

SENATOR FROM NEBRASKA



Photo by Moffat Studio, Chicago

Elmer J. Burkett was elected United States senator from Nebraska for the six-year term, beginning in 1905, having been a congressman for six years previous.

TIMBER FINISH NEAR

EXPERTS SEE END OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY YEAR 2000.

Present Pace is Declared Fearful Drain and Conservation is Urged as the Country's Present Need.

Washington—Government experts and statisticians, who have given years of careful thought and study to the subject, are in accord that the important and pressing question of the times is the problem of the country's natural resources.

Thirty years is the limit set, if the present rate is kept up, when all the remaining virgin timber will be cut. The end of the century will see the available supply of coal greatly reduced if not entirely exhausted.

With the disappearance of the forests, the check is being removed that retards the flow of the water, with the result that the rains run off quickly into the rivers and thence into the sea.

Even the soil is being exhausted, by single-cropping and scanty fertilization, every year 1,000,000,000 tons of the richest soil matter is swept from the surface of the farms not properly protected, and dumped into the sea.

The suppositions of the scientists that future generations will witness the failure of the most important of the natural resources, it is declared, are not imaginary.

We need to look only a very little way ahead, as things are going now, in order to see them realized. True, the failure of the resources will not come suddenly, and such of our resources as can be renewed need never fail if we use them wisely.

The bureau of forestry has just issued a monograph on the subject of conserving the natural resources. It was edited by Mr. Cleveland and is entitled "A Primer of Conservation."

Statistics are given in the primer showing the extent of past waste in the use of the natural wealth of the country, and quotes a large number of men prominent in national affairs, who urge upon the natural riches of the country with more prudence hereafter.

It shows how the conservation movement began with the establishment of the national forest policy, and with the growing realization of the possibility of the exhaustion of the other natural resources than the forests, especially after the investigations of the inland waterways commission last year, broadened until it embraced all the material resources upon which the industries and civilization of the country rest.

CANDY BILL IS \$130,000,000.

Enormous Sum Spent Yearly by the Americans is Shown in Figures.

New York.—An example of the enormous sums which the American people spend annually on luxuries is shown by the statement in the current number of the Confectioners' and Bakers' Gazette, to the effect that the wholesale value of the candy output in the United States for the current year will exceed \$100,000,000.

According to the United States census figures, the capital invested in the manufacture of confectionery was \$8,486,874 in 1880. This had increased in 1890 to \$23,326,791, in 1900 to \$26,319,195 and in 1906 to \$43,125,408.

The cost of materials used has increased from \$17,125,75 in 1880 to \$31,116,621 in 1890 to \$23,326,791, in 1900 to \$26,348,810,342 in 1905.

At the present time there are approximately 1,500 factories engaged in this work. According to Henry W. Hoops, president of the National Confectioners' association, people in the trade figure the average value of the finished product at the factory at 15 cents a pound, so that the estimate of \$100,000,000 for the product this year would mean an output of approximately 667,000,000 pounds of candy, or nearly eight and a half pounds per annum for every man, woman and child in the United States.

GIVES ALL; DIES A PAUPER.

Soldier of Fortune Spurned by Relatives Whom He Gave Wealth.

Worcester, Mass.—Dr. John Wesley Sill, a soldier of fortune, descended from a noble English family, died in the poorhouse here. Late last year he fell that he was soon to die and he gave away considerable property in Wales and Canada, and all his money. His tangible property and fortune in this state he gave to relatives.

When he turned to the relatives to whom he had given his wealth, they, it is alleged, spurned him, and last March he was admitted to the poorhouse here. His wife died several years ago. He never fully recovered from the shock of being turned down by the relatives to whom he gave his last cent.

Dr. Sill saw service in wars with the English army and later with the union army in this country. He was a skilled linguist. He was a veteran of the Crimean war, throughout which he served as surgeon. He came to this section about twenty years ago, settling in North Brookfield. He was known throughout the Brookfields for his philanthropic work. He gave his money away right and left to the poor and was beloved by all who came in contact with him. While in the Brookfields it is said of him that his services as a physician were free to all who required them.

Gets Big Price for Legs.

San Jose, Cal.—The jury in the suit of George C. White against the Southern Pacific Company returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$35,265 damages. White, who was an employe in the company, lost both legs in the accident in the yards of the company at Gilroy several months ago, due to the negligence of the company.

NOT A MODERN GAME

PROF. STARR SAYS MOUND BUILDERS INVENTED BASEBALL.

Declares Original Diamond Was Laid Out in Ohio—Tradition Upeast and Father Chadwick Shorn of Honors.

Chicago.—A prehistoric Moriceal Brown, attired in a bronze bracelet, tossed a wooden ball bound in bear hide, striking out a Frank Chance, attired in an airy suit of dog hair, in the first ball game ever played in America, according to indisputable evidence which has been obtained by Prof. Frederick Starr of the University of Chicago after extended examinations of the earthworks of the mound builders in Ohio.

The Chicago archaeologist and ethnologist the other day told his students that in some of the mounds he had found remains of the balls used in the first games played on the continent of North America, while in others long heavy implements were discovered which could be nothing but bats.

These profound revelations set at rest the long discussions between Philadelphia, New York and Hoboken as to what city was the birth of American baseball. The game, like many of the presidents, is a native of Ohio. Father Chadwick was made a step-father by the usual hand of fate after many years of thinking that the baseball child was really his own, and even the primitive European games of ball must give precedence to the American article played when the Hudson bay ice-cap was slipping off toward the southwest and making a flat prairie of the future site of Chicago and most of Illinois.

Philadelphia must abandon her talk about the "townball" of 1833, New York her pride in the game played by its Washington club in 1843, while the Elysian fields of New Jersey (where Hoboken now stands) must give way to the mounds of Ohio as the first American ball ground.

"Hundreds of persons doubtless participated in some of these prehistoric games," said Prof. Starr in his archaeological class. "The geometrical mounds of the Ohio district doubtless in many instances inclosed fields used for athletic purposes, and these games were one of the chief sports."

One can well imagine the excitement which would attend a game between the mound builders from the north and south sides of the Ohio river. Swift runners would slip through the forests and across the prairies months before to carry the word to the outlying mound population, and the people in the suburbs, so to speak, would start several weeks ahead to be sure of getting in at the finish.

The excitement can be imagined when in the ninth inning, with both sides even up, a wild-eyed mammoth should appear to scramble over the edge of the athletic mound and run amuck amid the lightly attired crowd.

The care with which the mound builders interred balls and bats seems to indicate that they took their baseball and religion together, being much more inclined that way than modern rooters.

THE GIRL OF THE GRAY HORSE.

Makes a Daily Gift of an Apple or Sweetie to Her Favorite.

New York.—George, a gray horse attached to one of the newspaper delivery wagons in Park Row, is the recipient every day of a large red apple from a young woman. After purchasing the apple from the Italian fruit dealer by the Sun building the young woman walks over to the curb and lets George take the apple from the palm of her hand. After patting him on the neck and speaking some soothing words to him she passes on.

The fruit dealer who witnesses this performance every day says that the young woman has been giving the horse apples for the past five years, seldom missing a day. Sometimes she does not purchase an apple and instead brings a few lumps of sugar from her home. On one occasion the fruit dealer offered her a three-cent apple, but she declined to take it, saying that a three-cent apple was not substantial enough for George. She wants a five-cent apple for her favorite.

GETS A "CHICKEN SHOWER."

Pastor is Surprised by Henhouse Contribution from His Flock.

North Yakima, Wash.—A "chicken shower" for their pastor is the manner in which residents of the Altatum valley here elected to show their regard for their clergyman, Rev. Owen Unstead, Congregationalist. As a result of their selection the clergyman is now the possessor of half a hundred birds, all bred in the purple, which will go part of the way toward replacing a loss of 140 chickens sustained by him recently.

Mr. Unstead had a quantity of grain which had been put away in jars. This he threw out to his birds. It appears to have been poisoned, as all but nine of his flock succumbed to the sickness which followed the feed.

Parishioners and friends took it upon themselves to restore the flock, and one night recently they sneaked on the roosts of the minister and left half a hundred birds, and it is understood that there are more to follow.

RARE VIOLIN IS DISCOVERED.

Towner Buys It for 25 Cents—Now It is Worth \$500.

Charlton, Ia.—Gene Holmberg has a genuine violin story just like you read about. Some months ago he came into possession of a disreputable looking fiddle, for which he paid an old colored man, Douglass, in this city, 25 cents. The violin hung on the wall in his furniture repair shop for a long time, and one day a stranger who was in the shop chanced to see the instrument and took it down and examined it. He asked all about it and finally asked Gene what he would take for it. Gene said he paid 25 cents for it and would sell it for two dollars. The stranger bought it and took it away with him.

That was the last Gene heard of it and had forgotten the incident until the stranger dropped in again and told him a tale that sounded like a fairy tale. He took the violin back to his home in Ohio and showed it to an old violin maker there, who examined it carefully and pronounced it an Amati, made by one of the famous antiquary's pupils in Italy in the early part of the nineteenth century. The old violin maker fixed the instrument up for \$25 and it was then offered for sale, and already an offer of \$500 has been received for it, but it is being held for a higher price.

Gene says he imagines the Amati story is all a yarn, but it is possible that the violin is really a rare old one. And anyway the \$500 offer is bona fide, which looks pretty big compared with the 25 cents that Gene first paid for the violin.

LONG LIFE WITHOUT MEAT.

Vegetarian at 83, Never Tasted Any Sort of Flesh.

Pennsburg, Va.—To the fact that she never ate meat Mrs. Hannah Renner, who lives near Chestnut Hill, and who was 83 years old on November 1, attributes her long life and her remarkably good health. She has rarely been ill, and at the present time is vigorous in body and mind. She is able to do any kind of household work and delights to walk to Emaus to visit friends and then walk home again. The distance is about three miles in each direction.

Speaking of her belief in vegetarianism she said she had never eaten meat because she believed her health was much better than it would have been had she made a practice of having meat on the table.

Mrs. Renner devotes much time to making quilts. Since the beginning of this year she has finished 17 of them, making the patches and doing all the other work involved. Besides this she has done much other sewing.

She is the widow of Samuel Renner, who died in 1906. She was a Miss Weikel, and was born in Upper Millford township on November 1, 1825.

WINDS \$4,000 IN OLD PUMP.

Well Driller Gets Rich Returns on His Investment of Ten Cents.

Utica, N. Y.—John Roberts of Watkins, Schuyler county, a well driller purchased of Angelo Dupree, a junk dealer, an old pump for ten cents. It was apparently of no value, but he thought there might be some parts that he could use in his business. When Mr. Roberts and his assistant took the pump to one of the wells they were drilling and started breaking it up they were greatly surprised to see gold coins drop out of the holes they made. They at once finished the job, and found \$4,000, nearly all in \$20 gold pieces.

Whom the pump belonged to at the time the money was hidden or how long it had been there is a mystery. The latest date of one of the coins was 1888. Mr. Roberts at once deposited his find in the Farmers' and Mechanics' bank, at Watkins. He is willing to surrender the find to any one who can prove ownership, but no claimant has yet appeared. The junkman will make a memorandum to examine the inside of every old pump before depositing it at any price.

HARD LINES FOR ROMEO.

Unrepaid Blue Law of Buckeye State is Unearthed.

Jefferson, O.—On page 262 of book A in the office of County Recorder Kimball, one of the ancient tomes which go back to the beginning of things in Ashtabula, appears a record which shows the "blue laws" so called, to have been in active force at that early period.

The entry referred to reads: "State of Ohio vs. Calvin Knowlton, May, 1812. Upon inquiry, it appears that Calvin Knowlton is guilty of riding from the township of Morgan to the township of Lebanon, on the Sabbath evening previous to sunset, to see his sweetheart; therefore, it is, in my opinion, that the said Knowlton pay to me the sum of one dollar for breaking the laws of morality. T. R. Hawley, justice of the peace. Truth Jonathan Warner, deputy recorder."

It is fortunate this act is not so forced nowadays, or three-fourths of the young fellows of the country would be bankrupt with fine paying.

Limits Weight of Mule Load.

Atlanta, Ga.—There is a limit to the weight a Georgia mule should be made to haul, and this limit was fixed by Judge Broyles in police court at 2,500 pounds. Judge Broyles fined C. R. Walker \$5.75 because Walker's mule was caught by an enterprising policeman in the act of hauling a load of 4,932 pounds.

DAM NEARLY READY

BIG STRUCTURE ON SALT RIVER HELPS OUT THE ROOSEVELT.

Granite Reef Barrier in Arizona Will Divert Great Stream and Supplement Irrigation Project of Great Importance.

Los Angeles, Cal.—One of the great-est of the group of reclamation enterprises now under way in the great arid southwest is the Granite Reef diversion project, now about completed, by which it is planned to irrigate 200,000 acres of arid desert land about Phoenix, Ariz.

Within a few weeks hundreds of thousands of gallons of water will be turned into the great canals of Arizona by this giant diverting dam on Salt river—a supplementary undertaking to the big Roosevelt dam, 60 miles farther up the river.

The Roosevelt dam is 399 feet high from the deepest point to the top and will keep back water, giving 200 feet depth at the dam, and is supposed to hold 7,000,000 acre foot of water. According to the present rate of rainfall it will take about six years to fill the vast reservoir back of the dam.

The Granite Reef dam is 1,000 feet long between the gates to the canals, and its purpose is not to impound water to any great extent, but to divert the rainfall above as it may occur, down the salt river, and also to distribute the waters from the Roosevelt dam, diverting the mighty volume into two streams or canals, one flowing from either side of the Granite Reef dam. These canals are 70 feet wide at the bottom and 10 feet deep. They are fortified with cement lining where needed.

The work of the Granite Reef dam is under the supervision of L. C. Hill, reclamation engineer, working under government instructions, under the reclamation act. The enterprise was originally undertaken by an irrigation company, but its methods were not up to date, and its progress unsatisfactory to the government.

Although a great number of homesteaders had settled in the region supposed to be irrigated from the source, the supply of water was so irregular and unsatisfactory, because of the inadequate service, that many of the settlers were compelled to leave. Then the government stepped in, bought out the irrigation company for \$320,000, and immediately started operations to make the work a permanent and beneficial concern.

It is the plan, under the reclamation act, for the cost of the gigantic undertaking to be paid by the owners of the land benefited, they being required to meet a charge for water of \$30 an acre irrigated, payable in ten equal annual installments.

It is agreed, however, that the original holders of land who had already paid the irrigation company for the service will not be required to pay the government anything except the small annual maintenance tax which all beneficiaries will pay over and above the assessment for wiping out the cost to the government of the work itself.

The importance of this work of the reclamation service cannot be exaggerated. What private companies failed miserably to accomplish, the government is doing surely and swiftly. The desert is to be reclaimed and the natural wealth of Arizona increased by untold millions through the Roosevelt and Granite Reef dams. This work will receive much attention during the irrigation congress at Albuquerque.

STUDIES NEEDS OF FARMERS.

Girl Walks 8,000 Miles in Ohio Viewing Rural Conditions.

Norwalk, O.—Miss Eva Cornwell of Wakeman has just completed a remarkable tour over Ohio. In ten months she has walked 8,800 miles, all within the state, and made a study of the conditions in rural communities which would be invaluable to President Roosevelt in his effort to better the condition of the farmers.

The walk, which began on a wagon, covered 37 counties, hundreds of towns and villages, and carried Miss Cornwell into almost every type of home within the state. Her average day's journey was 25 miles; on many days she walked as many as 40 miles. "I found the trip a great benefit," she declares. "It strengthened me mentally as well as physically. It showed me that the one thing the farmer most needs is intellectual development—that has not kept pace with his material well being. Farmers take things too superficially, avoiding discussions and studies that require concentration and deep thought."

Wanted—A Pied Piper.

Mount Vernon, Ill.—There is an unusual pest in Mount Vernon. It is a plethora of rats, and should the Pied Piper of Hamelin happen this way he would be given a job at overtime prices. Rats have suddenly sprung from somewhere in thousands, and are working havoc in grocery stores, feed bins and warehouses.

They are caught by the score every night, but the slaughter that is made on the following morning does not seem to diminish the numbers. The cause of the invasion is declared to be due to the dry weather that has dried up all the creeks in the rural districts, and the rats have been driven to the city in search of water.

WON BY WHIRLWIND WOOING.

Ohio Woman Has Strenuous Suiter Arrested But Later Repents.

Cleveland, O.—The way to marry a spirited woman who says "no" to one's proposal is to pay no attention at all to what she says, but just to go ahead and wed her.

Landon T. James, railroad engineer, heads out this advice. James ought to know. The young widow he loved had him arrested twice within a week when he attempted to put his theory into practice. The object of his tender regard complained that he broke in her door to make her sign an application for the marriage license.

On top of this comes the announcement that James won after all, and that the wedding is set.

In court, when James was tried it didn't look a bit as though he was going to win. He got a heavy fine on two charges, and was told if he didn't stop his peremptory wooing the sentences would go into effect.

But James' method of wooing had already had its effect. A few evenings ago Mrs. Mamie Johnston, who is the one James made up his mind to win, telephoned him. She told him he might call.

He did—in a hurry. Telephoned at 7:45 p. m. Arrived at house 7:56 p. m. Admitted at 7:56 1/2 p. m. Engaged at 7:59 p. m. Which is going some.

"The arrest and sentences in court didn't bother me a bit," said James. "A man in love shouldn't mind a little thing like that."

TRACK EMBANKMENT CRAWLS.

Under Alton, Ill., Influence Earth Plays Queer Antics.

Alton, Ill.—Now the railroad tracks near Alton have gone awry under the malign influence of nature's fakery. A quarter of a mile of track on the Huff line, 12 miles south of Alton, has taken to doing a giddy Salome dance every time a train passes over it.

The track runs on an embankment built of black "gumbo" earth in a low country. The embankment is ten feet high. It was built three years ago and has been getting water and gaver ever since.

All kinds of weather, hot and cold, wet and dry, affect the spirits of this embankment. It has gotten into a condition resembling rubber such as bouncing balls are made of.

When a train thunders onto the embankment the black gumbo earth chuckles and begins to palpitate. The palpitation grows more and more noticeable as the train progresses and before the embankment is covered by the train the nature fakery earth is in the midst of a wriggling dance that would make Anthony Comstock blush.

GETS \$5,000 JOB BY ACCIDENT.

Reporter, Nominated to Fill Reform Ticket Vacancy, Wins.

Philadelphia—Given three weeks' leave of absence from his paper that he might act during the campaign as secretary of a "Philadelphia party," a reform movement in opposition to the Republican city organization, Frank J. Gorman, 24 years old, a reporter, was nominated at the last minute for county commissioner to fill up the ticket. The completion of the county showed that Gorman had slipped into a job that will pay him \$5,000 a year for the next three years.

About all a county commissioner in Pennsylvania has to do is to see that the election ballots are printed correctly and have general supervision over the election officers. Three are elected in each county every three years—two by the majority party the third place going to the minority candidate who polls the larger vote of the two nominated by his party. It was in this way that young Gorman got in.

Gorman was graduated from the high school only three years ago, and has been a reporter ever since. He was married in August. He will be the youngest man ever chosen county commissioner.

Longest Ear Glued Up.

Norristown, Pa.—A funny thing happened here the 680 teachers assembled in county institute here. Prof. H. A. Surface, the state economic zoologist, addressed them, and displayed some sample corn, which had grown to immense size hereabouts. In examining a particularly long ear, which measured 17 inches, he found that there had been some nature fakery going on, for the ear came apart and the glue with which it was stuck was revealed.

The cobs, in the center of which a stick had been affixed, were of two colors, red and white, the "fakery" no doubt never suspecting that the "boss" inspector would get "next."

No Crime to Squeeze Girls.

Easton, Pa.—Judge Russell C. Stewart ordered a nonsuit in the case of Jacob Root against Susannah Young, in which Root asked \$1,000 damages because, he alleged, Susannah circulated a story that he had held her in his lap and hugged her, thereby damaging his character.

"The libel reads: 'Draw her down on his lap—there is no crime in that,' declared Judge Stewart, conning the papers. 'Put his arm around her waist—there is no crime in that; squeeze her—there is no crime in that. The case is nonsuited.'"