

LIVING OVER DYNAMITE.

Dangerous Duties of crews of Powder Boats That Anchor Off Jersey Flats.

Sleeping, eating, cooking, living day and night over enough stick dynamite to blow a good-size building to finders may not seem a very attractive mode of life...

The dynamite stored in the powder fleet is simply the reserve for use in this city. Much dynamite is exported from New York, but it is taken directly to the steamships...

THE TROLLEY FISHERMAN.

Lines Cast in Pleasant Places, by Hill or Meadow or Running Brook.

"That the house trolley—a clean and comfortable little home of several rooms, with its own motor—will become a fact I have not the least doubt," says Albert Bigelow Paine, in World's Work.

"I must not forget the trolley fisherman. Fishermen are always irresponsible, but the trolley fisherman has outdone in irresponsibility anything heretofore recorded."

AN OBLIGING SHERIFF.

Case His Prisoner the Privilege of Sleeping in Jail if He Will Be Disposed.

"I have been spending a part of the summer on the island of Nantucket," said the summer girl, "and among other interesting relics of early New England life I saw the old massive wooden jail, which has so far departed from the use for which it was built as to become one of the sights," says the New York Times.

There are many interesting stories connected with this old prison, and the most modern is the funniest of all. It sounds improbable, but I was assured by several persons whose word I could not doubt that it was quite true.

"It happened some years ago that an islander was convicted of some offense, and the judge who came to the island from the mainland for the trial decided to make an example of him and sentenced him to jail for three months."

HOHENZOLLERN DEATH DICE.

Relic of Historic Tragedy Presented to the Museum by Emperor William.

The German emperor has presented to the Hohenzollern museum the famous "death dice," by the help of which one of his ancestors decided a difficult case toward the middle of the seventeenth century, states the Berlin correspondent of the Express.

A beautiful young girl had been murdered, and suspicion fell on two soldiers, Ralph and Alfred, who had been rivals for her hand.

Both denied their guilt strenuously, and torture failed to extract a confession from either of them. Prince Frederick William, the Kaiser's ancestor, ordered dice to be brought in order that the two soldiers should throw for death, the loser to be executed as the murderer.

This trial by chance was conducted with great pomp and ceremony, and the prince himself attended to superintend the appeal of divine intervention, as he regarded it. Ralph had the first throw, and he threw two sixes, thus obtaining the highest possible number.

Alfred fell on his knees and prayed: "Almighty God, Thou knowest that I am guiltless; protect me, I beseech Thee." Then he threw the dice, and with such force that one of them broke in two parts.

The one that remained unbroken showed six, one part of the broken die showed six and the second part of the broken die showed one, giving a total of thirteen, or one more than Ralph's throw.

The whole assembly was filled with astonishment at the wonder. Ralph, regarding it as a sign from heaven, confessed his guilt, and the prince, exclaiming, "God has spoken!" sentenced him to death.

THIRD-CLASS TRAVEL.

Mode Which Sets Everybody at Ease, Whether of High or Low Degree.

Nowadays everybody travels third—that is, if one may be allowed the expression—some of convenience, there is no class or set of people, unless, of course, it be royalty, of whom we may meet representatives in a third-class railway carriage, says the London Spectator.

Every one is on a footing of equality. It is perhaps the only perfectly neutral ground. We believe there are men who, if they never traveled by train, would never know by actual experience anything about those below them in position. But for this meeting ground the working classes would remain for them simply a picture or a problem. They see a crowd in the street; they discuss wages or the housing question; they admire the rolling figure of a farm laborer thrown into relief by a sunset, and wonder, from an aesthetic point of view, why any one should prefer to live in a slum. Beyond this they know nothing. With the appearance of their domestic servants they are, of course, familiar, but often they know little of their personalities. Again, there are others—generally women—who make a point of visiting occasionally at the houses of poor people, but even in this case they often remain not much the wiser. Both hosts and guests are generally shy and somewhat embarrassed. They talk respectively down and up to each other's supposed level, neither are quite natural, and the end of the interview comes as a relief. But in a train we are all at our ease, even the poorest and the least educated.

AUTOMOBILE SORE-EYES.

Inflammation Caused by Rapid Passage Through Dusty Roads.

It has been noticed that those who ride much in automobiles are subject to inflammation of the outer coat of the eye, known as the conjunctiva. This form of inflammation is called conjunctivitis, says Medical Talk for the Home. It produces a redness and soreness of the inner side of the lids, both upper and under, and on the white part of the eye ball. A watery discharge occurs, the veins are enlarged, and other disagreeable symptoms of sore eyes are present.

It is caused by the rapid passage which hurls the particles of dust in the air with great force against the eyes, as well as cooling and drying the eye unnaturally by the rapid motion.

Wearing goggles is a measure will operate as a preventive. But in spite of this precaution many cases of automobile sore eyes do occur.

Those who have been in the habit of indulging themselves in any way because they could not afford to ride in automobiles can at least have the consolation that they are not liable to be afflicted with automobile conjunctivitis.

The kindly neighbor. "My dear," said the lady, "I contribute to his wife. I wish you would realize that my business affairs are not within your scope. I don't like this habit of yours of always putting your fingers in my pie."

"I want you to understand," retorted the wife, "that I am going to exercise every right I have. As your wife—"

"And I want you to understand," interrupted the cannibal husband with some heat, "that if you keep on putting your fingers in the pie, the first thing you know all the rest of you will go into a potpie."

Sighed the woman returned to her household duties. Judge.

Very hateful. Husband—You don't appear to like Mrs. Sweetie.

Wife—The horrid thing! I hate her! Next time we meet I'll kiss her only once and I shan't ask after her baby—N. Y. Weekly.

ROUSING TRAVELERS.

Keeping Sleepy Passengers Awake in the Stations.

Railway Employes Have Got It Down to Almost an Art—Some Who Are Very Hard to Handle.

In every waiting-room of a big railroad station there is a special officer whose duty it is to keep travelers awake. Of course, he keeps a watch for professional loafers as well, but his principal duty is to see that waiting passengers do not sleep over train time.

In Broad street station, the Reading terminal and the Baltimore & Ohio station, these special officers are adept at rousing sleepers. They almost always do it gently, says the Philadelphia Press.

After long years of experience, however, waking sleepy railway travelers may approach an art. In the beginning one of the first things to be determined is whether a passenger is dead to the world from travel and loss of sleep, or whether he is dazed still from whisky. In either case the officer has not only the time to make observations, but every opportunity and in either case he may read signs of the better way of proceeding with the individual.

If whisky has been conducive to slumber, a safe and telling method of procedure is for the officer to step lightly but firmly on the man's foot. High on the instep is the most effective spot for the application of pressure. The effect is disturbing, without the disturbed one's recognizing the source of the irritation. Two or three passages of the officer at minute intervals, each time with the application of a police shoe where it does the most good, are sufficient for any but aggravated cases of inebriety.

For these aggravated cases an application of a faucet of unboiled water alone will do. Regulations will not admit of a conductor's taking a drunken man aboard a train and he must be sobered before he passes the gates. Water applied to the back of the neck from a half-inch faucet, allowing for the natural leakage down the spinal column of the intoxicated one, will do the work in three minutes. In most cases these drunken ones are victims of cold nights; they go out for something warming, take too much, return to the warmth of the station waiting-rooms, and are drunk in five minutes.

Oddly enough, the drunken man who is subjected to a douches of cold water seldom resents the treatment. He may even thank the officer for sobering him up and may express the most cheerful countenance at his improved feelings.

The really ugly man to awaken is the man who by nature is sour, perfectly sober, and yet worn out with travel and loss of sleep. Such a man may be naturally a sound sleeper and hard to awaken, and frequently he strikes out in a blind rage, without realizing what his impulses are. Several years ago a cowboy of this peculiar temperament and condition was sleeping in a dark corner of the general waiting-room, and the officer went over to him, touching the fellow on the shoulder at the first, and finally had to shake him vigorously.

Apparently the fellow was awake, and it was explained that the cowboy's train already had been called; but after the officer had gone away he turned to find the cowboy sleeping again. To see if the man was shamming the officer stood over him for half a minute, before he finally reached down with one finger and raised the fellow's chin until the light struck into his face.

Instantly, like a jack in the box, the cowboy's eyes flared wide open, and he sprang to his feet, striking out with right and left like the kick of a mule. It was a busy mixing up for two minutes, but the blue of civic authority was out at the last, in time to put the cowboy aboard the train for his native West.

In the main men are the sleepers in a railroad station. Women are more nervous and more anxious than men, and, while a man will go to sleep with a grip, a cane, an umbrella, and a camera piled in a seat four feet away, the average woman keeps a hand or foot on her valise while she sits awake. It is only now and then that a sleepy woman will explain to the matron of the women's waiting-room that she has to wait five hours for a train, and thus have permission to get the sleep that she may be composed enough to take.

For as to sleeping in stations the general prohibition of it is simply to protect the sleeper against missing his train. The traveler may be distinguished from his fellow who might come in simply to find a warm place in which to lounge and doze, and as to the possibility of persons loitering or peep-boobies while asleep there is little danger—not enough of itself to cause the order to keep awake.

Strangely enough, too, of all these passengers coming into the city, the emigrant and the immigrant, traveling upon second class tickets at a reduced rate, receive more attentions and are allowed more rest than any other class of travelers.

The Best Only. Showman Manager (to his partner)—Well, have to fire that glass-eater. He's getting too darn tony.

His Partner—How's dat? Manager—Well, he won't eat nuthin' but old glass now—N. O. Times-Democrat.

Hardly Fair Exchange. "Yes, he went up to Doris to present his suit."

"What did he get?" "A mitten from Doris and a boot from her father"—Chicago Daily News.

THE JUDGE'S STORY.

Got the Colonel Excited and He Took the Party to See a "Feroceous" Tiger.

"Did you hear about that ferocious tiger at the Zoo and the visit of the colonel and the judge to see him?" asked the old rouser, according to the Washington Star. "The colonel and the judge were taking a few Juleps the other evening, when the conversation turned on wild animals. I was there. Well, the judge told about the prodigious ferocity of the panthers which lurk in the Mississippi cane brakes, and for an hour kept our hair standing on end."

"The colonel, not to be outdone said that there was a tiger out at the Zoo which for ferocity and all the traits of savagery had the panthers of Mississippi beat a city block. The judge got interested and allowed he would like to see any monster that could surpass the cane-brake panther of his own land. The colonel said he would take him out there first thing in the morning and show him."

"We agreed that in order to make sure of getting an early start we would all get up at eight. So when all the regular places had closed we went around to the club with the colonel and stayed there until four o'clock, when some of the down-town places open, and we could get another drink."

"By this time our interest in the Zoo tiger had risen to fever heat. Actually we would shiver at some of the colonel's descriptions of the ferocity of this beast. The judge was almost ready to throw up the sponge and allow that the cane-brake panthers were beaten."

"We took the first car out to the Zoo and were there when the doors were opened. The colonel led us straight to the tiger's cage. Sure enough, he was a terrible monster, and we clung to each other and gazed."

"Just then a colored boy came along with a broom. Before our terrified gaze and before we could raise a protesting hand he had entered the tiger's cage. We turned our heads to avoid the fearful sight we expected to ensue. But no, that boy went up to that tiger and whacked him in the ribs with his broom. The tiger growled over to the other side of the cage while he swept up; then he whacked him again and pushed him around in the most scandalous manner."

"The judge looked at the colonel and the colonel looked at the judge, and then we went sadly home."

CHRISTENING GIFTS.

There is Nothing Better to Give at Any Time Than a Suitable Spoon.

There is nothing like a spoon for baby's christening present, and of all the spoons made for the purpose none are as good as the reproductions of old-time designs—the "Apostle spoons," with the head of the apostle whose day in the calendar comes nearest the day of baby's birth or christening, says the Washington Star. These spoons are of heavy silver, with the figure entirely in relief forming the end of the handle. A teaspoon will cost \$2.50, the next size as much again, and the largest size will more, but with the child's monogram in the bowl in embossed script letters it makes a pretty and useful gift.

These apostle spoons date back to the middle ages when baby's religious education began with the spoon as soon as he could eat. Shakespeare speaks of a spoon as being the acceptable christening gift in his day but nothing more than its general utility is necessary to make it popular to-day. Any kind of a spoon is good for this purpose and later it will form part of the household silver when the little man or woman is grown up.

There are many special baby spoons besides those of religious significance. There is the regular pan spoon, which is, perhaps, the most convenient for the child's use—a short spoon, with the handle bent over and under, the end touching the bowl again and forming a loop, which is convenient for baby fingers to hold. There is also to be a pretty design of some kind in the bowl, and in the bowl of a spoon of ordinary shape baby can see his own image—a pretty baby's head—engraved.

There are all sorts of other things given as christening gifts—pins of various kinds, little gold chains, ornaments, cups, plain mugs and so many loving cups with innumerable handles that baby is not quite sure whether he is a yacht race or a distinguished citizen. One of the prettiest and newest cups is light and shallow, small at the bottom and rounding out to the widest top. Engraved in these cups are various animals and babies' heads, and the small owner is delighted to drink his milk in order to see the pretty picture beneath.

Chicken Terrapin.

Remove the skin and cut into little squares a cold boiled chicken. Half a pint of cream. A large lump of butter. A cup of the liquid in which the chicken was boiled. Season to taste with paprika and salt. Have ready three chicken-boiled eggs chopped fine. When chicken comes to a boil, stir in the eggs and one can of mushrooms, with small glass of sherry wine. Serve hot. This quantity will serve six.—Good Housekeeping.

Queen's Nectar.

Pare the thin yellow rind from three lemons. Add two quarts of boiling water and two pints of granulated sugar. Stir until all the sugar is dissolved, then cool; add the juice of the lemons, one pound of seeded and chopped raisins, a few chopped figs and six quarts of water; allow to stand for five days, stirring twice each day; then strain into bottles and cork tightly.—Washington Star.

TRICKS FOR THE HOME.

A Few Tricks of Valuable Information for the Domestic Department.

A bright housekeeper has discovered a new system of labeling jelly and preserve glasses. She buys a roll of white passepartout binding for about eight cents. This is well gummed on one side, and she uses as long or as short a piece as the label calls for. The pasting process is much more quickly gotten through than when separate labels are used, says the New York Post.

The fortunates within reach of a walk in the woods may gather ferns these days that will give a touch of summer greenness all through the winter. Choose perfect ferns of various sizes and plenty of them, laying them smoothly between newspapers. Press under a trunk or other weight, and pack when ready to return home by putting the papers neatly in the very bottom of the trunk. Later they may be arranged in glass rose or finger bowls that are half filled with sand. Occasionally take a fern out carefully, wash free from dust, and return to the sand.

For cleaning the inside of cut-glass water bottles or other narrow-necked vessels, a weak solution of hydrochloric acid is better than shot or sand, as these make imperceptible scratches on the surface of the glass, eventually destroying much of its brilliant quality. Care must be taken to rinse the vessels thoroughly after using the acid. A manufacturer of cut glass advises that before using ice-cream platters, punch bowls, sorbet glasses or other pieces designed for frozen foods or chilled beverages, the glass should be allowed to stand for a few minutes in a cold place or held under a jet of cold water.

A decorator says that white wood-work and a yellow paper not only attractively lighten a dull room, but increase markedly its apparent size. A satisfactory yellow paper for a dining-room is one with narrow up-and-down stripes, light and slightly darker shades of itself. The place rail is still used, though the narrow shaft just above a rather low picture moulding is accepted. On this shaft nice Canton plates or old pieces of china are arranged. The frieze in that case should be left plain, being an extension of the ceiling to meet the picture moulding. The plates act as decorations for the frieze space.

An ideal arrangement for a veranda is that which permits it to be approached only through the house. In this way veranda life becomes perfectly free and neither comfort nor discussion need be sacrificed. Why call it always a summer piazza? A little care will convert it into a delightful summer veranda which may be enjoyed up to the time when the snow flies. Bath chairs keep out draughts when the days grow shorter and steamer chairs with rugs and divans with good mattresses make a veranda perfectly comfortable even in the late autumn. One of the piazzas overlooking the Sound at a Long Island country home is thus equipped, steamers rug-going with the chairs stretched out on the chair wrapped in the envelope rug, and looking over the ocean waves that roll and foam in a fresh October breeze. It is not at all difficult to carry one's self about in life extended much beyond midsummer days. They should be devoted to their limit, for as a nation we live far too much within doors.

NOTES ABOUT DRESS.

Pretty Features and Novelties That Will Figure in Fall Costumes.

Girls' Panama hats have become very popular this end of the season wear. They are not greatly different in shape and general appearance from those of the men.

Deep collars of panne ornamented with embroidery or lace are as likely to be much worn in the fall, replacing the cape collars of lace, embroidered batiste, etc.

Laces come in all the fall colors, for the dyed lace is to be the thing. You can get lace the color of an autumn leaf, no matter what that color may be, for lace runs cream, tan, russet, green, bronze, and every other known hue identified with the autumn leaf.

While the princess will not by any means crowd out the other styles of dress, it will yet occupy a very important position upon the dress stage.

A new trimming used on linen colored crash and pongee gowns consists of a double piping, one of a bright color and the other of black. This is well adapted for gowns trimmed with bands of the same material, each band being edged with the double piping.

In the great demand for novelties plain and figured organdies have become popular for summer coats as well as dresses.

Tomatoes Stuffed with Corn.

Put a thick layer of stewed tomatoes in the bottom of a buttered pudding dish, cover it with a layer of cooked corn, cut from the cob and nicely seasoned, add a tablespoonful of butter cut in little bits, then another layer each of tomatoes and corn. Bake buttered crumbs over the top, and bake for 20 minutes in a moderate oven. This makes a most delicious dish.—American Queen.

Sponge Drops.

Beat three eggs two minutes, add a cupful and a half of sugar and beat with a spoon three minutes; add half a cupful cold water, vanilla or orange flavoring, one heaping cupful of flour, a pinch of salt and one rounding teaspoon of baking powder. Beat well and drop by spoonfuls on buttered tins, at some distance apart, and bake in quick oven.—Philadelphia Press.

PUZZLES SCIENTISTS.

Strange Metal Called Polonium Found by a Woman.

Substance from Which the New Element is Extracted Herebefore Regarded as Valueless—Account of Discovery.

Polonium, the new element, which was exploited in a series of most interesting experiments by Prof. W. Markwell before the chemical congress in Berlin, is really the discovery of a woman—one of the most learned women in the world and one who is to-day recognized as among the truly great pioneers of chemistry. Married to a Frenchman, she is a Pole by birth, and it was patriotism that led her to give to the new discovery the name by which the world now knows it—Polonium, states the New York Herald.

Scientists as yet understand too little of the marvelous properties of this new element to venture more than vague predictions of what spheres of future usefulness it may fill, but it is not improbable that it may be found to perform the present function of the so-called Röntgen or X-rays far more powerfully and without the somewhat cumbersome apparatus now essential to their use.

In a much higher degree even than radium it possesses the property of shining in the dark, and although it is known that actual particles, infinitesimally small, are being shot out from it continually—a fact which is proved by magnetic experiments—this strange substance does not seem to exhaust itself nor to lose its luminous power with the passage of time. Here, therefore, is a light, at least, of the future possibility of a constant and brilliant illuminant generated without heat or combustion.

As a result of the discovery of this brilliant Polish woman, Mme. Curie, she and her husband and a few chosen associates are enjoying at present a practical monopoly of a treasure mine richer far than one of gold or diamonds. Polonium is more valuable than radium, and Prof. Curie himself, who has a chemically pure specimen of radium not larger than a buckshot and weighing less than half a grain, would not sell it for \$2,000. Strange enough the substance from which these precious grains of polonium are extracted is pitchblende, a sort of by-product found in Austria and heretofore regarded as valueless after being used for the extraction of uranium.

It is from the last of material of a Bohemian mine operated by the Austrian government that Mme. Curie and her husband are now obtaining their rich store of polonium. But as they were enterprising enough to obtain control of all of it that was in sight before others knew its rare possibilities, there is little polonium to be had even in Europe except through them, and practically none at all in America.

It is also the discovery of Mme. Curie. What radium will do, she herself believes, polonium will do to a far greater degree. It is Dr. Liden, a German scientist, is reported to have said in a Berlin newspaper recently, he has performed experiments that rays emitted from radium enable the hand to see more of its clearly than radium and polonium rays yet he declined to work veritable modern miracles.

Dr. Liden says that two Russian blind boys, one whom he has experimented, have permanently retained their sight through the use of these rays. Starting as that statement seems, Prof. W. Curie of Columbia university said in a recent paper in the Scientific American:

"One of the most striking properties of radium is its luminosity. The pure radium chloride emits enough light to enable one to distinguish printed characters. The rays from radium excite phosphorescence in many bodies, such as zinc sulphide, diamond and even common salt. The luminosity of radium is persistent but the phosphorescence is produced by its own rays. If a small quantity of radium is held against the forehead while the eyes are closed one will see light. The rays penetrate to the retina and cause it to phosphoresce."

In the same article Prof. Kanall gives an interesting account of what led up to the discoveries of Mme. Curie and her husband. He says:

"In 1896 Prof. Henri Becquerel of the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers, at Paris, discovered the radio activity of uranium. He found that all compounds of uranium, as well as the metal itself, continually emit radiations, which act upon photographic plates and have a penetrating power similar to that of the X-rays. Investigations immediately followed with various materials with the hope that they might find other substances having the same property as uranium."

Prof. Curie of the Ecole Polytechnique and Mme. Curie, at Paris, discovered the radio activity of uranium. They found that some samples of this mineral from Bohemia possessed a greater activity than other uranium or thorium, the only substances then known to be radio-active. This led them to the conclusion that the activity of the pitchblende must be due to some new element of great activity. In order to find this new substance they dissolved a quantity of pitchblende in acids and separated the material into portions containing different elements. They then observed which of these portions possessed radio-activity. One portion they believed to contain a new element, which they called polonium; another yielded radium."