

# AREA OF THE U. S.

## Now Has 3,743,344 Square Miles. Exclusive of Alaska.

### Boundary Data Given. Together with Interesting Historical Description of Manner in Which Mason and Dixon Fixed Famous Line.

Washington.—The geological survey of the United States has taken advantage of the fact that boundaries of the United States have all been finally fixed and the land and water area of each state charted, to issue two bulletins, one of which deals exclusively with the history of all boundary lines, not only of the nation but the individual states, and the other with the area of the country. Except for possible errors in the misinterpretation of the coast line there is little doubt that the measurements of the country as a whole are now nearer accurate than ever before. The total area of the United States is given as 3,743,344 miles, exclusive of Alaska, the canal zone and the island possessions.

One of the most interesting historical descriptions in the bulletin on boundaries is that describing the fixing of Mason and Dixon's line. The passage is as follows:

According to the original grants of Pennsylvania and Maryland the boundary between them was to be the fourth degree of north latitude. This line being found to pass north of Philadelphia and to exclude Pennsylvania from Delaware bay, negotiations were entered between the proprietors to rectify this geographical blunder, and for nearly a century the matter remained unsettled.

In 1760 commissioners and surveyors were appointed, who spent three years in measuring the base line and the tangent line between Maryland and Delaware. The proprietors then, weary with the delay, sent over from England two famous mathematicians, Charles Dixon and Jeremiah Mason, who verified the work of their predecessors and ran the line west between Pennsylvania and Maryland, since known as Mason and Dixon's line.

Mason and Dixon fixed the latitude of this line at 39 degrees 43 minutes 38 seconds. A resurvey in 1850 by Col. Graham determined it to be 39 degrees 43 minutes 26.3 seconds.

Mason and Dixon began their work in 1763 and were stopped by Indians in 1767, having run the line about 244 miles west of the Delaware, not quite including their work. They put up milestones all along said line, every fifth one being marked with the arms of the respective proprietors.

In consequence of the accidental removal of the stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, commissioners were appointed in 1850 by Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, to revise the former survey, which was done by Lieut. Col. Graham of the United States topographical engineers. The result confirmed the work of Mason and Dixon and Maryland gained by the resurvey a little less than two acres.

## BABY FALLS THREE STORIES

### Youngster Plunges Thirty Feet to Ground. But Frightened Mother Finds Him Uninjured.

Chicago.—After he had fallen to the ground from a third-floor porch in the rear of his home in a fat building at 319 West Van Buren street, Thomas Geharty, two years old, was picked up by his mother uninjured.

While playing on a bench on the porch the baby leaned over the porch railing and, losing his balance, fell to the ground.

The child's mother, hearing him scream as he fell, ran to the porch and saw him lying on the ground 20 feet below. Frantic with fright she ran down the stairs, believing he had been killed.

Just as she was about to pick the baby up, to her amazement and delight, he looked up into her face and smiled.

"I just fell down," he lisped faintly. The child was taken to the office of a physician and thoroughly examined, but it was found that no bones were broken and he seemed to have suffered no ill effects from his fall.

## Court Urges Whipping Post

New York.—In passing judgment on a man charged with having blackened his wife's eyes, Police Magistrate House declared in court: "What this state needs is a whipping post for wife-beaters, and I am willing to head a movement to establish it. We also need something for the wives who are beaten. From ten to fifty badly whipped wives come here daily for warrants for their husbands, and then when the brutes are arraigned the women refuse to prosecute. If we had a whipping post with a cat-o-nine-tails attachment, I think we could discourage the wife-beating habit."

## Pays Dearly for Profanity

Danville, Pa.—Sixty-seven cents an oath is the rate that was paid by Frank Ortman and his son John of Derry township for the luxury of several choice curse words hurled at Matthew L. Sheep in the harvesting of a wheat crop on Sheep's farm.

Sheep, bent on revenge, invoked the aid of the blue laws. In all there were 31 oaths, five by the father and six by the son. In addition to this the son was charged with assault and battery. The elder Ortman was dismissed upon the payment of fine and costs, while his son was held for court under \$200 bail.

## RACE SUICIDE IN FRANCE

### Men of Letters Have Few Children—Brainy People Don't Practice What They Preach.

Paris. Figures compiled by the well-known scientist, Jacques Bertillon, just published, have entirely upset the oft-repeated statement on the depopulation question in France to the effect that the rate of increase among those with fair incomes is normal, the decrease being due to unfavorable economic conditions affecting the working population, who are unable to raise large or even modest families. Mr. Bertillon's figures have been collected during a period of two years. They show that the average working man's family consists of "three and one-half children" for Paris and three children for the provinces, while taking that part of the population of Paris composed of artists, writers, sculptors, musicians, professors and persons in easy circumstances devoted to intellectual pursuits, it is discovered that for every 445 men there are just 575 children.

If, says M. Bertillon, all France imitated the upper classes, then before thirty years the population would be reduced one-half. He goes on to say that the secret of the depopulation of the country is not due to race suicide among the lower classes, so-called, nor to the severe conditions of life bearing hardest upon them. It is, he says, due to the self-exterminating conduct of the upper classes, who, like their kind elsewhere, are ready to preach on this subject, but only for the benefit of other people.

Going further into the details of the matter, M. Bertillon finds that men of letters, and particularly those in university circles, have the smallest families. In the College of France there are 127 children among 133 professors. The artists, including the free lances of literature, show up somewhat better with "a little more than one child per household." Thus the statistician proves that reform must begin with the so-called upper classes instead of with the working population. The rate of mortality is higher among the children of the latter, yet, even so, at the age of 21 the hand workers are represented by more children than are the brain workers.

M. Bertillon's report will be presented to the parliamentary committee on the depopulation question at its next session.

## WOMAN MUST NOT MAKE LOVE

### Michigan Farmer Secures Injunction Restraining Teacher from Talking to Son.

Detroit, Mich.—Alleging that Lily Burden, a Flint Rock school teacher, is so persistent in her love-making and has such influence over the mind of his son that there is grave danger of him becoming insane, Ernest D. Shove, a Brownstown farmer, was granted an injunction by Judge Donovan restraining the young woman from calling upon the younger Shove, from holding any conversation with, and also from doing anything to gain the affections of the young man.

The father alleges that his son, who is but 17 years old, has been backward in school. Using this as an excuse, he says, Miss Burden gave him private lessons. In this way, he says, the woman gained such an influence over the son that his mind was completely under her control. He said she so influenced the young man that he has become temporarily insane, and was confined for several months in a hospital. He was recently discharged as cured, but no sooner was he out than the teacher again took up with the youth, with the result that he is again in her toils, the father asserts.

The father declares that the affair between his son and the teacher created such a scandal two years ago that she was asked to resign her position.

## GIRLS WORK IN GYPSUM MINE

### Pretty Stenographers, Dressed in Overalls and Jumpers, Assist Operators During Strike.

Omaha, Neb.—Young women with white hands and pretty complexions, accustomed to the work of their sex, have gone down into the big gypsum mines at Fort Dodge, Ia., owned by the Plymouth Gypsum Company, and, dressed in overalls and men's blouses, are driving mules and doing other rough work there. The young ladies are taking the place of miners who went out on a strike and temporarily tied up the mines.

Grace Jackson, one of the company's stenographers, suggested to four others that they desert their typewriters and descend into the mine and drive mules. The other girls fell in with the suggestion quickly. Encouraged by the fact that some of the men from the mills went as engers and truck men, and the mine is now in operation the same as before.

Instead of men mule whackers, five young ladies, dressed in overalls and jumpers officiated.

## Roosevelt Trophies Arrive

New York.—Twenty casks and nine cases containing trophies of the hunt, collected by the Roosevelt expedition in East Africa, arrived the other day on the steamer Provincia. The specimens, representing 20 kinds of animals, will be forwarded to the Smithsonian institution.

## Big Orange Crop

New Orleans.—Louisiana will enter into keen competition with Florida and California in the orange business this year. Growers believe the crop will come close to 500,000 boxes.

# SUN KILLS BLONDES

## Clear Skies Make Them Susceptible to Crime and Disease.

### Breaks Down their Nervous Systems, Renders Them Unstable, Morally as Well as Physically—Jails Are Full of Them.

New York.—A startling note of warning to blue-eyed, light-complexioned New Yorkers is uttered by Dr. Charles E. Woodruff, surgeon and major in the United States army, who has just completed a private tour of the prisons and asylums of the city and state.

The jails and institutions, he says, are full of blondes, who, unable to stand the struggle for existence in a climate to which they are unfitted, have fallen into poverty, disease and crime.

What is true of New York, he says, is true of the country as a whole, and unless the blonde American finds or adopts some better means of survival than he has at present he will be wiped out as a type in favor of the brunettes.

The great trouble is the sunshine. There is too much of it in America for the blonde, says Dr. Woodruff. It breaks down their nervous systems, renders them unstable, morally as well as physically, and makes them peculiarly liable to the ravages of consumption and other deadly ailments.

In Clinton prison, says Dr. Woodruff, where the worst classes of criminals are confined, and where he expected to find the place full of modern "blackbeards," he was astonished at the large number of blondes, some of them of very light type.

Of the 253 convicts whose hair was available for comparison, there were 19 with very light hair, 61 with light brown, 61 with dark brown and 112 with black.

Of nearly 5,000 men whose average age was under twenty-one, admitted to the Elmira reformatory, Dr. Woodruff found the types classified themselves as follows as to their hair: Blonde, 318; red, 90; sandy, 103; light brown, 1,202; dark brown, 1,110; black, 1,405.

Of the 602 aged paupers on Blackwell's island, says Dr. Woodruff, only one-fourth were native born. Drink had broken most of them down, and from this Dr. Woodruff argues that the underlying nervous cause of alcoholism is far more prevalent in blondes than in brunettes in New York city.

The thirst for alcohol, Dr. Woodruff says, is merely the expression of a nervous weakness acquired under America's sunny skies, and resulting from excessive stimulation of light as one of a thousand causes.

Of 90 paupers in Boston institutions, Dr. Woodruff says, he found the same general trend in a city markedly more blonde than New York.

Thus, he says, unfavorable climatic factors are causing untidiness for survival in the race types in America too far misplaced from their ancestral climatic condition. This process of elimination among human beings, he says, differs in no respect from that which goes on among irrigated plants and lower animals.

The native born, he says, furnish the great majority of the blue-eyed professional criminals in New York. In Clinton prison 83 per cent of the tuberculous criminals are native born.

## AMERICAN RUSH FALLS OFF

### Decided Decrease in Emigration from Germany to United States This Year.

Berlin.—Contrary to expectations entertained a few months ago, the volume of emigration from German ports to America this year is falling far below the normal again and German shipping interests are keenly disappointed. Official figures show that the number who have embarked from Hamburg and Bremen since January 1 is only 174,900. This greatly exceeds the record for the first six months of 1908, when the abnormal conditions following the financial crisis resulted in a sharp decrease in immigrant traffic, but it is nearly 100,000 below the total for the corresponding period of 1907 and far below the record of any other recent year.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed over the attitude of the American immigration authorities, whose strictness in the enforcement of the regulations is considered responsible to a large extent for the traffic's falling to recover its normal proportions.

## Dynamite in Coal Bunkers

Sheerness, Eng.—Dynamite cartridges were found mixed in the coal bunkers of the battleships Lord Nelson and Victorious, just before they were to have sailed from here to join the fleet to which they are attached.

The discovery has created a profound sensation in the admiralty board, which, while doing all in its power to keep the facts from the public, immediately ordered an investigation.

The official view is known to be that a plot to destroy the ships must have been behind the placing of the explosive in the bunkers, as it would have been practically impossible for its presence to have resulted from an accident.

## Preaches for Husband

New York.—Mrs. H. S. Baker, wife of the pastor of the South Brooklyn Baptist church, is filling her husband's pulpit in order that he may take a month's vacation.

# SAVES ROYAL WIVES

## When Sultan Spirited Away 1,300 Inmates Remained in Harem.

### Mysteries of Yildiz Kiosk Are Revealed by Commission Appointed After Deposition of Abdul Hamid II.

Constantinople.—Mysteries of the royal harem of Abdul Hamid II, deposed sultan of Turkey, have been revealed by the commission appointed by the new monarch to investigate affairs at the Yildiz kiosk. The most amazing fact announced is that when Abdul was spirited away to Salonica, accompanied by only 11 women, not one more than 20 years old, he left behind 1,300 inmates of the harem.

It is not generally known that the Turkish sultan is never legally married. Ottoman law is in the way, for the reason that as the vicar of Mohammed and the king of kings, he can only contract marriage with a house of equal importance to his own. Lest he make a matrimonial alliance with a Christian princely house and make unstable thereby a purely Mohammedan monarchy, the makers of this law conceived the idea that as prince of the faithful the sultan is supreme lord of all, subjecting to his will all his subjects, both male and female.

Taking advantage of this provision of the law, Abdul Hamid sent agents throughout the empire in search of beautiful girls, acquiring them by purchase from their parents or guardians and having them sent to the harem, the new acquisition taking the place of those whom he had discarded or presented, with a dowry and residence thrown in, to civil or military officials. Another source of supply were gifts of girls to him from officials who wished to convey favors.

Once girls, children, got within the harem portals, they became as good as dead to their people. The head of the harem took them, in hand, as signed them to quarters, and supplied their wants. When these girls attained the age of 15 or 16 years they were sent bag and baggage to the sultan's living quarters, and there retained in a majority of instances but a very short time, and then dismissed and returned to the head of the harem, never to be with the sultan again.

In the harem were women known as the sultan's official, but not legal, wives. These women were so styled because they bore children to his majesty, still not all the women who bore him children were of this class. To be an official wife a woman must have been officially united to him on the seventeenth day of Ramadan, and thereafter bear him a child.

A child thus born is a legal offspring of the monarch, although the mother is not the sultan's legal wife. Children born to him by other women are not considered legal children. Thus it is explained how it is that Abdul Hamid, who has had numberless women, can only have a few children.

Since Abdul Hamid's deposition, through the reform government, through the Yildiz kiosk commission, has been endeavoring to locate the parents and relatives of these unhappy women. Success has followed in few cases, so hopeless seems the government's efforts that many of them are being given to officials to marry, while others are being assigned to villas and given pensions.

## SQUIRREL PLEADS FOR DRINK

### Thirsty Little White House Pet, Despite Ban on Nature Fakes, Asks for Water.

Washington.—Were it not for the fact that "nature faking" in and around the White House is supposed to have received a death blow several years ago, the experience of one of the bluecoat guardians of the executive mansion might be disbelieved by the overcredulous.

One of the squirrels, which, long before the present administration began, played about among the big trees and over the fine green lawn in front of the White House, according to the policeman, kept running up to him and then scampering away. As the squirrel refused peanuts, the policeman could not make out what it wanted.

Finally, the policeman says, he noticed that every time the squirrel ran away from him, the little fellow would make for a water spigot in the grass and jump up at it as if trying to turn the handle. This gave the policeman his cue.

With Sherlock Holmes instinct he turned on the water, which was exactly what the poor little creature wanted, for it drank as if suffering greatly from thirst. When it had drunk its fill, the policeman avers, the squirrel sat up on its haunches, grinned at the policeman, and with a grateful nip of its tail scampered away.

## Finda Riches: Wife Dies

Denver, Col.—After about twenty-seven years' search for a fortune which he finally found in an Alaska gold mine, William W. Toide of Bristol, England, arrived in Denver on his way home, only to receive here a telegram stating that his wife was dead and that the little home in the suburb of the English city had been sold for debts. Broken-hearted, Mr. Toide will return to Olholt mining camp in Alaska, where he gained his fortune, there to remain, he says, until he dies.

# GOAT'S HORN KILLS PATRON

## Gen. Caught in Dr. G. G. T. and Severely Injured While Being Swallowed.

Legansport, Ind.—A goat, a common farm-raising "billy" goat, caused the death of the Royal Rajah python, which Gus Lambrigger was exhibiting here. The python, which is said to have been more than one hundred years old, was 27 feet long and weighed 300 pounds. The snake, the other day, aroused from its dormant state and showed signs of hunger. Pythons will eat nothing but live animals, and although John Hildebrandt, officer of the local Humane society, had served notice on Lambrigger, ordering him to kill all animals before giving them to the snake, a live billy goat was forced into the snake's feeding pen.

The huge python fastened its eyes on the cowering animal and soon had it "charmed." Then, before the spell was broken, it sprang forward and wrapped its huge body about the terrified goat. The bones were crushed like eggshells and life was squeezed from the animal almost in the twinkling of an eye. The snake then began to cover the crushed body with saliva. When this was done it started to swallow the body whole.

One of the "billy" goat's horns became imbedded in the python's throat and in the snake's effort to obtain relief the horn severed an artery. In its dying agonies the python lashed and squirmed about the tent. Cages were knocked down, monkeys were liberated and Claude Linville, one of the employees, was struck and knocked 15 feet. He was picked up unconscious, but revived when a physician applied restoratives. His injuries are not serious.

Before the reptile had ceased its struggles the interior of the tent was almost wrecked. Cages were demolished and monkeys and other animals ran about at will. Fortunately there were no spectators present at the time or some injury would have been suffered.

Lambrigger owned the snake for 12 years and is having it embalmed. Two gallons of embalming fluid are used in embalming a person, but it required seven gallons for the snake.

## BRITAIN FAVORS THE BALLOON

### Imperial Defense Committee on Aviation Doubts the Military Value of Aeroplanes.

London.—The subcommittee of the imperial defense committee appointed to consider matters of aviation has given a verdict in favor of rigid dirigible balloons for naval purposes and nonrigid balloons for the army. The aeroplane committee considers that these machines possibly may become valuable to the army, but says they must be able to ascend to a much greater height than has at present been achieved before they will be safe for reconnoitering purposes.

War Secretary Haldane announced in the house of commons that in consequence of this report the admiralty had ordered a rigid dirigible of the latest type from the Vickers, and that the government factory at Aldershot was busy with the construction of three nonrigid balloons and two aeroplanes for experimental purposes.

The remarkable events of recent days—Y. Bleriot's flight across the channel and the flights in America—all point to the fact that some time in the future the aeroplane will be capable of bringing about great results.

## RESCUES \$3,000 FROM WASH

### Chicago Man Leaves a Large Roll of Bills in Nightshirt and Remembers It Later.

San Francisco.—That time-honored saying about the coming out of things in the wash came near being all too true with a \$3,000 roll of bills belonging to H. R. Munger, a Chicago lumberman at present on a business trip to San Francisco.

Mr. Munger is staying at the Hotel St. Francis and, being a careful man, the other night he put a neat bundle of \$3,000 in yellow and greens in the pocket of his nightshirt for safe-keeping. Then he slept the sleep of the very tired. In the morning he went to one of the stores and reached for the "roll," after making a few purchases. Being as careful of his dress as his money he was not garbed in a nightshirt. In fact, he remembered having sent that article to the hotel laundry.

It is estimated that it took Mr. Munger just three long jumps and two medium steps to reach the fourteenth floor, where the laundry is located. In ten seconds the air was filled with shirts, collars, socks and other wearables and then came the nightie. Munger whooped as he bore down on the garment and pulled out the "roll."

## Flea Bite Proves Serious

Richmond, Ind.—A flea bite may prove fatal to Mrs. Flora Nicholson, the wife of a young farmer near Green's Fork.

Mrs. Nicholson felt an insect prick her ankle and she killed it. Within a few hours her ankle began to swell and the leg became greatly enlarged. Inflammation set in and blood poisoning developed rapidly.

While suffering greatly, Mrs. Nicholson was removed to the home of her parents in Hagerstown. Her condition is critical.

# FIGHT EGRETS SALE

## Thousands Join in Protest to Stay Government's Hand.

### Proposed Disposal of Bird Plumes Seized by Customs Officials to the Milliners Resented in Nearly Every State.

New York. Shocked by the thought of Uncle Sam selling the nuptial plumes of many mother birds, butchered in the midst of their young, which were left to starve, thousands of Americans have joined a movement of protest against such a disposal of the egrets seized by the custom house in this city, which the government has just ordered to be sold here.

From almost every state in the union scores of communications have been received by the National Association of Audubon Societies offering support and urging action to prevent the nation from engaging in this business which the milliners are insisting upon. By its lax legislation and law enforcement against the bird butchers the Empire state is alone responsible in this instance for thus making the government traffic in these spoils, it is declared.

While these costly heron plumes are held here at the custom house to be auctioned off, hundreds of wives and mothers in this city and throughout the country are organizing a protest. Backing the Audubon workers in this movement the National Federation of Women's Clubs already is arrayed, as well as many sportsmen's organizations and granges, whose members want the birds to protect their crops rather than to become the wares of a few milliners.

From several friends and appreciators of bird life money has been sent to be devoted to fighting the milliners, whose commercial backing has enabled them, with a staff of lawyers, to urge Uncle Sam to traffic in these scraps of mother birds.

Plans to prevent any further possibility of the government profiting by the sale of these egrets already are being made in this city. State and federal officials are to be warned of the urgency of their duty in this matter, and every effort made by the people in states where laws are lax on this point to obtain legislation forbidding the sale of egrets by government officials.

In New York state particularly the officials whose attitude was the chief cause given by the government for reversing its former decision to destroy the contraband heron plumes, will be urged to take every possible action to prevent a repetition of what is called the "national disgrace" through the Empire state.

"We are in this fight against bird butchery to stay," said William Dutcher, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies. "Although the milliners may appear to have won a temporary victory in insisting that our government traffic in these trophies of the wholesale butchery of mothers leaving their young to starve, we believe the country will be soon aroused to combat this disgrace to the whole nation."

"Now that the people are waking up to the economic importance of bird protection we feel sure that every truly patriotic citizen of America."

## DUCKS CLEAN UP OHIO TOWN

### Lakeview, O., Installs a Corps of White Wings to Whom Name Applies Literally.

Bellefontaine, O.—The white wings of the town of Lakeview, near here, are literally white wings now. They're ducks.

Recently the finances of the village fell to such a low ebb that it was impossible to longer employ a street sweeper, so his services were dispensed with. Still there remained a few dollars in the treasury. One of the aldermen proposed that the money be invested in a flock of ducks which would forage in the streets and eat the rubbish.

Lean ducks were brought and turned loose in the streets. They started in to eat the waste from the streets at one end of town early in the morning and eat to the other end, when they are turned backward or shifted to another street.

## Messenger Buttons Belle's Dress

Washington.—A new role for A. D. T. boys was developed the other night when one of these young Mercuries, in the employ of a local company, was summoned to a fashionable apartment house by a prominent society girl.

The girl, whose maid had deserted her an hour or so before she was due at a dinner party, needed an assistant to button her dress up the back.

Not being able to find anybody else, she summoned a messenger, not revealing the nature of the service for which she intended him.

## "Dead" Bride Tells of Angels

Des Moines, Ia.—Mrs. Wally Otson, a young bride of Marshalltown, was pronounced dead by an attending physician and the family was standing about her bed mourning when she suddenly awakened, the family says. Throwing her arms about her husband she exclaimed: "Oh, Wally, I've come back to tell what I saw. I was dead and met by father and the angels. It was so grand that I've come back to take you with me." With these words she sank back upon her bed and never breathed again.

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

Le grand magasin de la Nouvelle-Orleans... 1000-1000-1000-1000