new germ, as yet unnamed, has just been discovered in Kansas City. It is a hot weather bacillus and affects young and old alike, being particularly noxious in adults. It is said, and producing a chronic case of what ordinarily is called the "grouch."

The discoverers of this germ are Dr. E. L. Mathis, chief probation officer, and his assistants, who constantly are making a study of human nature and, by the way, this particular bug is one which attacks human nature only.

It is a hot weather bug," said Dr. Mathis, "and can produce the worst case of grouch in a short time that you ever saw."

Just now the juvenile officers have little to do so far as the juvenile court is concerned, but we are kept busy as bees looking after what we call hot weather business.

"Somehow or other, this hot weather seems to 'peave' everybody. It takes the form of grouch in adults and the form of what the grown-ups are pleased to call 'devilment' in children."

"A man lies down to take a nap of a hot afternoon. He is just tucked out by the heat, he says, and a nap will straighten him out. Just as he gets comfortably settled, boys or girls in the neighborhood begin to romp, and, of course, they call back and forth, and the would-be napper is annoyed."

Then the irate adult goes outdoors. He is hard hit by the weather bug. He loses his temper and gives the children a calling down. The bug, in turn, attacks the juveniles, and they answer back and make life miserable for the complaining one.

"About that time we get a call concerning a big disturbance. Some of the men go out, learn it is the same old story, and it is up to them to explain to the adult that children must play and that they can't be expected to conduct their game after the fashion of a Friends' meeting. They also lecture the children and take steps to restore the equilibrium of the neighborhood which is ravaged by the summer bug."

The juvenile officers have not gone into the investigation of the bug in scientific fashion, and as yet have worked out no cure.

DAINTY LITTLE FLY-ABOUTS

Three Tiny Monoplanes Ordered for Use of New York Society Women—Weights 180 Pounds.

New York.—Three of the tiniest, prettiest and speediest Vendome monoplanes are now on the way across the ocean and are expected shortly. These dainty little air craft promise to be just the thing to satisfy the growing fad for aviation among American women. Ever since Clifford B. Harmon took up in his Farman biplane Mrs. Harmon, Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt and other women have declared their desire for aeroplaning.

It is announced that three pretty French women aviators are to follow to this country shortly after the arrival of these small airships. They will be costumed as the women aviator should be and will be prepared to demonstrate and instruct American women in the art of flying.

Mrs. De Villiers, the representative for the Vendome aeroplane, was at Mineola, L. I., the other day, and said that the little monoplanes are being brought to this country as quickly as possible. At least one of the three machines will be shipped to the aviation grounds in Mineola, where it will make daily flights. It is the smallest one-person fly-about in the world, and weighs 60 pounds less than the famous Santos-Dumont Demoselle.

The Vendome monoplane is the work of Raoul Vendome, a French builder of aeroplanes. It is equipped with a 12-horsepower Anzani motor, and complete, ready for flying, weighs 180 pounds.

AIR CARS IN MARKET SOON

Great Activity in Manufacture of Aeroplanes is Predicted by American Manufacturer.

New York.—In ten years aeroplanes will be in general use by private citizens for business and pleasure; not, perhaps, to so great an extent as the automobile is now, but to such a degree that their appearance will excite no comment whatever. This, at least, is the prediction of an American automobile manufacturer who has just returned from Europe.

As a result of the progress shown on the other side of the ocean and of the enthusiasm aroused up less than a dozen big concerns in and about this city are rushing plans for the manufacture of various types of air craft.

Several of these are companies now engaged in making automobiles who purpose to take on the manufacture of air cars as a side line, and one such big firm is already advertising its readiness to supply aeroplanes to all who care to purchase. Others purpose to devote themselves exclusively to meeting the demands of air navigators.

Moose in Hat in Church.

Berlin.—Communion was caused in a church at Dornbirn, Bavaria, by a lady who felt something moving in her hat, and found a mouse hidden beneath her artificial flowers.

BACKS INDIAN LORE

Chief Census Agent Tells of Condition in Fairbank's District.

Alaska Report Declares Redskins of Far North Count Only by Sun and Moon and "Sleeps"—Habits and Character of People.

Washington.—"Leatherstocking" is verified and Fenimore Cooper is vindicated and their substantiation comes, as it should, through the census bureau. It is from faraway Alaska, but it is official.

The substantiation is found in a report from Chief Census Agent McKenzie telling all about the taking of the census in the Fairbanks district.

Mr. McKenzie gives assurance that the Indians do measure time by the "snows" and "suns" and distances by "sleeps." Indeed, he asserts that they have no other standards of time or measurement, and in relating the fact he cites an instance which throws no little light on the difficulties of enumerating the red men.

"Only the very young children, who have been educated in the government schools," he says, "have any knowledge of their ages or births, and the agents were instructed to use the age and birth months as nearly as could be."

"Time with them is computed on suns and snows, and distances by sleeps. Marriages, separations, births and deaths are all based upon such calculations and we were obliged to base our information in the same way."

He then gives this instance: "An Indian buck claimed to have lived '200 snows.' After much talk and use of the sign language it was determined that he was about eighty years old. He was found to have been twenty snows old when he got his first woman; to have kept her 'four snows, when she got away'; that he got more woman and kept her five snows and then she died; that he got no woman for 'twenty snows more,' and finally that he got young chicken and keep her all time ever since, now on twenty-five or thirty snows."

Regarding the habits and character of the people, he says: "As a class they are indolent, lazy and dirty, although in recent years the teachers have taught the younger ones that dirt has been the cause of much of their illness and the present generation is keeping themselves healthier by bathing. Their homes are filthy, as a rule, and conducive to the diseases with which the Indians are most afflicted."

Temperature from 30 to 70 degrees below zero; snow from three to twenty feet deep; wind blowing a blizzard most of the time; no human habitation in sight; no covering at night except a tent, and no "grub" that was not many times frozen.

These are some of the conditions under which the census was taken in the interior.

The report covering the work in the fourth or inland district of the territory has just been received by Director Durand, and while the story is simply told, it is a thrilling narrative of adventure, showing that when Uncle Sam starts out to round up his children he spares no expense to locate them and satisfy himself as to their status.

Mr. McKenzie's narrative comes in advance of his figures, so that it is impossible to give the population of the country covered by him and his twenty assistants. For reasons of its own, the census bureau determined to number the Alaskans during mid-winter.

Mr. McKenzie made his headquarters at the mining town of Fairbanks. His first special agent was appointed on the 10th of last November and the work was completed by the 11th of last April, when McKenzie left for "the states." His experience in getting out of the country was by no means as thrilling as some of his experiences while engaged in the work, but it was stirring enough to arouse interest in a warm spot.

Hardship necessarily was involved in the work. Only men lured to the rigors of the Arctic climate were employed, and while they suffered severely, none of them lost their lives.

Churches and school houses in the interior of Alaska are few and far between. Necessarily they are confined to the towns and Indian settlements. Most of the Indian schools as well as the church services are conducted by the missionaries.

The white people do not attend either the Indian schools or the Indian churches, so that those of the outlying districts get their religion and their education at home. In the matter of education Mr. McKenzie reports that the home system works very well, the long nights of the winter causing an enforced confinement of children that is conducive to study. He says that many of them do even better than students in the schools.

Mr. McKenzie also reports that there is very little sickness among the white inhabitants of Alaska, and he says that few of those who are sick will acknowledge the fact. There is no fever, but some pneumonia. Most of the Indians are afflicted with tuberculosis and other diseases of civilization are prevalent.

Eggs by Weight in New York.

New York.—Eggs and bread will be sold by weight only in Greater New York in the near future, was announced by Commissioner of Weights and Measures Driscoll.

SIXTY VARIETIES OF PEAS

English Firm Shows Many Kinds of Vegetables—Small Production of Commercial Value.

London.—The average man, who enjoys a dish of green peas and knows the delicacy merely as "peas," will be astonished to hear that at the Royal Horticultural society's show at Holland park one well known firm alone showed 60 varieties of the vegetable.

Though the ordinary consumer does not know it, each variety possesses a different quality and taste, which the expert can detect.

A representative of one of the biggest firms of seed merchants in London said that the different varieties of peas were grown almost exclusively for show purposes.

"For commercial purposes," he said, "only the dwarf varieties are grown. The expense of 'sticking' the taller peas would run away with the grower's profit."

"The finer varieties of peas are grown for culinary purposes only by expert gardeners in private gardens. They are much finer in taste than the ordinary pea, but they have no commercial value, because the average purchaser will neither pay extra, nor, indeed, ask for a particular kind."

"At the moment, as a horticulturist, I should recommend the Battleship pea as the best, but the grower for the market is producing quite a different variety. He is growing a dwarf pea of 2 feet 6 inches or 3 feet at the most in height."

The manager of a popular restaurant, who was also consulted on the subject, said that the best quality of peas could be supplied to the average diner "if he would order or demand them." The ordinary diner out, he said, "does not realize that vegetables, like wines or cigars, vary in quality. He orders peas without any specification."

SPOONING IN PUBLIC PARKS

Adam and Eve Made Love in Eden, Therefore Their Children Should Do the Same.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Public courtship was upheld in the pulpit by Rev. G. L. Morrill, pastor of the People's church. This was in answer to a popular appeal made to the city authorities to stop "spooning in the parks."

"Adam and Eve were placed in Eden to spoon, and their children have been at it ever since. Mingling winds, nodding flowers, bills that kiss the skies, creeks that mingle with rivers, and waves that clasp each other, are but a commentary on Solomon's words that 'two are better than one,'" said he.

"The rich have palatial parlors or private parks in which to make love, or they go to ocean or mountain by auto, train or ship, where they plan marriages that often end in divorce and death."

"The poor walk or go in street cars to parks and lakes, where they read books of nature and learn lessons of repose, cheer, humility, economy and beneficence, then meet and mate and make happy marriages and home. Lovemaking, which is proper in the home or parlor, is just as proper in a public park. What is wrong is wrong everywhere, in public or private."

WOULD DATE ALL HEN'S EGGS

Colorado Legislature to Be Asked to Enact Such Law at Next Regular Session.

Denver, Col.—At the next regular session of the state legislature a bill will be introduced to compel farmers to stamp eggs offered for sale with their names and the dates they are laid. The bill will be introduced by Harvey E. Garman from Denver county.

The object of the law, Mr. Garman says, is to enable the purchaser to tell just how fresh an egg is when he buys it. This will be a public benefaction, he thinks, as most of the people who come to Colorado for their health depend upon fresh eggs.

"It is not an easy thing to purchase eggs that are fresh," said Mr. Garman the other day, commenting on the proposed law. "And the consumptive seeking health knows this better than anyone else. The grocer always has on hand what he calls 'fresh' eggs, 'seconds' and 'cracks,' and some grocers have been known to keep in stock eggs which on their books are marked 'rot.' The eggs marked 'fresh' mean nothing more than that the eggs are the freshest the grocer happens to have on hand."

TRAP 200 CATS IN A MARKET

Vicious Animals Fight Captors, But Are Put into Baskets for Annihilation.

New York.—Wooling, spitting, scratching and biting, 200 cats were cornered, one by one, the other night in the old Washington market and dumped into baskets to be disposed of by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Agents of the society, policemen, watchmen, butchers, fishmongers, green grocers and all the little world of the market joined in a midnight hunt that, for activity and noise, outdid anything ever chronicled from Africa.

For years the cats, at first encouraged to keep down the rats, had run wild and increased in garrets and subcellars until they became an intolerable pest. The market is now in process of renovation.

COST OF MARRIAGES

Some People Try to See How Much Can Be Spent.

Amusing Story of Clergyman in London Who Was Out for All the Cash He Could Get—Some of Accessories He Would Furnish.

London.—Some of the fashionable weddings that have taken place lately would seem to indicate that the people concerned were anxious to see how much money could be spent on the affair. In England the ceremony is much more complicated. The most usual form of marriage is by "banns." Notice is given to the clergyman of the church where the young couple desire to get married, the announcement is given out three Sundays running before the wedding day, and for this the bridegroom pays the clerk 50 cents. If neither of the parties live in this parish, one or other of them must do so for three weeks before the ceremony takes place, but this condition is often filled by the bridegroom taking a room and putting a stick or bag in it for the required time.

Of course, you have to pay the clergyman something for performing the ceremony for you, and the legal fee is \$1.25, with 50 cents to the clerk, and a further 50 cents for a copy of the certificate of marriage, but each clergyman asks what he chooses, and some of them place their services rather high.

Recently a young couple who live in the suburbs decided to get married at one of the churches in the Strand, in London, as this was a convenient center for all their friends, and also near Charing Cross station, from which they were starting for Paris immediately after the ceremony. It was to be a quiet affair, no bridesmaids, no bouquets, no carriages, no red carpet, etc. So one the morning the bride's father started off to find the incumbent of one of these London churches, an individual with a double-barreled name and, incidentally, a double-barreled locality as well. After a great effort the father got him to talk about the wedding, and finally inquired the fee.

"The fee would be \$25," said his reverence. "And, of course, you would like some music? We supply that and it would be \$5." The father was about to say something, when the padre broke in again:

"And you would like some red carpet put down, I suppose? We supply that for \$5."

"Oh," began the man out of whose pocket the money was to come for all this, when—

"And if it's a wet day, you would require an awning," continued the clergyman. "We supply the awning and the fee would be \$5."

"Yes," gasped the father, casting about in his mind for a way of escape, when the other went on:

"And, of course, you would have some flowers. My daughter always does the flowers, and I'm sure she would be delighted to do them for you." Before the astonished father could reply, the clergyman rang the bell and requested the servant who answered it to ask "Miss Louise" to step in. "Miss Louise" duly arrived, and expressed herself enchanted at the prospect of doing the flowers for the wedding.

"And what do you think it would cost, dear?" asked her father. "Do you suppose you could do it for \$25?"

As this last straw was laid on the poor victim's back, he roused himself and managed to stammer that he must consult his daughter before making the final arrangements, and made for the door, trusting to escape. But the clergyman had reserved a parting shot. Taking up a small paper-covered book from the table, he said:

"This is a small book on the history of the church. I am sure your daughter will like to read all about it, as she is thinking of being married there."

"Thank you; I'll give it to her," said the innocent man.

"That'll be 25 cents," said his reverence, and the unfortunate father placed the money on the table and fled for his life. Needless to say the marriage did not take place at his church.

CATS SLAUGHTER GAME BIRDS

Semi-Wild Animals Become Serious Menace in Oregon—Plan for Extirmination.

Marshfield, Ore.—Calvin Wright, one of Coos county's game wardens, gives it as his opinion that the worst enemy of the game birds in this locality is the house cat which has become wild. Mr. Wright has just returned from an extensive trip up and down the coast country, and he declares that the cats are doing away with the game birds.

Coos county is a great place for cats, both in the cities and the country districts, and they have increased with such rapidity that there are not homes sufficient for all of them. As a consequence the cats have become wild and run in the woods. Mr. Wright says that the increase of these semi-wild animals in the woods is much greater than would be imagined. He says that the cats not only break up the nests and kill or drive away the old birds, but that they devour scores of the young before they are able to protect themselves.

So great has become the menace that Deputy Wright will take up the cat matter with State Game Warden Stephenson and will advocate the paying of a bounty for the killing of cats which are not properly confined.

BLUEJAY ROBS BOY OF HAT

Another Steals Pie Off Table, While Others Take Nuts Away From Squirrels.

La Fayette, Ind.—An unusual theft was committed at the picnic grounds at Tecumseh Trail, near this city.

Mrs. Frank Morris and Mrs. John Thompson of Lebanon, with Mrs. Morris' two sons, aged 8 and 11, were seated at a table on a bluff overlooking the Wabash river eating luncheon, when a large bluejay darted down from a sycamore tree and seizing a straw hat from the older boy's head flew away with it.

The members of the party were so bewildered they scarcely knew what had happened. The boy cried bitterly when he saw the bird flying away with his headgear.

A few minutes before the hat was taken a bluejay had swooped down from a tree and stolen a piece of pie off the table.

The lad's hat was a large one, and weighed almost as much as the bird that carried it away.

The bluejays at the Trail and at the Soldiers' home at the top of the hill are unusually bold this year. The aged soldiers and widows feed peanuts to the pet squirrels about the grounds, and the bluejays, from their lofty perches in the oak trees dart to the ground and take the nuts away from the squirrels.

Sometimes the squirrels, when they have eaten all the peanuts they desire, bury them in the ground. The bluejays carefully watch the operation and then fly down, scratch up the earth and carry away the peanuts.

The picnic party watched the bluejay fly away with the hat, and as it soared aloft another bird, evidently an accomplice, met it and they flew away together. Persons who doubt the truth of the story may obtain affidavits from those who saw the incidents.

BUYING READY-MADE GOWNS

London Dressmakers Being Put Out of Business by New Custom of English Women.

London.—The demand for ready-made gowns in London today is so great that the small dressmaker complains that she is being crushed out of existence. According to a report made by an inspector of factories and workshops there has never been a time when the ready-made clothing industry flourished as at present.

Such clothing can be bought in shops at all prices from \$1.10 to \$400. Most of the cheaper dresses are made in factories and one style is reproduced often two hundred times.

As the ready-made trade increases naturally the dress trade, that is, the sale of material by the yard, decreases and the small dressmakers cannot get sufficient work. The convenience of entering a shop, seeing a gown, trying it on and having it sent home to wear the same day or, if slight alterations have to be made, the next day, has proved too alluring for the London woman and her suburban sister. Another reason for the existing state of affairs is the fact that the present style of gown requires very little fitting, soft folds serve to drape the figure and boning and steels are rare. Naturally the cheapness of the ready-made dress adds to its attractiveness.

WHISTLED AS HE BREATHED

X-Ray Examination Showed Little Tin Toy Lodged in Windpipe of Ten-Year-Old Boy.

New York.—A round tin whistle about an inch in diameter, with which ten-year-old Sampson Sheffer, son of Joseph Sheffer, a merchant of Baldwin, L. I., had been playing, slipped from between his lips and lodged in his windpipe. The boy ran frightened to his father and tried to tell him what had happened, but he could not talk. Instead, each gasp of breath produced a muffled, hissing whistle.

The whistling continued for more than an hour, when at last the boy managed to make his plight known to a nearby doctor, who had been called, and who advised that the boy be taken to New York, where the X-ray could be used. He was taken in an automobile across the Williamsburg bridge to the Har Moriah hospital, at Second street and Avenue A.

There, still gasping forth a whistling sound with his breath, he was put on the operating table, the X-ray applied, and the whistle found at the bottom of the windpipe. It was finally removed.

Charity Nets Him \$500,000.

Macon, Ga.—Shortly before the Klondike boom W. V. Miller, a motor-man, met J. F. Curley, a miner, stranded and without funds. He took him in, fed him, and gave him money to pay his fare as far as Birmingham.

That was the last he ever heard of Curley until the other day, when he received word the miner had died in Dawson City, Alaska, and left him a fortune estimated at \$500,000.

France Accepts Washington Statue.

Paris.—The French government has accepted a bronze copy of Houdon's statue of George Washington, which was presented by the state of Virginia through M. Jusserand, the French ambassador to the United States. The statue will be installed at the chateau of Versailles in a position opposite the statue of Josephine.

HOW TO KEEP BUTTER PURE

London Firm Sells Microbes to Be Introduced into Cream to Kill Decay Germs.

London.—Inoculated butter—guaranteed to keep fresh for months—into which millions of beneficial bacteria have been introduced for the purpose of preserving it, will be in common use in the near future, and the part to be played by boric acid in butter will henceforward be played by the active microbes.

The production of these preservative microorganisms is the object of a new company, which has recently opened its offices at Crickwood, and here large laboratories are being installed for the purpose of raising millions of billions of bacteria for use in the dairies of the world.

The manager of the new company said that the discovery of the preservative microbes was the result of years of scientific research.

"Its object," he said, "is to fight other microbes that are found in butter which have a harmful effect upon it—that of turning it rancid. The only way of combating these germs has hitherto been by the use of preservative chemicals, which are harmful adulterants."

"But now my firm has succeeded in finding an antidote germ to the harmful one, and by introducing it into the milk—before churning—butter is made which will keep fresh and pure for a long time."

"The inoculation of the milk has the effect, broadly speaking, of setting up a fight between the opposing armies of germs and the bad ones, that would destroy the freshness of the butter, are destroyed by the harmless ones which are introduced."

The microbes are sold in the form of a clear liquid, in small bottles, which is added to buttermilk and prepared in a certain way before use. When the preparation is ready one gallon of it is added to every 20 gallons of cream in the butter churn, the rest of the butter-making process proceeding in the usual way.

The prices of the cultures used in these processes vary from 75 cents to \$2.50 a bottle, and full instructions to dairymen are issued with each consignment. The cultures are equally effective in margarine.

SNAKES IN SPORTING CLASS

Pennsylvania Reptiles Make Good at Fishing Trout—Also Attack Farmer's Pig.

Altoona, Pa.—Two recent incidents prove the Blair county snake to be in the sporting class, though not always quite lucky in his hunting and fishing experiences.

Before returning to the city from his summer home at Royer, Postmaster George Fox of this city went down to Piney creek to look for trout.

As Fox was crossing the bridge he heard a commotion at the water's edge and, looking down, saw a water snake trying to swallow a seven-inch trout. Procuring his landing net, for he is a noted fisherman, Fox, assisted by George D. Cook, a Harrisburg merchant, who has been his guest for several days, landed both the snake and the trout. The snake never let go of the trout until a cudgel landed on its neck. The trout later made a nice meal for an Altoona legend.

Only the day before an Altoona rail-roader discovered the same snake, an old inhabitant of the pool, devouring trout, but the reptile got away. Its chief diet for a long time has been trout, it being an adept at catching them.

Hearing a pig emitting unearthly squeals, Harry Jones, a farmer, near Ebensburg, hastened to his pig sty and was astounded to find one of his pigs encircled by a blacksnake and slowly being squeezed to death. Jones grabbed up a rake and killed the reptile, which measured six feet four inches in length, four inches in diameter and 12 inches in circumference.

IN A BEE-SQUIRREL BATTLE

Prowling Boy Has Time of His Life Depending Himself While Up in a Honey Tree.

Germania, Pa.—To have enraged a colony of half a dozen flying squirrels as to have been viciously and disastrously attacked by them was the experience of Harry Sloan, an eighteen-year-old Stewardson township boy, while the incident as a whole has suddenly disclosed a trait of this type of squirrel that even old woodsmen and hunters never knew of.

Flying squirrels have always been looked upon with more or less contempt, and many gunners utterly refused to shoot them because of a superstition, something akin to that with reference to a white doe, that the killing would bring bad luck to some member of the offender's family.

Young Sloan was engaged at that business over in the Kettle creek region when he had the experience of his life. He invaded the tree inhabited by bees and squirrels and the latter attacked him, one after another, as fast as the bees themselves, and equalled them in the infliction of an ugly gash on the eye. Sloan was almost blinded, but he finally groped his way down along the tree to the ground, though the aroused squirrels continued their onslaught until he was squarely upon the ground and able to defend himself with a cudgel.