

ODD BRITISH RITES

Examination of Standards for Weights Is Completed.

Box Is Dug Out of Masonry and Once Every Twenty Years Treasured Relics Are Examined by Noted English Scientists.

London.—One of the queerest and most important of all the ceremonies that are gone through with in this country—one, too, that comes off only once in twenty years—has just taken place in the presence of some of the stiffest big-wigs of the state.

This ceremonial consists of unearthing and examining the contents of an extraordinary box buried in the masonry which forms the public staircase of the house of commons, and thereby checking the weights and measures used in Great Britain.

To get at the box, which is of oak, masons had to pull down part of the wall of the staircase. Then, after the casket had been exhumed, and its unique contents examined with infinite care by a band of scientists, it was put back in the cavity of the wall, which then was built up and will not be disturbed again until May, 1932.

That box contains two pieces of metal. One is a cube of platinum measuring only one inch along each side; you could buy another like it for about \$200, but this particular cube has a value beyond all other pieces of metal.

The way in which it is guarded gives some idea of its worth. It is wrapped in a specially prepared paper uncommonly soft in texture, which is laid in another silver-gilt case. This case goes into another, made of stout bronze, which fits into a sturdy mahogany box, firmly screwed down, and in addition, sealed in a particular way.

The other thing in the box is a rod of bronze. It is carefully protected, too, and is placed on eight rollers in another mahogany case. This case is screwed together and sealed. Both these mahogany cases are put in a special casket made of lead, firmly soldered and perfectly air-tight.

There is still another covering, however, the leaden casket being fitted into the outer one. This is of specially selected wood and is sealed in such a way that its contents are kept absolutely intact. It fits exactly into the cavity of the masonry of the staircase.

The two queer pieces of metal are the standards of the British weights and measures. They always remain of the same value. The standards which were first used came to grief in 1834 in the fire at the houses of parliament, and it took many men of science years to compute and manufacture the existing two pieces of metal.

The one-inch cube of platinum, though so small, weighs a pound. The bronze rod is 38 inches long and has two studs of solid gold to measure off the yard. Two lines cross these gold studs, and at a certain temperature and pressure of the air, the distance between these fine lines is the standard of British measures.

When the ceremony of examining the standards comes off they are not touched by hands, but are held in special tongs. One of the most delicate balances known was used in weighing the cube. The yard was measured with the utmost exactness, a powerful microscope being used, and other delicate measurements were made, including that of the temperature and of the height of the barometer.

PLANS TO TEACH FARMERS

Secretary Wilson Announces Agricultural Education Campaign in the North.

Washington.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has announced plans for farm management study and work in the north, for which both houses of congress have made provision in the agricultural appropriation bill. This plan, on which the secretary and Dr. F. T. Galloway, chief of the bureau of plant industry, have been working for several months, corresponds to the cooperative demonstration work in the south.

The federal government, through its agents, who will act in co-operation with state and local inspectors, proposes to make a comprehensive study of the farms of the country with a view especially of carrying to the farmer information which will show him why a certain branch of his industry is unprofitable and how he can make it pay or, if not, why he should drop that branch.

"We will carry the agricultural school to the farmer," said Secretary Wilson. "Ordinarily, only one man in a large number can go to school to study farming. We must take the school to him."

Seeks Freedom From Two. Salem, Ore.—Discovering she was married to two men and that both were living, Mrs. Hazel Liddell instituted proceedings to obtain a divorce from one husband and to annul the marriage contract with the other.

Mrs. Liddell married B. D. Liddell at Oakland, Cal., in 1901, and deserted him after two children were born to them because of alleged cruel treatment. Alleging she believed Liddell dead, she married Earl Murehan in this city last November.

Recently her first husband appeared and asks for a divorce from him and asks to have the second marriage declared void as her former marriage was valid when it was contracted.

LOCKED HORNS TELL OF FIGHT

Moose of Unequal Size Had Battled Long Years Ago in Alaskan Woods.

Seattle, Wash.—A story of woodland tragedy not hard to read is told by a pair of weather beaten interlocked moose antlers that Billy Kramer of Fairbanks, Alaska, has just brought down and placed on view here, the story being that of one moose who died of a cut throat, while the other perished of starvation. The horns were discovered on Hoppe creek, a small tributary of Small Wood creek. Part of the prongs were deeply buried in the earth when found.

One remarkable thing about the horns is the peculiar structure of the larger pair, which resemble those of a European elk or of the ancient Irish elk far more than they do a set of moose horns. In fact there is almost no palmation, while the prongs are long and large. More singular still, under the main beams, where the palms should be, are a series of large prongs, giving the horns a sort of double deck appearance, and it was these superfluous prongs that proved the undoing of the larger moose, for they caught and held the horns of his antagonist in the struggle of years ago.

The horns of the larger moose had a spread of sixty-nine inches and each horn had seventeen prongs. The other set of antlers is forty-five inches in spread, the shovels being broad and fitting closely to the head. Each antler has ten prongs.

In the charge that locked the two animals for death the smaller evidently struck with a swing to the right, for the long prongs of the big horns were sprung on the right side over the shovel, while the smaller one's own short, curved prongs were hooked in front, over and under the other's main front, on the left side. And this charge must have brought death to the larger moose, for one of the brow prongs of the small fellow must necessarily have slid under the opponent's horn and into the big moose's throat, where it was held by the locked horns.

Death came to the smaller, which must have fallen, carrying with it to the ground its antagonist, which afterward slowly died from hunger and thirst.

COURT FINES MEANEST MAN

New Yorker Confesses Stealing Six Dollars His Wife Had Saved for Rainy Day.

New York.—Magistrate Appleton in the Tombs court declared that he had discovered "the meanest man" in James Dowling of 55 Rose street, who pleaded guilty to stealing six dollars his wife had saved for a rainy day. He was remanded to the Tombs to await trial in special sessions.

Dowling was left in the house to mind his three children while his wife, who is very weak, went out to earn 75 cents cleaning an office. She had no sooner gone than Dowling took the money and abused his children. When his wife returned she learned of the theft of the money and at once went out and had Dowling arrested.

She informed Magistrate Appleton that her husband had refused to work, and said that she would have been willing to do it all if he would only stop getting drunk, but now she could not think of doing so, as, instead of watching the children, he beats them.

After hearing all the facts, Magistrate Appleton denounced Dowling as "the meanest man alive" and "a disgrace to manhood" and remanded him to the Tombs for trial.

WIDOW IS DENIED \$2,500

Widow of Millionaire Denied Monthly Allowance—She Will Receive 35 Per Cent.

Washington.—The application of Mrs. Rose Keating Hutchins, widow of Sillson Hutchins, for an allowance of \$2,500 per month from the estate left by Mr. Hutchins, estimated to be worth \$4,000,000, was denied by Justice Wright in equity court No. 2. Mrs. Hutchins was awarded this allowance by the court some months before her husband's death.

Mrs. Hutchins' application was denied on the ground that the death of her husband created a new situation of affairs, and that she was in the position of a widow with conditions created by her husband's will. Mrs. Hutchins, by the terms of the will, is to receive 35 per cent. of the estate.

PLAY CAUSE OF CONVICTION

Jury Sees Girl's Father Wreak Vengeance on Villain and Then Convict Prisoner.

Monticello, N. Y.—The jury in the case of John Lewis, seventy-two, of Liberty, accused of wronging a girl of fourteen, attended a moving picture show and saw a heart-broken father wreak vengeance on a villain, who had robbed him of his daughter.

The jury found Lewis guilty and Judge Thornton sentenced him to ten years in prison.

The aged prisoner blames the moving picture show for his conviction.

Lived With Ball in Brain. Missoula, Mont.—John Marcell, a railroad laborer, who lived for a month with a bullet in his brain, is dead. He was shot in April and the bullet was not removed until a week ago. Dominio Pagoslink, who is alleged to have done the shooting, is sought by the police.

FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM

Young Filipino Is Alleged Victim of Persecution.

Sotto, Convicted of Felony, Long a Fugitive in the British Crown Colony of Hongkong—Extradition Is Sought After Four Years.

Hongkong.—Alleging persecution of a Filipino patriot by the Philippine authorities is causing much denunciations in the far east, especially in this British Crown colony, where a big part of the drama is being played.

The victim is a young journalist, Vincente Sotto, a qualified attorney and brother of one of the most prominent members of the Filipino assembly. Sotto, because of his ardent championing of the cause of his compatriots, has been tried twice for sedition, and twenty-four times for libel. In every instance save one, however, he was discharged. Failing to suppress him by these means, the authorities brought a charge of sedition of a native girl against him and he was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and ordered to pay a large sum to the girl's mother. On appeal the verdict was confirmed, but the sentences were substantially reduced.

Being on bail, Sotto fled from the islands, and for the past four years has been residing in Hongkong and for the last six months has been editing a little bilingual called the Philippine Republic, devoted to immediate and complete independence for the Philippines. Published and run in the British colony, it has warmly denounced the government of the Philippines. For a time the Manila authorities did nothing, but when the paper began to circulate in the islands and to receive support and recognition from Boston they revived the sedition case and a few weeks ago sought his extradition.

In its issue a week before the application for extradition the little journal published what it described as a verbatim account of a conversation between a Mr. Attache and General Ricarte, on the little island of Lama, Hongkong, wherein the former stated that he had been commissioned by Gen. Franklin Bell to urge the latter to take the oath of allegiance to the United States and return to the Philippines, promising him, on the assurance of General Bell, that if he did so he would get a fat position in the government service. Ricarte, however, turned the offer down.

It is admitted that the interview took place, but it is now being urged that the former was in no way sent as an emissary from General Bell. Sotto is fighting extradition on the ground that the proceedings are being taken for the purpose of punishing him for a merely political offense.

INDIANS HACK UP HIS FACE

They Think Captain Bartlett Is Ghost of a Dead Markman Who Died Several Months Ago.

San Bernardino, Cal.—Capt. James Bartlett, who for years has traversed the desert collecting specimens for the Smithsonian institution, has arrived here, and with his face and body cut and bruised and telling a story of having been attacked by Colorado river Indians, who thought him an evil spirit.

"When I appeared in their village," said Captain Bartlett, "the Indians were terror-stricken." They seized me and threw me into a hut, about which they placed a guard. Their warriors worked themselves into a frenzy with a religious dance.

"I learned that they thought I was the ghost of another Captain Bartlett, a crack shot with a rifle, who died several months ago in Los Angeles. It seemed that white men had read in the papers of Capt Bartlett's death, and, thinking it was I, had told the Indians that I was dead.

"When night came the guard about my hut relaxed its vigilance and I made my escape."

GAINS FORTUNE IN ACCIDENT

Man Brought to a Chicago Hospital Learns of Legacy of Several Thousand Dollars.

Chicago.—Michael Welter, who was injured by runaway mules at Edwardsville, Ill., and brought to a hospital here, disclosed his identity recently and learned that a legacy of several thousand dollars was awaiting him.

Welter ran away from home in Lake county. His first letter home was not answered and he never wrote again. His father and mother have since died, but never believing that their son was dead provided for him in their will. The money is being held for him by the Lake county treasurer.

When Welter was injured he asked the poorhouse authorities at Edwardsville to write his sister, who had him brought to Chicago.

Holds Baby, Will Adopt It. New York.—The wife of sculptor McNeil, who designed the McKinley statue at Canton, O., held a baby just for a minute for an affable stranger and now she will adopt it.

"U. S. Versus 2,500 Eyes." Chicago.—"The United States versus 2,500 eyes" is the title of a suit brought by Federal District Attorney Wickertaham who alleged the glass eyes were smuggled into this country.

BEEES AT A LONDON STATION

Thousands Escape From a Box and Cause a Small Panic—Farmer Puts Handful in Pocket.

London.—When a Hammersmith train drew up at the Baker street "Tube" station just after six o'clock yesterday several hundred infuriated bees got out of the train, as well as several passengers.

Brought from King's Cross in a box addressed to Hampstead, the insects, on being opened at Baker street, managed to escape from the box. With an angry hum the bees buzzed in and out among the passengers on the platform, who darted away in all directions. "Live bees!" somebody shrieked. "Oh, I've one in my hair!" cried a woman.

An official on duty at the gate saw the air full of little black and yellow bodies, felt something crawling on his hand—and bled! Amid this turmoil one man at least was cool and collected. He halted from the country, and on alighting from the train, surveyed the scene with a quiet smile.

"This be lucky!" he remarked, and, stooping down toward a bunch of the insects swarming on the platform, he calmly picked up two handfuls of them, put them in his pocket, and walked off.

There were many thousands of bees in the box, but the majority of them were secured in time. Nobody in the stampede considered the bees themselves, which were vainly trying to reach daylight and the flowers. Dozens of them buzzed pitifully around an electric arc lamp, while others crawled upward to the glass regions above.

Hundreds of the insects were stamped on and killed on the platform. The trouble was soon ended.

NURSES RARELY STAY SINGLE

Chicago Woman Doctor Says Majority Marry Physicians and Not Their Patients.

Chicago.—Trained nurses rarely remain single. The percentage of spinsterhood running into middle age is small. But it is not generally known that 60 per cent. of trained nurses marry physicians. They do so, according to Dr. Anna Dwyer, No. 4428 Drexel boulevard.

"Nurses more frequently marry doctors than anybody else," said Doctor Dwyer, "and as I have observed the matter the old tradition of patients falling in love with their nurses hasn't so much basis, because the proportion is about one-fourth.

"But if you ask the nurses—well, they are strangely silent. To a woman they declare they enter a training school not as students in a possible matrimonial bureau, but for the love of their profession. It is work they plan for—nothing else.

"If Cupid does happen to interfere, and a patient does fall in love with his nurse and offer her everything in the world to leave her exacting work and become his bride—well, it really isn't the nurse's fault.

"That's what they all say, at any rate, and if the little girl is still more active among the doctors and sixty out of one hundred nurses become the wives of physicians, after all it is just up to Cupid himself."

BREED FLIES TO GET BOUNTY

Flushing, N. Y., Overrun With Pests When First Supply Runs Out.

Flushing, N. Y.—A campaign against the housefly which was inaugurated by the town authorities here a few weeks ago has resulted in a curious complication owing to the rivalry of local small boys for the prizes offered to those turning in the largest quantity of dead flies.

As the campaign waxed warmer, the supply of flies began to diminish. Then some of the ingenious boy contestants devised by breeding establishments, which insured them a maximum "catch" with a minimum amount of labor. Tainted meat, or molasses, was used to encourage the flies. With an improvised trap of mosquito netting hung above this breeding place, a catch of a pint or more was insured every day.

Members of the Anti-Fly society were puzzled at the sudden increase in the fly pest until some one revealed the truth. The officials are uncertain whether to end their campaign or to have a raid made on the breeding places.

SAYS STARS AREN'T FIXED

Stars Are Constantly Moving, Professor Turner of Oxford University Believes.

London.—Herbert Hall Turner, professor of astronomy at Oxford university, in an article in the new scientific quarterly, Bedrock, expresses the opinion that fixed stars are constantly and swiftly moving. The older a star is, he says, the quicker it moves. Young stars are, perhaps, not subject to gravitational attraction and do not acquire the properties of "matter" until later in life. It is suggested by the professor that there are two kinds of matter, what is known as the matter of the tellurians, which repels that which might be called anti-matter, so that there is a mutual repulsion as well as a mutual attraction among the stars.

Greets Attend Reception. New York.—One hundred and three burglars, pickpockets and other former criminals attended the semi-annual "reception" at the home of Judge Crane of the court of general sessions who paroled them.

SEA AFFECTS MIND

Ocean Madness Grips Women as Big Liner Sails.

Mrs. Helen Erickson Is Deported From Chicago and Spanish Senorita Is Seized With Insane Fear on Board Steamer St. Paul.

New York.—The sailing of the American liner St. Paul was marked by two fits of violent insanity among the women passengers.

Mrs. Helen Erickson of Copenhagen, deported by government order from Chicago, broke out of the ambulance in which she had been taken to the pier from Ellis Island and assaulted Mrs. Fairman, the Ellis Island matron, who had her in charge and was waiting for her to alight.

The woman ran to the sodded parking in front of the piers, climbed to the rail and screamed for help. "Save me!" she shouted to a group of longshoremen. "They are trying to kidnap me and put me on that ship!"

Two policemen and the chauffeur of the ambulance ran to her. She scratched and bit them and tore their clothes before they could overpower her and take her to the ship, where she was locked in the hospital.

Only a few moments later there was all irruption of frightened men and women from the steerage gangway to the pier. The fugitives said a young woman was killing her mother below.

Senorita Fernanda Puertola, a daintily formed Spanish girl of high birth, and possessed of bewildering beauty of the true Castilian type, was the other passenger driven suddenly mad by fear of the sea aboard the St. Paul.

It was only after she had torn and ripped the faces and clothing of several stewardesses and some of the husky sailors of the St. Paul, that she was carried down the gangplank and put in an ambulance to be taken to the psychopathic ward in Bellevue.

"Sailing madness," is what the officers called the strange attack of hysteria. But her mother, Senora Marie Puertola, who was also roughly handled in the struggle with the crazed girl, said she had been reading everything printed about the disaster that overwhelmed the Titanic and she cried out in her sleep that the dead hands of the Titanic's victims were waiting in the ocean pathway to seize her and pull her down.

BRIDEGROOM HELD FOR THEFT

Jilted Woman Thrashes Man in Presence of His Bride in Public Restaurant.

Berlin.—According to the Swiss newspapers, a honeymoon was interrupted by a violent scene recently in a leading restaurant at Bregenz, on Lake Constance. After the wedding ceremony the happy couple escaped from their relatives and friends and ordered a lunch. When the dessert was served a handsome young woman walked up to the bridegroom and accused him of jilting her, and also of taking a large sum of money from her by false pretenses of marriage. The bridegroom attempted to excuse himself to his former sweetheart, but she became angry and thrashed him in the restaurant, taking away his money, watch and chain and even his new wedding ring. Then she commanded him to follow her to the nearest police station, where she repeated her accusations, and on the bridegroom confessing to the fact, he was formally arrested.

GETS SPEECH AS KIN DIES

Grief Causes Colorado Man to Talk Who Hadn't Spoken for Fifteen Years.

Colorado Springs, Colo.—Grief at the death of his father restored speech to Thomas E. Austin, who now talks clearly after 15 years of silence. Austin is thirty-one years old. With the rest of his family he stood by the deathbed of his father, Thomas M. Austin, unable to utter a word, while the rest were praying. Suddenly he burst forth: "Father, father!" he cried. "We don't want you to leave us!" "If my death brings back your speech," answered the dying parent faintly, "I die happy."

PUTS BAN ON SCANT ATTIRE

Pittsburg Suburb Has Law Against Bathing Suits, Canoeists and Abbreviated Dress.

Pittsburg, Pa.—An ordinance was passed by the borough council of Oakmont "prohibiting persons from appearing on the streets, at fetes, festivals and entertainments, nude, semi-nude, or in abbreviated attire." While timed primarily at canoeists, the ordinance is general and for the "purpose of protecting the morals of Oakmont," a suburb of the city.

SPEND NIGHT IN RAIN

Chicago.—Ejected from the house which her husband had built for her 35 years ago, Mrs. Ellen Magill and her daughter Cora remained all night out of doors in a hard rainstorm.

IS BLINDED BY REEF

Atlantic City, N. J.—Blinded by the sun's reflection on a tin roof, where he was working, Albert Halsted walked off into space and fell forty feet.

SILK SOCKS WENT ASTRAY

Prized Pair of Hosiery Finally Find Themselves on "MR. COCKROACH," a Negro.

Joplin, Mo.—Among the many presents received by Willard Butts recently, it was learned at the police station, it was his mother-in-law presented to him a fine pair of tan silk socks, costing \$1.50, the most valuable pair he had ever owned, according to Mr. Butts, via the police. And because of the extreme beauty of the socks Mr. Butts had planned to wear them in the balmy summer evenings when he could adorn his feet with tan low cuts to match.

Mr. Butts may yet wear his silk socks, but "Cockroach," a notorious negro of Joplin, can say that he was the first person to adorn his pedal extremities with those same socks, and that they were stripped from his unwilling feet at the "bull pen" of the city bastille.

At the Butts home, 510 North Moffet avenue, a negro domestic has been employed until recently. For several weeks a large number of personal articles belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Butts have been missing. An investigation aroused suspicion against the negro, who was arrested by the police. The woman was living with "Cockroach," whose correct name is Roy Smith. The negro's name is Lulu Smith.

A trunk, found in the house occupied by the two negroes, contained a large part of the missing articles from the Butts home. When Mr. Butts saw "Cockroach" in the "bull pen" of the jail about the most conspicuous part of the darky sport was his fancy silk socks, which proved to be Mr. Butts' Christmas present. "Cockroach" was stripped of his fancy hosiery, which will be used as evidence in the prosecution of the negroes.

"MAN OF MYSTERY" IS FOUND

Jaror Recognizes Witness as Man Whom He Had Long Sought.

Denver, Colo.—"There is the man of mystery who saved my life fifteen years ago. I have never laid eyes on him to thank him for his daring and bravery, and I can't wait until I get out of this jury box to put my arms around him and tell him what I think of him," said Patrick McAndrews, a jurymen on the present panel of the federal court, when Glenn Burton of Longmont took the stand to take oath to testify in the case of the government against the Colorado Contract Investment company.

McAndrews and Burton were residents of the western slope fifteen years ago, and when the former was seriously injured during a cold winter, Burton, who did not know McAndrews at that time, was near and rushed to his aid. He carried him twelve miles at breakneck speed on his sled to a doctor and saved his life.

It took McAndrews months to recover, and when he was well he sought the man who saved him.

CHILD SHOWS RARE NERVE

Seven-Year-Old Girl Walks Mile With Mangled Hand and Sees Fingers Amputated.

Blondale, Del.—With one hand nearly cut off as the result of an accident, Mary Corbhill, a seven-year-old child, displayed remarkable bravery and fortitude when she walked more than a mile and then calmly held her hand while a physician amputated four of the fingers. The little girl and her younger brother were playing in the woods when the boy picked up an ax and cut the girl so that two fingers were severed. Two mangled and the hand nearly severed at the wrist. The child bound a string around the arm to keep it from bleeding, walked to her home with the brother and then held her hand for amputation, stopping to forgive the brother with a kiss as the surgeon's knife did its work. It was only after the dressing of the wounded member was completed that the child's iron nerve gave way and she cried.

BELL CRAZES BITING DOG

Its Clanging Made the Brute Attack Pennsylvania Farmer—Is Killed by Son.

Carlisle, Pa.—Jacob Heiser, sixty-five years old, a farmer residing near here, is under the care of a physician as the result of being horribly bitten by his big shepherd dog, which had been crazed by the clanging of a big dinner bell on top of one of the farm buildings. Heiser's life was probably saved by his son Elmer, who came to the rescue with a revolver, putting four bullets into the animal and killing it. When the dog rushed Farmer Heiser was knocked to the ground by the attack and the animal savagely fastened its fangs in the man's legs and tore at his clothing in an effort to reach his throat. Heiser fought as best he could, and his daughter assisted him, attacking the animal with a stick.

Heiser is terribly bitten on his chest and legs and the tendon in his left leg is badly torn.

FLIES AS GHOST

New York.—Sleuths are trying to make a "clue" out of a bottle containing five dead flies which was found on the body of an unidentified dead man in Central park.

Gives Fall Bearers \$10. West Chicago, Ill.—A letter by Peter J. McCartney, a suicide, provides that \$10 be given to each of his fall bearers, with which they should "have a good time."