

IN THE SCRAP HEAP

Remnant of French Panama Canal Goes to Melting Pots.

Costly Machinery Brought Over by Backers of Ferdinand de Lesseps Being Sent to Furnaces to Be Made Over.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The ghost of old Ferdinand de Lesseps, the French engineer, would stand aghast were it to visit the yards of the Harrisburg Iron and Steel company and see what is being done with the costly machinery and equipment which he shipped from France to the isthmus of Panama in the '70s, to aid in the construction of the big ditch that was to be dug solely by French labor, conducted by French skill and paid for by French cash from the strong box of the banker and the humble woolen sock of the French peasant.

As all the world knows, after De Lesseps had made such a great success in building the Suez canal, he was urged to greater efforts to build a canal across the Isthmus of Panama to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and he set about the task with fervor and a desire to enrich his countrymen as well as to add luster to his own name and reputation. It was too expensive a transaction, however, and after the French government withdrew its patronage and the French people declined longer to contribute, there came scandals without number that shocked the world, and De Lesseps withdrew to France to die of a broken heart.

In the abandonment the French company left on the ground all of its machinery, some of which had never been in use, consisting of locomotives, steel cars, huge steel scoops and dredges, valuable tools of iron and steel, bridges that had been made in France and were ready to put together, huge cranes, levers and costly casting material. This costly outfit lay in the path of the American engineers when they came to dig the new ditch which Uncle Sam has in course of construction. Some of it was covered with mud a foot deep; some of it gathered rust an inch deep in the forests of the tropics; locomotives that cost thousands in France lay upturned, the resting places of the swamp birds, and monkeys swung from one bridge piece to the other as he had done their ancestors when De Lesseps and his merry men began to dig the ditch that failed.

LOVER CHARMS WARTS AWAY

Nitric Acid Helps After Year of Hard, Conscientious Work, Winning Girl's Heart.

New York.—After a year's conscientious and patient treatment with nitric acid and similar remedies, Robert J. McRian, a young carb broker, has succeeded in removing seven huge warts from the third finger of the left hand of the girl he loves, and as a reward, Miss Lilla Borsberg has consented to their betrothal. Just 13 months ago McRian asked Miss Borsberg to promise to marry him, but she told him such a thing was out of the question, as she would be unable to get the warts over the next six months. If this was possible the warts, which were as big as walnuts, would have destroyed the beauty of that symbol of their plighted troth. So McRian went to work, and after what seemed to him the longest year he ever lived, succeeded finally in vanquishing the last stubborn encroachment of the flesh, and now he wears a smile and Miss Borsberg wears his ring.

Eskimos Have Girl in Mood

New York.—Professor Wilhelm Verbeck, an ethnologist of Indianapolis, who has been studying the folklore of the Eskimo of Northern Labrador, has returned from St. John's, N. F., with a notebook full of observations taken in the year he passed in the north. Instead of having a man in the moon, Eskimos have a girl. One of their young warriors, according to the legend, became angry with his sister, and ran at her to box her ears. Finally she got to the edge of a precipice and he thought he had her trapped. But her momentum was so great that instead of stumbling off the precipice she shot out into space. The brother saw her land in the middle of the moon.

Talking Motion Pictures

New York.—With the announcement by Thomas A. Edison the other day that he has almost reached the solution of the problem of making moving pictures that talk, the future of the moving picture promises a revolution. Mr. Edison has obtained satisfactory results with a device for recording the words as well as the actions of actors and actresses.

BUSTED IN CHICAGO

Hundreds Daily Shuffle Through Streets Without Money or Friends.

Young Hoosier Lad Leaves Small Town to Answer Advertisement of Employment Agency—Is Duped and Robbed of Coin.

In Chicago penniless and without a friend.

Were you ever in such circumstances? Probably not, but every day sees hundreds of your fellows who are. The other day Walter Summers, a lad of only 17 years, good looking and apparently fairly well educated, shuffled into the Desplaines street police station.

The lad, tired and broken in spirit, sat down in a chair.

"Say," the boy asked timidly, "how far is it to Wabash avenue?"

"About a mile," was the reply.

He smiled half-heartedly.

"About a mile, eh? Gee, I wish I had a dollar for every mile I've walked today. I could buy some regular food and have enough left to get cleaned up and pay my railroad fare home."

"Where is your home?" was asked.

"Evansville."

"Indiana?"

"Yep."

And then the tired boy told his story.

"I had a job in West Salem, Wis.," he said, "and I was getting along pretty well. I had a few dollars saved up and thought I was satisfied. I saw an advertisement in a pamphlet up there, telling how easy it was to make money in Chicago. The ad was signed by an employment agency. All you had to do was to give the agency \$9 and it would ship you to Chicago, where a job would be waiting for you. It sounded fine, so I thought I'd try it."

"I gave my \$9 to the agency and took the rest of my money with me. I was shipped with about fifteen other fellows."

"When I got to Chicago I went to the place where the agency had told me I could find a job. The address which they had given me I found was a swamp—out that way somewhere," and the boy pointed toward the southwest side.

"Then I saw that I had been 'bunked.' The agency, I guess, was a fake, or else they had given me the wrong address by mistake. I thought, though, that I could get a job here, so I gave a dollar for the room I slept in that night. I hunted around for two days, trying to find a job. Twice I was told to call next week, but that is as close as I've come, so far."

"It was Tuesday when I came to Chicago. The following Sunday night I slept on the dock, down there by the river. There were lots of other fellows there, too. I spread out some papers and lay down on them. When I woke up in the morning I found that some fellow had taken my last \$10."

The boy paused a minute, looked at his lone auditor and smiled.

"Say, honest now, ain't I the 'fall guy'?" I guess I need a guardian," he said, and in spite of the fact that he was hungry and without money, he actually laughed.

"Ever since that night I have had to beg what food I have had. And I haven't had a shave, either, not since I came to this town."

"Yesterday I gave up. I went in the station down there," pointing west again, "and the 'copper' at the desk gave me a postal card and a nickel. Then I wrote to my mother and told her where I was and that I was 'broke.' I expect to hear from her tomorrow and then I am going home. An' say," he went on, "for all the three years which I have been away, I haven't written to my mother. She didn't know but what I was dead. I had an argument with her one day," he admitted reluctantly, "and I ran away. I got along all right up in West Salem, but Chicago is a fierce place."

The boy got up to go. A plain clothes detective who had come out during the latter part of the boy's story gave him 50 cents.

"Here, lad," he said, "you're too young to be in this town without money."

The reporter added his mite to the boy's fortune, then turned to go into the station.

"Well, much obliged," murmured the runaway, "so long" and he was off.

Praise for American Girls

New York.—"American girls do not go abroad to have a good time by drinking wine, smoking cigarettes and following other European customs. Those who say they do libel them."

Thus said Lady Francis Cook (Tennessee Clavin), herself an American girl, who arrived the other day from Europe.

"American girls have revolutionized Europe," she continued. "Continental streets, which were regarded as unsafe for women after dark, now are as safe as our own avenues. It is the American girl who has worked this change."

Order French War Planes

Paris.—The ministry of war has ordered the purchase of ten military monoplane and twenty biplanes within the next three months. This will give the French army an aerial fleet of 30 planes by the end of the year.

INDIAN GOOD COOK

Woman Wastes More Than She Uses, Says Prof. Barnard.

Specialist in Household Economy Says American Man, Because of Wife's Culinary Inefficiency, Not as Well Nourished as European.

New York.—Go to the squaw, thou housewife, consider her ways and do likewise.

At least such is the advice of Prof. Charles Barnard, specialist in household economy, and one of the foremost figures at the household show recently held in Madison Square garden, says a writer in the New York World.

What Professor Barnard is not telling eager inquirers at the garden of the superior housekeeping methods of our great-grandmother, "Minnehaha," he is busy with the "housekeeping experiment station," which he maintains at Daried, Conn., for testing under the most simple housekeeping conditions all new materials, methods, utensils and appliances which may prove useful in the home.

"The American housekeeper, compared with the housewives of France and Germany, is an unlettered child," declared Professor Barnard to me yesterday.

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Professor Barnard, mild of voice and eye, spoke with an earnestness that belied his manner.

"The American woman," he added, "does not know as much about cooking as the Indian squaw."

"Cooking," though it is part of the profession of wifehood, does not interest her. She 'can't be bothered,' she says. The merchant's wife vies with the millionaire's wife in buying only the most expensive cuts of meat. Steak, chops, steak, chops! swings the unvarying pendulum of the week's bill of fare.

"Now, only 24 per cent of a beef, for instance, can provide the expensive porterhouse steaks, Delmonico roasts, etc. The other 76 per cent is made up of the cheaper cuts—chuck, rump, round, shank, navel, brisket, etc."

"This meat, if properly cooked, that is, slowly cooked, is more nutritious and has a better flavor than lamb chops. But the poor man's wife won't take the trouble to cook it. Her husband may say, 'We'll have to economize. Let's buy a little cheaper meat.' But when she gets to the butcher's and sees another woman buying something more expensive she feels ashamed of what she intended to order or else says to herself, 'What's good enough for her is none too good for me,' and buys a porterhouse steak instead."

"There's another type of woman that would rather spend her husband's money than her own time. She 'can't be bothered' cooking. But"—here Professor Barnard brightened up perceptibly—"a solution has been found even for her. It is fireless cooking. Have you ever tried it?"

I confessed that my education had been neglected in that respect.

"That's a trick the Indian squaw has taught us," Professor Barnard continued. "There are 15 or 20 different fireless cookers on the market, so you see I'm not boasting anybody in talking about them."

STUDY SOUTH POLE WEATHER

Douglas Mawson of Sydney to Find Out Reasons for Australia's Queer Conditions.

Melbourne.—To find out why Australia has queer spasms of weather at times Douglas Mawson of Sydney plans to run an Australian expedition to the regions round the south pole. Not a dash to the pole itself, it should be borne in mind, but a long residence in Antarctic quarters to study the magnetic and meteorological conditions that reflect their influence on the climate experienced by those living under the Southern Cross.

The cause of Australian agriculturalists is drought. Some summers all seems set for a banner harvest, when suddenly cyclonic depression shifts and the rains that would have been a boon are wasted on the ocean. Other times hurricanes sweep whole provinces, leaving a track of destruction such as the fringe of the Mexican gulf occasionally experiences. These conditions absent and the weather conditions remaining normal, Australia has bumper crops and record clips of wool; squatter millionaires are turned out by the back blocks and boom times set in for town and country.

See Lion Is Life Saver

Toledo, O.—The sea lion which recently won much publicity by its sojourn in the Maumee, escaped again some time early the other morning. Police Lieutenant Conway sent four officers to pursue the animal.

Coroner Charles J. Henster says they ought to let the sea lion stay in the river and make no attempt to catch him.

"They should not have taken it out when it was in the river before," he says. "Why, as long as it was in the river there was not a single case of drowning. Kids were afraid to go in swimming, and people were afraid to commit suicide by jumping into the water."

BERRY CROP SHORT

Cultivated Product and Bad Seasons Reduce Supply

Demand Also Increases Faster Than Supply—This Answer Applies Particularly to Strawberries—Culture Found Profitable.

Bangor, Me.—Years ago during the summer season everybody in Bangor and eastern Maine had plenty of raspberries and blueberries at low prices. Now the berries are scarce and costly, and people are wondering why.

There are undoubtedly many explanations and probably all of them would be true enough, but the real cause of it all is that the demand for berries has increased much faster than the supply. This answer applies in a general way to all berries but is particularly true of strawberries.

The strawberry season is a long one, beginning early in the spring and lasting until nearly the first of August. This was not always the case, however, and the great length of season has been brought about by careful cultivation which has been made profitable by the ever-increasing demand for the product.

Until recent years the wild or field strawberries were the only ones to be found in the market in large quantities, and even then the demand was not so large as to make it profitable to pick and prepare them for the market, and those who did that work were poorly paid for their labor. But the women who live in the berry district are workers and they were glad enough to do the work though the wage was small.

The introduction of the large cultivated berries from other parts tempted the men of the families to try cultivated strawberries and to share with the women the labor and the profit. It was found to be profitable culture, both the demand and the supply increased and each year the selling price was better than that of the year before, showing that the demand was increasing faster than the supply.

Thus it has been up to the present time so far as strawberries are concerned, but with raspberries, blueberries and blackberries conditions have been different. Blueberries have been cultivated without trouble—in fact the only trouble comes from the rapid spread of the bushes after they have once been planted, and those who have taken any pains with blackberry cultivation realize that they are even more profitable to raise than strawberries and just as easy to market.

With raspberries and blueberries the natural supply of wild berries has been dependent upon, and this changes from year to year, the demand being entirely dependent upon the supply and the price being made by the pickers.

Raspberries have to be picked one at a time, and it is a smart picker who can pick twenty quarts per day, if the supply be large and the berries plentiful, and these, at an average price of from 12 to 15 cents, would give the picker from two to three dollars per day. But the supply of raspberries does not increase. It seems to decrease. Sheep are kept in the pastures where the berries used to grow, and that spoils the "patch." Then there are a few fires, and locally the supply has fallen off rapidly in the last few years.

In the large raspberry fields the supply is large enough, but few people care to travel any great distance to obtain raspberries as they do blueberries, because of the work of picking them, difficulty of transporting because of the perishable nature of the berries, and the fact of the season coming so close to that of the blueberries.

SLAKES RID SPUDS OF BUGS

Farmer Finds Them Good Workers in Ridding His Potato Vines of Pests.

Cadis, Ohio.—A new use for snakes was discovered on the farm of Samuel K. McLaughlin, a few miles east of Cadis, by Charles Albright, a farmer. He saw a garden snake coiled about a potato plant near him and killed it. He was surprised in a few moments to see another snake coiled about the top of a plant in another row, and being curious to know what the snakes could be doing in such a position, he watched for a few moments, and was rewarded by seeing the snake gather the potato bugs from all over the plant and eat them with an apparent relish.

He allowed this snake to have its freedom, and he says there would be worth for quite a little army of these reptiles in his potato field.

Utilize Steel Waste

Pittsburg, Pa.—The United States Steel corporation has discovered another by-product in steelmaking that will save hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

Vast quantities of ore dust, long regarded of no value, are to be made into briquettes and utilized in making pig iron. It is said this will reduce the cost of pig iron. The briquettes will be made at the Homestead mills.

Britain's Rarest Stamp

London.—An unused copy of the Great Britain £25 stamp, orange on blue paper, Queen Victoria issue, brought \$215 at auction. This is Britain's rarest stamp.

BLOWS TOAD FROM HIS HORN

Bass Player in Pennsylvania Band Gives Abundant Evidence of His Lung Power.

Lime Kill, Pa.—When the Liberty cornet band organized here several years ago the manager sought the best lunged musician to play the monster bass horn. Edward Ohlinger, a six-footer, weighing 175 pounds and twenty-three years old, was rightly chosen. His bass horn is one of the largest used by any band in the county, and on a recent test Ohlinger was heard by fellow bandmasters five miles from the spot where he blew.

The other day, however, Ohlinger's lung power was tested in another way to the very limit. The band, while playing at a Sunday school celebration, took a little rest and the instruments were laid under a tree. In the meantime a toad evidently decided that Ohlinger's horn was a fine sitting place, and crawled in.

When finally located and identified, the live obstruction could not by any ordinary means be removed. But Ohlinger rested until his companions had played another selection, when he went at the job for the second time. One master blow sent the toad flying from the horn thirty feet, and a minute later the echo from Ohlinger's instrument was again heard over the distant hills.

SMALL GRAPE CROP IS FEAR

Wet Summer Is Cause of Great Devastation in French Vineyards—Prices Raised.

Paris.—These are critical days for the French vintage. The wet summer has caused devastation in the vineyards amounting to a national disaster. In the Paris vineyards and in certain restaurants prices are being raised. All, however, is not yet lost, and a few days of bright weather would modify the situation favorably.

M. Georges Proust, a former president of the Paris wholesale wine merchants' syndicate, makes the following observations:

"Lamentable news comes from Burgundy. There will not be a barrel of wine in the Yonne; notably, there will be no such thing as 1910 Chablis. In Touraine the white vines alone will yield a small harvest."

"In the south the vintage will be fairly good in the Pyrenees-Orientales, medoc in the Herault and the Gard, and insignificant in the Aude. The maritime climate of Bordeaux has not protected the district. Vine diseases have raged there, and only half an average vintage is expected."

CURE FOR DEADLY DISEASE

Discovery at Rockefeller Institute Is Declared Beneficial in Infantile Paralysis.

Philadelphia.—A discovery that may lead to a cure for infantile paralysis, a deadly disease of childhood believed to be epidemic at present, is announced by Drs. Simon Flexner and Paul A. Lewis of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York city.

The announcement appears in the journal of the American Medical Association.

As a result of experiments on monkeys inoculated with the virus that causes infantile paralysis, a serum has been found that in some cases prevents the disease from developing and in others cures it soon after it appears.

The investigators also have found it is possible to vaccinate monkeys with an "immune" serum which will prevent them contracting the disease.

Infantile paralysis attacks all classes of children. If a victim does recover it almost invariably is deformed for life.

MILKING HIS COWS TO MUSIC

Boston Millionaire Dairyman Finds Phonograph Increases Yield—Established Fact.

Boston.—John Munro Longyear, Brockton's greatest milkman, is milking his celebrated Jersey cows to the accompaniment of a phonograph and the latest popular musical selections. A daily record is kept of the quantity produced at each milking.

The milkers noticed that some of the more irritable cows were quiet when the phonograph was playing. The next night one of the milkers brought the phonograph to the barn, and there was the same increase in the milk yield as on the previous night. Since then the phonograph has been an established fixture in the Longyear dairy.

Orchids at \$1,000 Each

Cromwell, Conn.—Andrew Benson, a Connecticut farmer, has returned from a seven months' expedition to the United States of Colombia with 86 crates of rare orchids, which he values at more than \$25,000. Among his prizes are four specimens of pure white orchid, so rare that each plant commands a price of \$1,000 in this country.

Japs Learn to Fly

Berlin.—The Japanese government commission, which has been buying Wright aeroplanes in Germany, has concluded an agreement with the Prussian military authorities under which 25 Japanese officers will be taught to fly in Berlin.

STRANDED IN PARIS

Mishap Often Occurs to Americans in Big French City.

Many Tourists Fail to Engage Return Passage and Are Unwilling Prisoners—Steamship Companies Unable to Carry Them.

Paris.—It will come as a surprise to many Americans to hear that every year a few of their compatriots are actually prisoners in Paris and London. There are two classes of prisoners, the willing and the unwilling; neither is to be envied, even though confined in a city of pleasure.

There is no doubt that the number of Americans touring in Europe is greater this year than ever before. It is impossible to obtain the exact figures, but one can realize the magnitude of the invasion when it is known that up to date more than 75,000 Americans have attended the passion play at Oberammergau. Furthermore, one must take into consideration the thousands of Americans who couldn't see the passion play if they wanted to.

Every returning steamship now is crowded to the gunwales, and, consequently, the number of stranded Americans is larger than ever. Of those who become prisoners, the unwilling are the tourists who have failed to engage return passage on the steamships. Owing to the general exodus of tourists in the autumn, the steamship companies are unable to accommodate these people who have trusted to luck to get tickets at the last moment. When the money that was set aside for their passage goes to pay for their "prison fare" and for "begging" cables to friends at home.

Occasionally one of these unwilling prisoners degenerates into a willing prisoner. Hopelessly stranded, the latter make desperate attempts to earn a livelihood in Paris, a city that offers employment only to the most Parisian of foreigners. On the boulevards you frequently are accosted by an obvious American, who either sells questionable picture cards, offers to show you what you shouldn't see, or asks you for money that you probably haven't got.

In fact, the begging American is now an institution in Paris. He hails from the same town that you do; he knows of your father; perhaps he once worked on the staff of the leading daily. There is only one dodge to get rid of this "broke" compatriot—give him the address of some one you know or don't know, who, you tell him, "will be interested in his case." The name you give should be, of course, that of an artist who is starving and who has a sense of humor, and there are plenty of them.

Though the willing prisoners are on the increase, it is a fact that this year comparatively few Americans have been stranded in Paris through failing to engage their return passage. The actual number is a record.

Nowadays not only do many Americans pay their European hotel bills, railroad fares and steamship tickets before leaving New York, but their expenses are figured so closely that they arrive back in New York with just about uptown cartage in their pockets.

To those who figure too closely the pawshops of Paris are a boon. A watch often pays for an emphatic cable.

MACHINE TO SEPARATE COINS

Simple Device Invented by Pennsylvania Man Great Convenience in Bank.

Harrisburg, Pa.—At the age of 33 years, Daniel Drawbaugh, the prolific Cumberland county inventor, to whom many people give the credit for being the originator of the modern telephone, is organizing a company and planning to erect a big factory for the manufacture of a coin separator which his brain has recently evolved.

The separator consists of a series of brass plates, one above another, perforated with holes sufficiently large to allow a coin of a certain size to slip through, and so larger. Mr. Drawbaugh's model works to perfection. He dumps in a shovelful or so of dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, nickels and cents, gives the crank a turn and the dollars drop into a tube; another turn and out come the halves, etc. Pressure of a button in the tube separates the coins into piles of five, ten, twenty, etc., for easy rolling into packages.

Mr. Drawbaugh says two sizes of the separator will be marketed, one retailing at \$45 and the other at \$75. The price, he claims, will bring the machine within the reach of every financial institution or counting room which needs one, while previous separators have been so complicated or so expensive as to be either practically useless or beyond the reach of the average individual or firm.

Wrong Plaster Draws Him

Allentown, Pa.—Former District Attorney E. J. Lichtenwalner is suffering from a double distress. He went to spend Sunday at the Poocones, where he stumbled over a chair and suffered a cracked rib. The doctor there who attended him bound him up tightly and skillfully enough, but instead of adhesive plaster used porous plaster, which almost drew the life out of Mr. Lichtenwalner until the substitution was discovered. He is now improving at home.