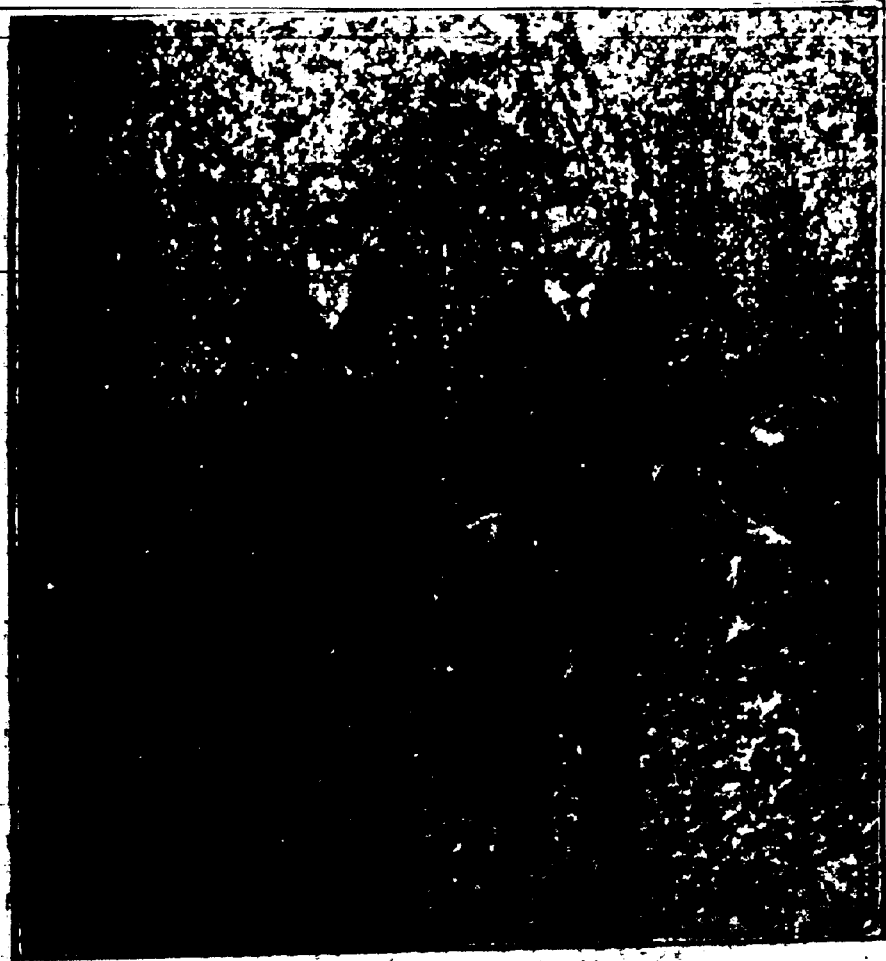


PRESIDENT'S SOUTHERN TOUR



From photograph, copyright, by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y. President Roosevelt and John A. McIlhenny, of Louisiana, Civil Service Commissioner, whose guest he was from October 4th to October 21st, while hunting in the swamps of Louisiana.

MILLIONS ARE STOLEN

BONDING COMPANIES GIVE OUT FIGURES OF PECULATIONS.

Spring Months Are Favored by Rogues Who Run Away with Employers' Cash—Banks Are Worst Sufferers.

New York.—The bonding companies of this city have just found out how much rogues here and elsewhere in the United States have stolen in the first six months of the present year. The total, compared with the corresponding period in 1906 and 1905, is as follows:

1906, \$5,234,985; 1905, \$3,529,399, and 1904, \$5,462,687. Total for the three periods, \$14,544,071.

April is the favorite month with embezzlers. They begin their warlike operations with the first gladsome warbles of spring, just before the race tracks are swept up for the season. The defalcations, by months, this year were as follows:

January, \$729,716; February, \$1,590,161; March, \$1,421,500; April, \$1,130,633; May, \$406,962; June, \$204,416. Total for six months, \$5,482,687.

In April, 1905, the nimble thieves got away with \$2,333,046, and in the following April they made their biggest haul.

The banks and trust companies were the worst sufferers. They lost \$2,089,590, as against only \$758,750 in the first half of 1906. The public service corporations and the like were the next hardest hit. They parted reluctantly with \$336,337, as against \$385,330 in the first half of 1906 and \$520,901 in the first half of 1905.

Next come general business houses, which lost \$819,372 throughout the period, as compared with \$1,020,373 in the first half of 1906. Miscellaneous institutions, breweries, stores, etc., were robbed of \$817,874, as against only \$469,169 in the same months last year.

Beneficial associations had their funds depleted to the extent of \$400,703, as against \$142,924 in 1906 and \$296,876 in 1905. More than \$253,080 in court trust funds were stolen, an excess of only \$5,000 over the same period in 1906. In the first half of 1906 \$795,613 of court funds disappeared through neglect. The transportation companies lost \$104,552, as against \$75,964 in 1906 and \$32,369 in 1905. The insurance companies were the smallest sufferers. They lost by thievery only \$59,548, as against \$127,485 in 1906 and \$12,811 in 1905. This does not include funds juggled in dodgy insurance commissions or "yellow dog" accounts.

About one-half of these embezzled millions went directly into Wall Street, the experts say, where they were swallowed up in unlucky speculations. One-half of the remainder was lost in gambling on the race tracks and in poolrooms. The remainder was spent in the old-fashioned traditional way, on wine and women.

Detective Defies the Lash. York, Pa.—Chief of Detectives Charles B. White of York was badly used up when he arrested Charles Davis, about 55 years old, of Norfolk, Va.

Davis was driving a mare answering the description of one stolen from Harry E. Baker of Cochrantville, Chester county, when the detective sprang from his own carriage and seized the mare's bridle.

Davis lashed him with his whip and forced him against a fence. Never releasing his hold on the rein, however, the detective grabbed Davis and dragged him from his seat. He was placed in jail to await identification of the animal.

London Post 7,000,000 Mark. London.—London, according to the census recently completed, has passed the 7,000,000 mark.

BABY TIES UP AN ESTATE.

Heirs to Quarter of a Million Dollars Must Wait Twenty-One Years.

Cincinnati.—Notice has been filed with the United States court here of the birth of another grandchild to Samuel Vinton, who died in 1861, leaving his estate subject to the control and supervision of the court.

By Vinton's will this was to continue until all his grandchildren should reach 21 years. By the arrival of the newcomer the judicial supervision will go on for another 21 years.

The principal part of the estate consists in coal lands in the eastern part of the state. When the estate, which consists of mines near Athens, was thrown into the United States court, it was valued at \$100,000. According to the trustees' 1906 report it was worth \$249,938. With the heirs and grandchildren there are nearly 100 people involved in the distribution of the estate.

Some of them come to the United States court yearly when the trustees report is filed. One of the heirs is Countess Romaine von Overbeck, of Prussia.

GIRL "FRESHIES" ARE HAZED.

Barnard Sophomores Make Them Drink from Babies' Bottles.

New York.—Forcing the freshmen to take lemonade from babies' bottles was one of the "stunts" Barnard girls indulged in during the celebration of "the mysteries," a form of hazing that is permitted in the college.

Compelling the girls of 1911 to take these bottles was a more difficult task than the sophomores who conducted the ceremony expected, for they had to call on the upper class students to help with some of the rebellious "freshies." One of the young women was so incensed when presented with a bottle that she tore off the rubber top, threw it on the floor and burst into tears.

Another humiliating feature of "the mysteries" was the pulling down of the collars so elaborately prepared by the freshmen, for with hoots of delight the heartless 1910 students pounced upon "rats," switches and other artificial pieces used by the youngsters.

Python as Stowaway.

London, Eng.—Among the recent arrivals at the zoological gardens is a python which shipped itself on board the steamship Hyson of the Ocean Steamship company, and was only discovered among the cargo of white logs when the vessel was being unloaded at the Albert docks.

The stowaway was promptly secured by means of a sack, which was thrown over it, and the authorities at the "zoo" were communicated with.

When Mr. Tyrrell, who looks after the snakes at Regent's park, arrived at the docks he found that the reptile was a young reticulated python some three feet long, and, although suffering from the effects of its captivity in the sack, it was otherwise uninjured. He took it to the "zoo" and is feeding it on pieces of fish. The "zoo" now owns both the largest and the smallest pythons.

Woman Lost \$230,000.

New York.—Mrs. Arthur P. Mason of Larchmont is the woman who lost a tin box containing 196 \$1,000 bills and jewelry valued at \$40,000, while journeying to New York on the local New York, New Haven and Hartford train from her home. Mrs. Mason made this admission despite the advice of her lawyer, Benjamin F. Norris, who has tried to keep secret the name of his client. Mrs. Mason refused to go into details of the trip.

She placed the box on the seat beside her, while the suit case rested at her feet. It is hardly supposed Mrs. Mason forgot the existence of the box when she left the train at the Grand Central station. It is possible, however, she was followed from her home by some crook who knew that the box contained a fortune.

IN THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

Quaint Customs That Recall Decidedly Odd Manners.

In the first place, the woods are full of men, runs "The Chronicles of a Queer Girl" in the Ladies Home Journal. They were numerous as the sands of the sea, and life was interesting, to put it mildly. In my time there was no such thing as the pairing off of one couple to "keep company" for years at a stretch, to the exclusion of other friends. A girl was free to accept the attention of any and all young men, and have a different escort to every dance, picnic or party of the season. Even an engaged girl was not expected to go only with her fiance, but must make things lively by entertaining and going about with different young men and keeping the community upon the qui vive as to which would be her final choice.

There was time for idling in those days—hours for fooling dull care and baffling stern necessity. A pretty girl was likely to spy from her window an interesting group of pedestrians or a dashing horseman at almost any hour in the day. If she went downtown (she did not go often, gentle reader, as girls do nowadays) it was strange, indeed, if there was not rivalry as to which of the young gallants should walk home with her. On Sunday the rear seats of the sanctuary were comfortably filled with young gentlemen of no special religious professions, and it was by no means the least interesting feature of the service passing out of the church door and down the line, smiling and bestowing glances upon them as they stood with raised hats, gravely saluting one pretty devotee after another as she came out with the Sabbath halo around her face.

There was a custom, now obsolete, no doubt for lack of numbers as well as spirit, of giving a pretty girl a "grad rush" on Sunday afternoons. As I look back now I can see a phalanx of hats and trousers, audacious faces and buttonhole bouquets moving along the village street.

SELF-LIGHTING BUOY.

A Novelty on the Lusitania That Attracted Attention.

One feature of the big Lusitania which attracted crowds when she was open for inspection was the automatic life buoy which is fastened between decks on a slanting frame in such a way that it can be released by the pressure of a button on the bridge.

On each end of the four arms of a large cross-shaped framework is a copper ball. These balls are so weighted that when the buoy strikes the water it will float upright. To the crossarms are fastened long brass cylinders. These cylinders are calcium carbide lights so arranged that they flare up by contact with the water.

Should a cry of "Man overboard" be raised at night the officer on the bridge presses the button, the buoy hits the water and the lights flare up. If the man overboard is a swimmer he can reach the buoy, to the arms of which loops are attached to aid him in keeping above water. The ship also has a mark to guide it.

Butter in Bogs.

From time to time lumps of butter are dug out of the Irish bogs, and specimens of it may be seen in various museums. A chemical examination has recently been made of a sample of such butter, which was found four feet below the surface of a bog at Maghera, County Tyrone. The original lump, which weighed about 20 pounds, is probably some centuries old, and it is suggested that it had been put into peat water to preserve it or to give it a flavor and had been forgotten. Yet so effectively had the fat been preserved by the peat water that it still retained many of the chemical characteristics of butter fat, though its appearance had greatly changed. The exterior was white and granular, and the whole mass had been converted during the passage of years into a waxlike material.

Reward of Extravagance.

"It's queer," remarked an ordinarily hard-headed man, "what little things will tickle our vanity. I bought a pair of low shoes not long ago, for which I paid seven dollars, an expenditure in the way of footwear that was unique for me. The shoes were comfortable and had the air of representing what they cost; but no one paid any attention to them until I stepped up on a bootblack's stand the other day to have them polished. The Italian who was the chief engineer of the works looked at my shoes, felt of the calf's skin lovingly, and then, with a gleam of admiration in his eyes, asked me: 'How much did you pay for them?' My extravagance was rewarded."

A Geyser Clock.

One of the most curious clocks in the world is said to be that which tells the time to the inhabitants of a little American backwoods town. The machinery, which is nothing but a face, hands and lever, is connected with a geyser which shoots out an immense column of hot water every 38 seconds. This spouting never varies to the tenth of a second. Every time the water spurts up it strikes the lever and moves the hands forward 38 seconds.

As Seen in Cleveland.

The difference between English girls coming to America for husbands and American girls going to England for husbands is this—the English girls are likely to get good husbands.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

RUBBER AND METALS.

Copper Apt to Cause Former to Deteriorate.

It has been found that when rubber is in contact with iron or steel it remains practically unchanged for a considerable time; very different, however, is its behavior when used with copper or brass, says the Philadelphia Record. Herr Rengraf, in a lecture before the Berlin Society of Arts, said that when employed in a tube of copper or brass it undergoes some chemical action which leads to its ultimate conversion into a resinous compound, devoid of elastic properties.

Dr. Burghardt has pointed out that this deterioration is due to the action of oxygen, which is the great enemy of all kinds of rubber. Certain of the heavy coal tar oils and many oils of animal origin, such as tallow oil, fish oil, etc., when brought into contact with India rubber, seem to set up the oxidizing process rapidly. Copper oxide, in conjunction with oil, is a source of peculiar danger to caoutchouc, and in the tubing formed of copper the destructive action has been observed in less than a year.

For these purposes, therefore, when the use of a rubber strip is advisable, it is necessary to apply a protective coating of tin or some other metal on the surface of the copper to guard against this action. Another rubber authority, in commenting on this, says that the coating of copper wires with tin before insulating is applied simply to guard against deterioration. At the same time this destructive tendency has been turned to advantage when it was necessary to stick coating of copper on the iron axle of the wringer roll that joins the metal in the rubber so that it is almost impossible to separate them.

COLLEGE COWBOYS AT SEA.

A Job on a Cattleboat as a Means to a Vacation Abroad.

Cattleboating to England is rapidly becoming the summer outing which, according to the Travel Magazine, nowadays finds favor with the collegians.

From early spring of the present year shipping agents along the Atlantic seaboard were delighted with applications from the colleges for positions.

Every craft which in June put out of Montreal, Boston, New York or Philadelphia with a shifty cargo of steers for the British market carried a delegation of highly educated youths to attend to the wants of the longhorns. Reservations in the forecabin became almost as common as in the first cabin area.

The romance of the idea of donning corduroys and playing master to wild western bullocks may be cited as part of the appeal to collegians.

Sliding Coal Mountain.

T. B. McDonald, formerly of Meeteetse, Wyo., is making arrangements at Katalia, Alaska, to rob a sliding mountain of its contents while the frosts of winter hold it stationary. He owns a fine deposit of steam coal at the base of the moving mass, and during the summer has been taking out several hundred tons a day near the surface. As soon as frost wedges the mountain to its base for the winter he will bore as rapidly as possible to a greater depth and will take out as much coal as he can before next summer's thaw again starts the mountain moving. When movement again begins there is little probability that the deeper workings will not be destroyed, but mining near the surface still can be continued. The mountain in which McDonald is working is one of the curiosities of Alaska. It slides several yards a season.

Know No Old Age.

Brazilian coconut palms live from 600 to 700 years, and the Arabs assert that the date palm frequently reaches the age of 200 to 300 years, says the Dundee Advertiser. Wallan's oak near Paisley, Scotland, is known to be over 700 years old, and there are eight olive trees on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem which are known to have been flourishing in 1099. The yews at Fountains Abbey, Yorkshire, were old trees when in 1123 the abbey was built, and a redwood in Mariposa Grove, California, is a manifold centenarian. Baobab trees of Africa have been computed to be over 5,000 years old, and the deciduous cypress of Chamulitepec is considered to be of a still greater age. Humboldt said that the Dracena Draco at Orotava, on Teneriffe, was one of the oldest inhabitants of the earth.

She Was Honest.

The discarded wife of Artist Earle was interviewed on her arrival on the other side and in answer to a question as to whether she was a Socialist, said: "I do not know just what socialism means, but I am a Socialist in disposition." Of all the statements made in interviews which we have seen for a long time, this one appeals to us most. If all the followers not only of Socialism but of other isms were to speak the truth with equal frankness, they would say the same, mutatis mutandis, as Mrs. Earle.—Mexican Herald.

Straight-Line Charley.

"Straight-line Charley" is the presidential campaign nickname they are fastening upon Gov. Hughes in New York. It ought to be as fetching as "Square-deal Teddy."

LICORICE ROOT.

We Buy Half a Million Dollars Worth a Year from Asia Minor.

Licorice root grows wild in the fields of Asia Minor, and few attempts have been made thus far towards its cultivation.

Until 50 years ago it was practically unused, says Fur News. The root grown on the Meander plains is the best in the world, being superior to that found in Syria, Mesopotamia, Caucasus, Siberia or China.

The exporters of the root lease licorice bearing lands for a period of from three to five years. Digging usually begins in October, and is done by peasants, who at the end of each day deliver the root to the various depots and receive payment according to the quantity they bring.

The root is piled up and exposed to the air until about May and June. It then weighs only half as much as originally, owing to the thorough drying process to which it has been subjected. The root is sorted to obtain the qualities known as "dubris" and "bette," both of which are highly valued.

Licorice root is shipped in bales weighing about 220 pounds each, pressed by hydraulic machinery and strapped with iron bands. The United States is the principal consumer of this class of licorice, which is shipped there in its natural state as raw material, being admitted free of duty.

It is converted into licorice paste for medicinal purposes, and is especially used for flavoring plug tobacco. Licorice root in its original state can also be found in any drug store in America. Annual exports to the United States amount to about 14,210 tons, valued at \$550,000.

CHILE WANTS OUR ENGINEERS.

High Officials Say American Skill Is Needed in Andean Mines.

Filipe Sol, the consulting engineer of the republic of Chile, who, with Juan M. Garcia, attorney-general of the South American country, were commissioned to come to the United States and purchase locomotives and mining machinery, is desirous of taking back with him to Valparaiso a score or so of competent American engineers, says the Philadelphia Telegraph.

"There is a great field for American engineers in Chile," said Mr. Sol before starting on a short trip to Niagara Falls and New York for a few days. There are now few engineers, considered competent, in the vast unexplored fields of my country. Beginning with Philadelphia, we intend to come in contact with the mining engineers of the various cities we will visit. The gold veins have been scarcely tapped. The salt-petre mines, under the crude methods of unskilled engineers, are yielding only one-half of what they should. It is the same way with other mining fields.

"Have you received promises from any mining engineers of Philadelphia to go to Chile?" he was asked.

"I cannot make that public," was his response. "I have interviewed several. They look with favor on the suggestion of Mr. Garcia and myself."

Easily Distinguished.

A couple of travelers found themselves detained at a village inn, and inquired whether there was any amusement to be had at the establishment.

"Oh, yes," replied the waiter, with palpable pride, "we have a billiard room."

At their request the travelers were conducted thither, and found a badly lighted room, with one small table which had evidently seen better days. Their attendant produced a set of balls which matched the table for wear and were of a uniform dirty gray color.

"But how do you tell the red from the white?" asked one visitor.

"Oh," was the reassuring reply, "you soon get to know them by their shape."

Wages in Great Britain.

Wages in Great Britain average much higher than they do on the continent, and in France and Germany wages are higher than in Italy, Spain or Austria. The district court at Carlsbad, Austria, recently fixed the daily wages of laborers of both sexes for the years 1907, 1908 and 1909 as follows: Males—Foremen, 60 cents a day, others, 40 cents, and apprentices and boys, 20 cents. Females—Adults, 25 cents, and juveniles, 15 cents. Servants of the state, 48 cents, except servants of the post and telegraph, who receive 41 cents.

No Place for Alligators!

An English tourist in the West Indies had been warned against bathing in a river because of alligators, so he went in swimming at the river mouth, where his guide assured him there would be none.

"How do you know there are no alligators here?" he asked when he had waded out neck deep.

"You see, sah," said the guide, "dey too many sharks here. De alligators is skeered out. Dis ain't no place for dem, sah."

A Substitute.

Customer—Will you give me a copy of "The Art of Being Happy at Home?"

Librarian—I'm afraid it's out, but I have here a little treatise on Jiu-Jitsu, which makes an excellent substitute for it.—Pele Male.

INDIAN LANGUAGES.

Grammar of American Tongues Is Elaborate and Difficult.

Prof. A. L. Kroeber of the University of California declares that Indian languages are not a jargon, as is popularly believed, says the Scientific American. In a pamphlet recently issued on the Yuku and Yuki languages he affirms that Indian languages possess an elaborate and difficult grammar, though this is unknown to the Indians themselves, and must be extracted by the investigations of scientists.

The two languages which Prof. Kroeber selected for experiments had absolutely no similar words. They are more different than English and Russian. The Yuku and the Yuki are not even in territorial contact, and show no signs of common origin. The Yuki live in northern California, in the coast range, and the Yuku are located in the interior of south central California, in the southern end of the San Joaquin valley.

Though Prof. Kroeber found that the grammatical structure of their languages was identical at nearly every point, their words were wholly dissimilar. The order of words differs quite thoroughly. In Yuku the adjective precedes the noun, in Yuki it follows. Yuku tend to place the verb at the head of the sentence; Yuki at the end. The numerical systems of the two languages are radically different. That of Yuku is decimal; of Yuki quarternary.

It is noted by Dr. Kroeber that California has more totally distinct Indian languages in a square mile than any other state. The reason for this great variety of languages has never been properly accounted for.

TWO KINDS OF MISERY.

Both Are Suffered by Authors, but One Has Compensation.

"Among the acutest of the small miseries of my existence," declared Hail Caine in the Book Monthly, "has been that of seeing a man, or more frequently a woman, take up and lay down, in the midst of a running fire of desultory conversation, in the train, on the steamer, in the halls of hotels or on the seashore a story in which I might have spent all my strength and have written, as I supposed, with my heart's blood."

"Now, that's all very well," comments Keble Howard in the Sketch, "but Mr. Caine must remember that there are a good many novelists also writing with their heart's blood who never see their stories taken up at all. When they do see them taken up there is often a large fly in the ointment."

"A week or two ago," for example, I spent five hours in a railway carriage with a wealthy gentleman, who was actually reading one of my own humble works.

"When he had finished it he handed the volume to his son. The son remarked that his mother had read the same copy. It was a sixpenny edition, sold at four pence halfpenny. I got the halfpenny."

Cat Killed by Heat.

In the bustle of the other day Paul Hill, manager of the Omaha catery, 2077 Thirteenth street, lost White Sam, one of his most valuable pussies.

In the Omaha catery are kept some 10 pedigreed cats, all of which are worth a great deal of money. The caters' life is made of fat paper being a temporary structure, and when the fall fell it beat through the roof, causing the death of White Sam, the big white pussy of them all.

White Sam was lying in a box directly under the center of the roof. The other aristocratic cats were playing about the yard. When the had begun Mr. and Mrs. Hill ran to their rescue, but poor White Sam lay exposed to the death-dealing blows of the immense hailstones. When the proprietors of the catery came back they found White Sam lying dead. She was valued at \$150.

Tobacco in Porto Rico.

"Within a very short time tobacco will be as important a product of Porto Rico as sugar is now," says Francis J. Dexter of San Juan. "Many of the large plantations have taken up the raising of tobacco, with the result that the output of the leaf has increased many fold. Many Americans who have gone to the island have invested in tobacco rather than in sugar lands, and the consequence has been a rapid advance in the price of ground suitable for tobacco raising. This boom in the tobacco industry will not injure the sugar business, however. We are producing more sugar now than ever before and will continue to increase the production."

Trade in Condensed Milk.

The production of condensed milk in the United States is of comparatively recent origin. Only 8,000,000 pounds were sold in 1870. By 1880 the sale had reached 12,000,000 pounds, in 1890 as much as 37,000,000 pounds were sold. The amount sold in 1906 reached 187,000,000 pounds, and at the present time, no doubt, the production is still larger.

Linking Europe and Asia.

The newest scheme for an electric railway is a link between Europe and Asia. It now awaits the approval of the Russian government. The idea is to start from Beslan, cross the Caucasus mountain range and finish at Tiflis, 125 miles from end to the end.