SNOW BATTLE IS ON

Annual Struggle of Railroads With Huge Drifts.

Enormous Cost of Maintaining Snow Plows and Crews-Much Damage is Caused by Treacherous Avalanches in Rockies.

Denver, Colo.-The annual battle with the snow king is on in the Rocky mountains. From the middle of February to the 1st of May the struggle is at its hardest. Western railroads are hurling their giant rotaries against the drifts that threaten to impede transcontinental traffic. Snowslid are booming down mountain sides, sweeping away valuable timber and sometimes carrying away mining camps, villages, stage coaches and trains.

To secure an accurate estimate of the amount of money spent in fighting the snow king in the Rockies every winter and to cast up the total amount of damage done by avalanches is not easy. Authorities on the subject say that \$20,000,000 would not cover the total.

Every western railroad is under tremendous expense in maintaining snow Blows and their crews. The first cost a modern rotary plow is about **\$2**5,000.

In Colorado, which contains the highest mountains of the continental divide, snow fighting has been develexped to a science. Every railroad in Colorado has a full equipment of snow plows and maintains snow fighting crews for eight months of the year.

Necessarily when the snows are severest attention is centered on the main lines, which are kept clear most of the time, traffic seldom being impeded an hour by the worst blizzard. The branch lines, which penetrate the high bills to the mining camps, do mot fare so well, and some of the Col-Serado mining towns like Silverton and Breckenridge are cut off from the rest set the world for weeks, in spite of the afforts of the snow fighters.

Probably the Moffat road, which is the popular name for the late David "H. Moffat's Denver. Northwestern & Pacific railroad, now in course of construction from Denver to Sait Lake. is ealled upon to do more snow fighting than any other line in the world. The Denver, Northwestern & Pacific serosses the continental divide about \$0 miles west of Denver at an alti-Rude of more than 11,000 feet above mea level.

For miles on both sides of the diwide the snow plows are required to do beavy service. The track must be swept clean every day, for the reason that the high winds are constantly The drifts with snow. The drifts accumulate on each side of the track world the trains are overtopped many feet and they pass through miles of snow lanes, yet so systematically is the track kept cleared that traffic is peldom impeded.

The damage caused by avalanches in the Rocky mountains each winter is past all accurate computation. These snowslides are full of treachery and descend at the most inopportune times and in the most unexpected places. There are some slides in the San Juan mountains in western Colorado which follow besten trails and which come booming down the slopes at about the same time each year. Their paths are avoided and they do Mttle damage. But the average snowalide seems to be a creature of whims.

It forms at the foot of some craig far above the timber line. The winds whip the snow into deep drifts at the head of a slope leading thousands of feet into a deep valley below. Under the spell of the lengthening days and warm suns of February and March the drifts begin to loosen. Tiny rivulets. trickle from beneath the white mantie, and suddenly, with a roar that is mever forgotten by those who have once heard it, the whole mass starts on its journey to the valley.

VASSAR GIRLS ARE FIREMEN

College Has its Own Voluntary Department Made Up of Women Students.

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Poughkeepsie, N. Y.-Vassar college? has its own volunteer fire department made up of young woman students. The new organization aims rather at saving life than at fighting flames. and the girls who have volunteered are being taught chiefly the rudiments of first aid in case of fire. Miss Louise W. Farnham of New Haven, Conn. is the "chief" of the new fire department. Her official title is fire

esptain. In the drills which have been held the volunteers have shown much "kill at unreeling hose and making couplings in the corridors and performing other duties required of them.

Pigeons Stop Phone Service. Terre Haute, Ind -- Mysterious interruption in the telephone service in the office of the Vandalla master mechanic, which occurred only at might time, was traced to roosting pigeons in the attic. They roosted on a wire and their weight caused it to some near another wire which they annght with their feet, thus establishing a short circuit.

> A July Jap Students Send Taft Trees. Scattle, Wash.—Three cherry trees. sifts to President Taft from the Agrienitural college of the Tokyo university, have arrived here on the steamer Aswa.

CRITIC AND CLEANER ACCUSED

Manager of Musical Show Charges Collusion-Writer May Suc.

Milwaukee.-It wasn't that Marie Dressler's chorus girls permitted those-well-er-those lacy bits of nothingness that peep from beneath their skirts to be exposed in their cavortings.

No. That wasn't what shocked a Milwaukee dramatic critic. But they bore evidences of travel. In fact. it was set forth that the dust of St Louis, where the play last was produced, still clung to the-the same garments-when the company tripped out before the footlights in Milwau-

And that wasn't the worst of it. A Milwaukee cleaner was just as aggressive as the dramatic critic. He hurried around to the opera house and told John Dalton, manager of the show, that he specialized in making those very garments white as the driven snow after they passed through the ordeal of appearing on St. Louis stages.

"Well, you get no job here," roared the male end of the house of Dressler. "I think you are in league with that critic and you don't get a penny of this show's money."

And he didn't. The cleaner is willing to give \$500 to some worthy charity to prove his innocence of the charge of collusion, while the critic is talking of the possibility of a damage suit against the ungallant manager.

ARE MARRIED AFTER 25 YEARS

Chance Visit to Sister in Scattle Strings the Lovers of Early Days Together Again.

Seattle, Wash.—A romance that had its inception in Union, Neb., a quarter of a century ago culminated here when Henry R. Wills, chief clerk at the Great Northern docks, and Harriet Pollard Barnum of Union, Neb., were married at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Harvey E. Shotwell, No. 802 Tenth avenue. North.

In the 25 years intervening since they first met, both the bride and bridegroom were married and bereft of their partners.

The bride confessed that little did she think when she left her home last summer to visit Alaska with her father, 81 years old, that she would meet and marry Mr. Wills in Scattle.

Upon her return from Alaska the afterward bride was persuaded to remain as the guest of her sister, Mrs. Snotwell. She again met Mr. Will and the old acquaintance was renewed.

The bride is a member of a well. known Nebraska family which has figured in the history of that state since 1855.

KING GIVEN STOVE PATENT

George V. of England Perfects a Range Which Is Said to Save Coal.

New York.-King George of England has taken out a patent through the German crown prince, his cousin, for a coal saving range, according to dispatches published by a scientific journal. His majesty is said to have perfected the device during the long month of enforced idleness following his father's death. The crown prince, who some time ago patented a pair of non-slipping sleeve links, proposed that he take out a patent in Germany for King George and his offer was promptly accepted.

The range has two ovens and is so built that by pulling a lever the contents of one side, including the fire beneath, may be shifted across, thus saving time and coal.

OFFICES SEEKING THE MAN

Nyack (N. Y.) Caucuses Cannot In-, duce Any Citizens to Be Candidate for Office.

Nyack, N. Y.—The five highest elective offices in this town are vacant and no one can be found to accept a nomination. Republican and Democratic caucuses were held, each nominating for president and trustees the same men, all acceptable to both parties and the voters generally. The five nominees decline to stand as candidates, and the two committees to fill vacancies are unable to induce anybody to accept the offices.

This unusual condition perhaps never has happened before in this county. The reason is that the previous acts of the board of trustees resulted unsatisfactorily to many taxpayers and brought criticism upon individual

ROBBED BY MAGPIE OF \$1,000

Ranchman Living Near Greeley, Colo., Reports an Odd Experience With Pet Bird.

Greeley, Colo.-Robbed by a pet magpie of \$1,000 which he received from the sale of property in the east, Sheron Selder, a ranchman living near here, passed an anxious week. Seider received the money in bills and concealed it in a tin can, which he placed on a shelf. A few hours later he found the can on the floor and the money was missing. He reported the fact to the authorities.

He put on an old coat left hanging on a nail several months. In the pockets he found the money, as well as several other small articles missing for some time. He blames the magpie, which he captured several months ago, tamed and taught to talk.

Sanitation Has Changed Plague Center to Health Resort.

Is Called Paris of Western World-Cost of Living is Fign, but Bustness and Wages in All Industries Are Good.

Rio Janeiro.-Rio is the Paris of the Americas in all that the name implies and is one of the lovellest, most mod ern and progressive cities in the world. The fire and police depart ments are percently equipped and maintain a remarkably high standard of efficiency.

The people of Rio, by the expenditure of a vast amount of determina tion, courage, energy and money, literally have accomplished marvels Fifteen years ago the city was a mudhole and a cesapool of filth and disease, scourged by yellow fever and many forms of pestilence. An Italian warship visited the city at that time and every officer and every man of the crew died of the fever. A foreign crew had to be hired to take the ship back to Italy. Today Rio compares favorably with the healthiest cities in the world. Sixty million dollars has been spent in the last ten years for sewerage, water, streets, etc. No better water supply exists. It is brought clear and cold from the mountains to the city in covered aqueducts of stone. There are no flies, mosquitoes or rats in Rio. For two years the city maintained a force of 4,000 men engaged in their extermination, and with entire success. Her public markets are gems of beauty and cleanliness; screens are unnecessary: indeed, they are unknown in Rio, and the meats and fish can be exposed with perfect safety, because there are no flies and no dust, whether on the Avenida Central the Champs Elysee of Rio, along the docks or in the back alleys. They are all as clean as the constant use of soap and water can keep them.. A 100-mile ride through the streets of Rio coes not discover a scrap of pa-

The public buildings are magnificent, the parks, boulevards and avemues unique in their beauty. The department of commerce and labor of the United States, in an official report, states that the beauty of Rio Janeiro cannot be exaggerated; to quote: "It is very much like Switzerland-for one cannot exaggerate its beauty. All is here—the beautiful location, the well-planaed city, the well-paved streets, the lovely vistas. the Avenue Central, with its million of dollars' worth of buildings, and the barbor improvements that will cost millions and lead the world." Rio's park system is one of the most features of the municipality has 507,000 square meters laid out in parks, squares and parkways, and in addition the federal government maintains most extensive "botanical gardens.

The climate is excellent. It is never any warmer even in the center of the city than the average summer weather in New York or Chicago, and In 15 minutes on the electric car the heights overlooking the sea can be reached where the residential districts are located and where the air is always cool and invigorating. The winters last from May to October and an overcoat is generally necessary.

Rio's location, its beautiful bay, the surrounding hills and mountains clothed in eternal verdure, are incomparable. It is a very cosmopolitan city and her citizens have all the elegance, luxury and refinement of Paris, Brussels or any European capital. Everybody looks prosperous, and as most everybody is making money. many are spending it fast. Rio is one of the most costly places in the world to live, since everything eaten, worn and used is imported. Chickens are \$3 and \$4 apiece, turkeys \$8 to \$12, butter \$1 a pound. An ordinary quarter-pound can of baking powder cost \$1.08 on bargain day.

KISS COSTLY FOR COUPLE

Wife of Another is Assessed \$15 for Mot Preventing Man's \$25 * Osculation.

Fort Smith, Ark.—Forty dollars is a fair value for a kiss, acording to Police Judge John Harrington. Abe Freeman was fined 25 when the husband of Mrs. Frank Smythe testified he caught Freeman kissing Mrs. Smythe.

Symthe also had his wife arrested. She testified Freeman ricks the kiss. from her. Freeman said she allowed him, to kiss her. Because Mrs. Smythe did not prevent Freeman kiss-

ing her, she was fined \$15. "This court does not intend to allow a kissing-bug epidemic," declared the court. "The next time a man comes before me charged with kissing a married woman, the kiss market is going to touch a new high

Huge Rock Falls.

Buenos Ayres, via Galveston, Tex.-The famous "piedra mevediza," or oscillating rock, near Tandil, in the province of Buenos Ayres, has fallen down. It was the most notable natural phenomenon in Argentina and was known since the time of the discovery of the country. The huge rock lay upon another rock near the edge of a cliff. It swung to and fro on being touched by hand, but the flercest hurricane was unable to dislodge it.

The cause of its collapse after so many hundreds of years is a mystery.

STOMACH IS HOME OF SCUL

Kansas Chy (Mo.) Woman Advises Sun, Exercise and Baths as Best Peligion.

Kansas City, Mo.-A new religion. or tering in the stomach instead of the soul, and having salvation of this life and not some future existence as I's aim, is being launched in Kansas City by Mrs. Katheryn Boggs of Topeka,

"All religions of the past," says Mrs. Borgs, "have been bound with traditions and unnecessary formality and have made demands on human credulity which were unreasonable. Constant, health, truth and peace, where they have been present in the resigious of the past, were accidental. In my religion they are the objects."

Last Easter Mrs. Boggs opened Trinity Home in Topeka for the followers of what she terms "Practical Christianity." Whosoever wished to come was welcome. To this home she expects to return at some time in the future, and admit all who desire to live the new religion.

Some of the practices of this religion are: Daily baths-of sun, water or clay-she says there is nothing so good for the body as pure air, sunshine, water and soil. The religion is essentially one of the stomach. And the rule and guide to conduct is, "Be

natural." Mrs. Boggs says all life centers around the digestive apparatus. The first thing a little child uses is its stomach. She save its future depends more on this organ than on anything else. By treating it right the child may develop into a good man, and by treating it wrong it may develop into a criminal.

NO AID GIVEN HERO'S WIFE

Bovernment's Employer's Liability Law Does Not Apply to Mine Rescuers.

Washington, D. C.-Although the government has an employer's liability law which applies to certain parts of the government service, the widow and children of John Ferrell, who lost his life while exploring the burning mine at Cherry Valley, Pa., will get nothing. Ferreil was a mine rescue worker in the newly established federal bureau of mines.

The widow of a laborer accidentally killed on the Panama canal gets a year's pay. The same benefits apply to employes of the reclamation serv-

Ferrell had personally saved at least ten lives. At Briceville, Tenn., in the Cross Mountain mine disaster he found and saved five miners. He was a miner and mine foreman for 31

Ferrell's pay was \$1,000 a year. His widow and children are left without means of support unless congress

ADMITTED TO BAR AT 56

Foreigner, Ten Years Ago, Unable to Read or Write, is Massachupetts Lawyer.

Boston.-Ten years ago Moses H. Steuer could not read or write. Today, at the age of 56 years, he was admitted to the Massachusetts bar. Steuer came to this country a little more than a decade ago. To earn a living and support his family he traveled from house to house selling small

Then be became involved in a lawsuit. In a local court Stever successfully argued his own case and recovered goods which a deputy sheriff had replevined. The court proceedings gave him an inspiration to study and he began to learn English. Working by day and studying law at night, Steuer laid the foundation for his professional career, which started today.

WOLF LEAPS 150 FEET: LIVES

Animal Escapes from Extermination Party in Northern Michigan and Plunges from Cliff.

Marquette, Mich.—Deer, elk and other animals in the game preserve of an iron company on Grand island are at peace again. The "wolf in the fold" has gone, although in his going he performed what seemed to the hunters who had cornered him a sulcidal feat. For some time the animais have been preyed upon by a huge timber wolf which had crossed from the mainland on the ice. An extermination party was organized and drove the animal to bay upon a high promontory.

Although the distance to the ice below was 150 feet, the animal when it discovered there was no hope of escape leaped from the cliff to the ice below and loped unharmed to the mainland.

ATHLETE SNEEZES TO DEATH

Another Chokes and Succumbs While Cating in a College Dining

Philadelphia, Pa.—Andrew Herd, a well known athlete, for many years a life guard on the beach at Atlanta City, N. J., sneesed to death at his home there. He was suddenly selsed with a violent attack of speering which he was unable to control in any way. It continued until he expired from a ruptured blood vessel. At Collegeville, Pa., Robert Thomp-

son, a Ursinus college student, famed as a football player, choked to death while eating in the college dining hall. A piece of meat lodged in his throat and he was unable to dislodge it.

USE FOUND FOR OLD SHIPS

Vessel Is Stormed by Piratical Crews in Savage Attacks for Motion Pictures.

San Pedro, Cal.—Old ships that have gone down to the sea on their last voyage need not rest in the "boneyard" longer. They can be moneymakers without the necessity of seeking a charter or the trouble of hunting a crew out of a dozen satiors' boarding-houses; and they need not put to sea at all, or, if they do, only for a day's voyage on the Pacific main in the company of a tug.

The ancient bark Alden Besse has saved herself from the fate of being converted into a coal hulk or condemned to disuse forever. Today she is the most sought after ship in southern waters. The motion picture concerns all want her.

Already the still stately old windjammer has borne the brunt of haif a dozen "piratical" attacks by "sea rovers" of the most savage mien. Her decks have been the scene of san's guinary battles for lovely women and a half dozen "commanders" have bravely walked the plank and been quickly rescued by San Pedeo boat; men with an eye to business.

Her owners say she never will be converted into a coal barge as long as her popularity with the film people

NEWSBOY SUES FOR ESTATE

Lad Declared to Be a Surviving Grandson of a Wealthy Mining Ploneer.

San Francisco.—By an action filed in the Superior court a London newsboy, fourteen years old, became a contestant for a fortune.

The suit, filed by Mrs. Amelia A. Dierks in behalf of Etienne Buillard. a lad whom she by chance found selling papers in London two years ago. reveals the story of the boy's abandonment in Paris after the death of his mother.

According to Mrs. Dierks, she discovered that he is the grandson of the late Dennis Hayes, a wealthy piomeer miner of California. The boy sues for all of the Hayes estate of approximately \$190,000. The boy's memory of his parents was vague, but Mrs. Dierks learned by investigation. she said, that his mother was Annotte Hayes, daughter of Dennis Hayes, and that she had married Etienne Bulliard, a suposedly wealthy Frenchman, against her father's wishes and had gone to Paris to live

CRIPPLE'S KNEE IS CHISELED

Surgeons Perform Remarkable Operation on Jersey City Lad-De-Formed Since Childhood.

Baltimore, Md. — William Knorr aged 19, of Jersey City, is recovering from a very delicate operation at Uni versity hospital, which the surgeons believe will save him from being s eripple for life.

For nearly an hour the surgeons chiseled the bones on the knee. If was necessary to separate the kneeca; from the bones of the upper and lower leg, for all three had grown firmly to gether, in what is described as az anchylosed condition.

The surgeons placed the bones in position, separated from one another by a preparation of white wax and lanolin, which will not yield to the action of the elements of the body for nearly eight weeks.

The boy has been a cripple since childhood.

MANY COLLEGE WOMEN WED

Nearly Fifty Per Cent. of Those of Mount Holyoke Happily Married.

South Hidley, Mass.-Nearly 50 Des cent. of the 7,900 women graduated from Mount Holyoke college are hap pily married, according to statistics compiled by Dr. Amy Hewes, profes sor of economics. No divorces have been reported in fifty years. According to her statistics, the average age for graduation has fallen from 23 years and 5 months to 21 years 8 months Most of the graduates wait three or four years after commencement be fore marriage.

The college graduate mother, so cording to statistics with reference to a certain group, has two children and more boys are born to college women than girls.

GIRL WINS BET BY CLIMBING

Kentucky Young Woman Hampered by Skirts Clambers Up 187-Feat Tower.

Louisville, Ky .-- Miss Susan Diam nell, clad is a coat suit and wearing her street shoes, climbed the framework of a tower 187 feet high at Lakeland, a suburb, and won a wager of

Miss Diameli was with a party who were discussing the bazards of working on so high a frame. She said she could climb the structure and a young man offered to bet \$20 she couldn't. He lost the money in less than twenty minutes.

Deaf From Meion Seeds. Williamsport, Pa.-Treating thirteen-year-old Carolina Garrison for deafness, Dr. G. D. Nutt found two watermelon seeds in the girl's right ear and one in the left. They had evidently been there since she was a child, and likely stuffed there by herself, unnoticed by her parents. Her hearing now is normal.

POOR MAN'S HOTEL

Budapest Has Hostelry With Rooms for 14 Cents.

Guests Served With Breakfast for Three Cents-Building a Beauty of Architecture Equipped With

Budapest.-Rooms, including steam heat and electric light, for 14 cents a day, breakfast of coffee and rolls for 3 cents and dinner for 14 cents are provided at the new Municipal People's hotel which has just been opened here for people whose earnings are not more than \$400 a year, says a Budapest correspondent.

Budapest has for some time suf-

fered because of a lack of dwelling houses and reasonably priced hotels for the working classes. This need was particularly keen among the petty "Beamten," as all persons employed by the city or state are known, whose income is small but who by reason of their position must keep up an appearance.

Some time since a large number of houses were built by the city for its small officials who were married. The rental, while low, was well within the means of the class of people for whom they were intended, and at the same time insured the return to the city of the money expended. It was a happy experiment.

Next, the municipal authorities considered the matter of providing a hotel for the transients of little means, workingmen, clerks, small merchants and petty officials, who could not afford to stop at even the cheapest hotels when they visited the capital. The unmarried of small wage or income, who might want permanent quarters, also were to be provided for. With this in view the municipal authorities built the new People's hotel, which has just been thrown open.

I was shown a large handsome fourstory structure covering a corner of a block. The exterior was as architecturally beautiful as the interior was modern, comfortable and homelike. Many of the hotais in Vienna, Berlin, London and New York where you pay more in tips than you do here for your room are not haif as inviting in appointments.

The corridors and balls are tastefully decorated; the rooms are of fair size, have large windows and are light and airy. The furniture is simple but serviceable. Each room has electric light, cold and warm water and steam beat, which many higher priced hotels in Budapest, Vienna and other continental cities do not have. A bath in most European

hotels costs from 25 to 50 cents. Coffee and rolls for breakfast may be had at the People's hotel for 3 cents. A plain, substantial hungersatisfying dinner, which here as all over Europe is eaten at midday, is

served for 14 cents. Should the management of the People's hotel, appointed by the municipal authorities, find that these prices are insufficient to make the enterprise self-sustaining, the deficit will be charged pro rata to the rooms and meals and the prices raised accord-

ingly. It was explained to me that the project was in no sense a charity but a place where any self-respecting workingman, clerk or member of the small official class may stay for a day or two or make his permanent home at a cost within his reach and that without taking all his earnings. In order that those whose income enables them shall go to a public hostelry, these who wish to take advantage of the low rates must produce reasonable proof that they do not earn more than \$400 a year. This may seem very small in America, but in Austria. Hungary and other continental countries there are kundreds of thousands of men whose income is

considerably less than that. Education and recreation have not been forgotten in the People's hotel. There is a large smoking room and a reading room where the leading news-

KINDLY SNAKES POST HIM

papers are on file.

Reptiles Give Pennsylvania Farmer His Coveted Hint of Earliest Springtime.

Allentown, Pa.—James Hauk, a farmer near Rising Sun, Lehigh county, started to dig out a cache of winter apples and cabbages, such as many rural dwellers are in the habit of making in the fall, so as to have fresh fruit and greens in the spring.

he came across a wriggling mass, which proved to be a pair of lively copperheads, which he quickly dispatched with his shovel. The snakes were about three and a half feet long. Their awakening from,

torpidity at this time is regarded as a

gure sign of an early spring.

In the straw covering the provisions

Cat is Philanthropic. Winsted, Conn.-Mrs. Arthur L. Morehouse of Northville is sure that animals reason. She found a colony of rate and mice in an oat bin in the barn. She called her cat "Descon," weighing 18 pounds. "Deacon," after one look into the bin, started at full speed down the road. In five minutes he was back with haif a dozen Joan and hungry brother and sister cats and all followed his lead straight

into the bin. The barn is now free

from rats.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

've don ton Louisbar d'Annelleur; but Eine ide Se : (Br publish faire donn. ve; commerce l'internationale) Eftir de Pennsonness in Processes Breit Confession S'? titler -mebde sadets ! Es. A.