

THE WHEAT PIT



Interesting spot in the Board of Trade at Chicago where the world's cereals have more than once been cornered.

HAS HOUSE ON HANDS

TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, MASS. IN A DILEMMA.

Shows Attractive Residence for Village Physician, But Can't Repair It, and Doctor Refuses to Live There Because of Condition.

Chesterfield, Mass.—This little town has a home on its hands which it cannot sell by the terms of a bequest, and which it cannot keep in repair because of the town statutes. It is an attractive residence, and was bequeathed for the occupancy of the village physician, but the village physician will not live in it, because it needs repairs. The town fathers have authority to rent it to any one, and the fine old farm house, with an extensive garden and orchard, is deserted and likely to decay. If at any time the village physician, whether it be the present one, Dr. J. E. Hayes, or some future one, shall consent to dwell in it and look after the repairs himself, the difficulty will be temporarily solved. But the problem will never be permanently of the town's hands, for there will be as many heirs to generation as there are village physicians.

The house was left by Miss Lucy A. Ingram, who died about two years ago, leaving a property worth \$10,000. The bequest was worded: "I give and bequeath to the town of Chesterfield my homestead, to be used for the occupancy of the resident physician of the village, free of all expense except the necessary repairs." Dr. Hayes was promptly informed that the house was at his disposal, but he stuck out for repairs. The selectmen searched the will and employed a lawyer to work on it, but nowhere could they find a clause which would give them the ability to collect from the doctor for expenses they might incur. The physician said the expense was up to the town, but the town laws did not give any authority for expending money for such a purpose. They decided to threaten to rent the place, but the threat did not go with the physician, for the will said expressly that the house was for the village physician, and none other.

There is no way of wriggling out of the matter, for the selectmen voted unanimously to accept the bequest. The difficulty of the situation came only as afterthoughts.

Miss Ingram undoubtedly made this bequest because she was distressed in her lifetime over the difficulty different village physicians had in securing a place to live. She wished to remove such difficulties for the medical practitioners, but she has defeated her purpose by neglecting to provide funds for the maintenance of the property.

Town to Move Two Miles. Dallas, Tex.—The town of Olney is to be moved bodily from its present site two miles to the line of the new Wichita Falls & Southern railway. Olney is in Young county, and has about 1,000 inhabitants. Recently the owners of the property agreed with the owners of the railroad provided every man who now owns a lot in Olney is given a like amount of land in the new town, and this will be done. The buildings are all frame.

Woman So Fat Train Is Late. Paducah, Ky.—The conductor of a train which lost time the other day reported to headquarters: "Five minutes late to allow fat woman to dress."

SILK DRESS FIXES ROAD'S ROUTE

Woman Refused to Sign Alton Deeds Until She Got New Gown.

Bloomington, Ill.—A silk dress decided the routing of the Chicago & Alton railway through central Illinois in the '50s. Lee Hickox of Sangamon county recalls the road from Joliet to Springfield. The right of way as selected by the promoters extended south from this city through what is known as Funk's Grove. All of the land through this section was owned by Isaac Funk. He was willing to sell what land was needed for the road, but his wife refused to affix her signature to the deeds and the project was temporarily blocked.

Finally Mrs. Funk agreed to sign if she was given a silk dress, an unheard-of extravagance in those days. She remained firm and finally the promoters accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Funk came to Bloomington, where the finest silk dress pattern that money could buy was ordered for her. After this was accomplished she called for a pen and attached her signature to the papers. The right of way which she signed for is now occupied by the towns of Shirley, Funk's Grove, Atlanta, and McLean.

If Mrs. Funk had been refused the dress the road might have been constructed in another direction, and as the Funk's owned vast tracts on each side the detour would have been considerable. History does not record whether Mrs. Funk ever wore the dress or not, as there were few occasions in those days when it would have been in form.

FAITHFUL SLAVE GETS PENSION.

Court Confirms Annuity from the Estate of His Dead Master.

New York.—Under an order of the supreme court, Eldridge Cooper, a 70-year-old ex-slave of the Cooper estate in Columbia county, Tenn., will continue to receive \$100 a year that his former master, ex-Judge William F. Cooper allowed him until two years ago, when the old judge began to fall mentally.

Judge Cooper's estate, valued at \$500,000, has been tied up by legal difficulties since his mind failed. These have now been straightened out, and annuities which the judge has been paying since 1878 to his brother and three sisters and to the former slave will be renewed.

Eldridge Cooper, the ex-slave, had been in the Cooper family since childhood. Even when freed he remained faithful and in the service of the family.

Save Millions for People. Washington.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson is directing the energies of a corps of 3,500 scientists, who, according to his estimates, are saving the people of the United States annually about \$232,000,000. One bureau, that of forestry, saves the people annually more than the department of agriculture has cost since it was established. The statement is issued by way of answer to criticism directed by Representative Tawney, chairman of the committee on appropriations, during the last session of congress.

Destroys Taste for Tobacco. Paris.—Those who desire to lose the tobacco habit have only to take advantage of a new discovery of a Paris physician which is called nicotyl. A person desiring to lose the tobacco habit has only to gargle his mouth and throat with this liquid, which is absolutely tasteless, and then try to smoke a cigar. The taste of tobacco is thereby rendered so horrible that the smoker will drop the cigar after the first puff.

SALINA SORE AT FISH, JR.

"Young Set" Was Prepared to Welcome Multi-Millionaire's Son.

Salina, Kan.—Salina mourns and refuses to be comforted over the announcement that young Stuyvesant Fish has "passed up" this city for Muskogee. The "young set" was ready to receive him upon presentation of his credentials and endorsements, and the old crowd, many of whom boast that they "used to know his pa," consider it nothing short of a personal affront that the young millionaire should "turn up his nose" at the "best town in Kansas."

But the social "knockers" who had been in training with their hammers from the time it was announced that Fish was to locate here find no little satisfaction in his refusal to take the job of second assistant bill clerk in the Rock Island depot. They point out that Fish is not sincere in his democratic intentions, and that he turned down the \$40 a month job in Salina because of the \$15 a week job at Muskogee. They insist that, like all the grasping capitalists, the young man is "out for the dough." Some of the more bitter in spirit over their disappointment are leaning toward the doctrine of the knockers, but the more charitably disposed think he only went to Muskogee because he believed he could be more useful there. Muskogee is on a main line and Salina is not. The Rock Island only has one passenger train a day here—one "in" and one "out," and the opportunities are more limited for earning his salary.

Nevertheless, Salina is in mourning.

SAVES LIVES AND A GAME.

Boy Rescues Two and Wins Ball Game All in One Afternoon.

Meriden, Conn.—Whether there is more glory in saving two lives than in winning a close baseball game is a matter of doubt in the mind of 13-year-old Henry White, son of George A. White, a Wallingford policeman, who put in a busy afternoon the other day.

White was swimming in Community lake when Stanley Wykoski, a young man who cannot swim, waded in. The latter went beyond his depth, and while his companions, who also were unable to swim, looked helplessly on, he sank twice before young White could grip his hair and tow him ashore, where he was revived with difficulty.

On his way to town White saw Frank Langells and Thomas Kelly fighting, the former using a hatchet. The weapon had cut a deep gash in the Kelly boy's arm and was swiftly descending on his head when White knocked it aside.

After running for a surgeon to attend the injured lad White kept his appointment with his baseball team, and amid much juvenile enthusiasm completed his half day of exciting events by hitting out a hit that won the game for his club.

CALLS TRAINS BY ODD DEVICE.

"Telemograph" May Supplant the Unintelligible Station "Barker."

New York.—The telemograph, the newest device for reducing wear and tear on human throats, is being tried for the first time at the Grand Central station by the New York Central road. If, after a fair trial, the invention proves practical, shouting of departing trains by station attendants will be dispensed with. The telemograph consists mainly of seven large brass horns distributed over the station. These horns are connected by wires with a centrally situated booth. A railroad employe standing inside this booth speaks about the trains in a mouthpiece resembling somewhat a telephone mouthpiece and the words are carried to the seven brass horns by the wires. But the original sounds are magnified when they issue from the mouths of the horns. Thus far, aside from a certain harshness of tone, the train announcements seem quite intelligible to passengers.

A system almost identical with the one being tried in New York has been in use in the union passenger station in Chicago for some time.

Washington's Teeth in Peril.

Baltimore, Md.—A thief forced an entrance to the Baltimore Dental college but failed to get into the museum, where the false teeth of George Washington, a priceless curiosity, are kept. When Dean Foster was apprised of the thief's visit he was greatly alarmed until he found the famous teeth safe. It is believed the object of the thief was to steal these teeth, which are carved and ground from solid ivory. They were made by Dr. Greenwood of New York. The plate and teeth indicate that Washington had a large mouth. The sets for both the upper and lower jaws are fastened together by a closely wired gold spring. The door of the museum was scarred and strained by the efforts of the burglar to force it.

Votaries of a Joyless Life.

Mount Holly, N. J.—Some interesting facts were brought out on the Fourth, while five men, each more than 70 years old, were watching the explosion of cannon crackers and pyrotechnics, three of them veterans, Chas. Fort, Willitt Shinn and James L. Anderson, confessed that they had never shot off a firecracker. C. Oakford Gaskill said he had never shot off a gun. Abraham Jones, the eldest of the group, qualified for a place among the conservatives by the assertion that he had never eaten an oyster or banana or tasted ice cream.

AGREE NOT TO ELOPE

YOUNG COUPLE IN KANSAS ENTER INTO ODD CONTRACT.

Parent in Pawnee County Promises to Give Daughter in Marriage in Two Years if the Sweethearts Wait.

Larned, Kan.—On consideration that J. A. Morgan will refrain for two years from trying to elope with Miss Stella Roberts, George W. Roberts, a Pawnee county farmer, father of the girl, has signed an agreement with the young man promising to give him the young woman in marriage at the end of that time. This most unusual agreement is as follows:

"George W. Roberts and J. A. Morgan enter into the following agreement, to wit: The said J. A. Morgan agrees to engage in some legitimate and profitable employment for the period of two years from this date, and for the said time not to interfere with the said George W. Roberts in the management of his daughter, Stella A. Roberts. George W. Roberts, in consideration of the carrying out of the foregoing agreement by the said J. A. Morgan, hereby gives his consent for his said daughter and the said J. A. Morgan to enter into the bonds of matrimony at any time after the expiration of the said two years."

The agreement is duly signed by Morgan and Roberts and witnessed by H. S. Rogers and Wesley Lane. This queer contract is the sequel of an elopement which occurred several days ago. Miss Roberts is not yet quite 15 years old. Morgan is less than 20, so that the two knew that they could not obtain the consent of her parents to their marriage.

Knowing this, they decided upon an elopement. After all the family had gone to bed Miss Roberts slipped out of the house and met Morgan in a grove a quarter of a mile away. The two drove to Macksville, returned their livery team and then got a man to drive them to Stanford.

From there they took a train to Morgan's home in Carthage, Mo. There was consternation in the Roberts home the next morning, but the livery man gave the father a clew, and a warrant was secured for Morgan, charging him with abduction. He was arrested in Carthage before he could secure a marriage license, and readily agreed to return to Kansas.

In the meantime Mr. Roberts had been making some inquiries and learned that Morgan was a hard-working young man of good family and would apparently make a very acceptable son-in-law. This induced the father not to prosecute the young man and to propose the agreement which was afterwards entered into. Miss Roberts is again at home, and Morgan is back at work on the Brown farm near by, determined to live up to the contract.

DID NOT KNOW ROOSEVELT.

"Who is the Fresh Guy," Asks Ditcher as President Salutes Him.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Incredible as it may seem, there are persons who do not know President Roosevelt when they see him, even here, where he makes his habitation for several months of each year.

When the president goes horseback riding along the country roads leading from Sagamore hill, he invariably meets many farmers and workmen and salutes them cordially either by a wave of the hand or by raising his spreading Panama. Ordinarily the greeting is returned, but not always. On one of these journeys a day or two ago Mr. Roosevelt was cantering along when he came upon a sturdy and begrimed laborer digging a trench. Reining in his horse a trifle the president watched the swing of the brawny arms as they rose and fell with the spade, and then, as the hardy yeoman looked up, the spreading Panama was lifted and the president nodded with a smile of admiration.

The representative of the "common people" straightened up and gazed stonily at the president without a sign of recognition. Then as the horse darted forward to resume the journey he turned to a bystander, who had witnessed the incident, and pointing toward the retreating form of the head of the nation, asked: "Who's that fresh guy?"

STOPS TRAIN TO COLLECT DEBT.

Farmer Takes Unique Method to Call Attention to His Claim.

Fort Scott, Kan.—Robert Walton, a Vernon county, Missouri, farmer, delayed the Missouri Pacific passenger train on the line crossing his farm for half an hour the other night by refusing to get off the track. Walton took this novel method of attempting to collect a claim against the company.

Sometime ago the same train with the same crew killed three mules and a horse belonging to Walton. He fled no claim, but waited as long as he believed was a reasonable time for the company to settle with him.

The company, having failed to make any move in the matter, he mounted a horse last night and stood on the track as the train appeared. The engineer whistled, but Walton kept his place, waving his hand to stop the train. It was necessary to remove him by force before the train could proceed.

WASPS ARE PUT TO WORK.

Original Paper-Makers Domesticated and Installed in Texas Factory.

Texarkana, Tex.—Another of the forces of nature is to be turned to account, and the vicious wasp will be made to furnish paper. This insect is the original paper-maker, and it builds its home of pulp.

Observing this, Jeremiah Tubbs is collecting millions of wasps and installing them in a factory building near here. In the factory is a collection of unique machinery.

It is the intention of Mr. Tubbs to domesticate the wasps to such a degree that, like homing pigeons, they will return to the factory each night.

The first instinct of a wasp is to build a home, and, taking advantage of this, the ingenious inventor will have the insect enter a small compartment and place a layer of paper on a roll. As the roll moves around slowly the paper-making process will continue, and since millions of wasps will be busy, it is expected that the plant will have a capacity of ten tons a day.

This is not a large output, but since the quality of the paper will be high, and since there is no cost for raw material, it will be very profitable.

As the wasps hibernate during the winter, no effort will be made during the summer toward finishing the paper, but the whole time will be occupied in turning out the rough product.

WILL DIG UP DOGS.

Constable to Do So if Claim for Burying Them is Not Allowed.

Beranton, Pa.—High Constable Allen Johnson and Blakely borough are at odds. To be exact, by Blakely borough is meant the burgess, the borough council, and everybody else who has had a hand in holding up the high constable's bill for burying dead dogs. The high constable is fighting for a principle. He wants justice and \$70 for interring the dogs, and the borough finds itself the defendant in a suit brought by its efficient guardian of law and order.

Part of the duties of the high constable of Blakely, it appears, is to rid the borough of roaming and ownerless curs. That Johnson did his duty well is not disputed by the citizens, for the streets have been more free of snarling and dangerous canines during Johnson's tenure than at any time in the memory of the oldest inhabitant; but when Johnson put in a bill for \$70 for killing and burying dogs the borough fathers put on their spectacles and howled.

Now Johnson is howling, and the tenor of his howl is that if the money is not paid he will exhume the dogs.

JONAH RULED OUT OF COURT.

Judge Unwilling to Decide Whether Whale Really Swallowed Him.

St. Louis.—Jonah and the whale have been thrown out of the circuit court of St. Louis county. Judge McElhinney in a decision declared himself unwilling to listen to arguments along the line of biblical questions. He does not wish to go on record, either, as having determined whether the garden of Eden was a myth or a reality. He says all this has nothing to do with the points of law at issue in the case of the Biblical College of Missouri against Rev. George W. Hoffman.

Mr. Hoffman subscribed \$5,000 to the college some time ago, and then refused to pay it because he said the institution was not orthodox. He says the college teaches its students that the miracles related in the Bible are myths.

The college sued for payment of the subscription. By the decision the case will be tried merely on points of law, the attempt to bring in Jonah, Lazarus, and other biblical characters being ruled out of order.

BANKER BUILDS GLASS HOUSE.

New York Man Who Believes in Sunshine Plans Novel Dwelling.

New York.—That C. Parker Woodbury, banker, 44 Pine street, has no wish to indulge in the reprehensible pastime of throwing stones at his neighbors, is demonstrated by his determination to live in a glass house. He has engaged Albert Swazey, an architect, to draw plans for the novel dwelling, which is to be erected at Beechhurst, Long Island.

Bricks of compressed opalescent glass will form the walls. The interior partitions are to be of the same material worked into thin slabs, and, of course, the roof is to be of glass. In fact, everywhere possible glass is to be employed.

Mr. Woodbury is a great believer in sunlight. "I have had this idea of a glass house in mind for a long time," he said, the other day. "If the light is good, it is manifestly better for a man to live in a house where he can enjoy sunlight all day than in one which is built of nothing but bricks. I am positive my experiment will prove all I expect from a health-giving standpoint."

Old Curiosity Shop Doomed.

London.—Old Curiosity Shop, near Lincoln's Inn fields, in which American tourists have spent thousands and thousands of pounds, will be demolished soon. Countess Americans have accepted this store as the "Old Curiosity Shop" of Charles Dickens. But it never has been established that the great novelist had it in mind when he wrote his story of "Little Nell."

ALL HUNT TREASURE

WHOLE ENGLISH COMMUNITY IS DIGGING IN FAMOUS RUINS.

Minister Leads Workers in Derbyshire in Search for Riches Said to Have Been Hidden Long Ago.

London.—Near Ashborne, Derbyshire, the novel spectacle is now to be witnessed of practically the entire population of a village engaged in a hunt for buried treasure. The village in question is Bradley, and for a fortnight or more—or since a highly interesting discovery was made in the neighborhood—the ordinary occupations and pastimes of the inhabitants have been almost completely neglected. All and sundry have been engaged in digging for the princely "loot" which supposedly is hidden in the ruins of an ancient manor house.

This residence was known as Bradley Hall, and it was for generations the home of the famous Kivelton and Meynell families, who were prominent in the days of Charles I and in the restoration period. Legend has maintained for years that immense treasures of plate and money were buried in the strong rooms and secret passages of the grand mansion of bygone days, but also no one could tell exactly where that mansion had stood. It appears to have been razed to the ground at the end of a checkered history, and hitherto all efforts to locate the ruins have proved vain.

About two weeks ago, however, workmen digging in the grounds behind the local church chanced to hit upon stonework which was identified as belonging to the long-sought ruins, whereupon all Bradley laid aside its customary vocations and flocked with spade and pick to the little churchyard.

The leader in this search for secret wealth is the rector of Bradley, Rev. R. H. Tomlin, who spends all the time he can spare from his ministerial duties working with pick and shovel among the ruins. The work is hard, but the pastor and his parishioners are displaying the perseverance and patience of born treasure seekers.

Bradley Hall, which fared badly when Cromwell's Ironsides swept the Midlands, but was restored when Charles II. came to the throne, played a prominent part during the invasion of Derbyshire by Prince Charles in 1745. It is from this period that the story of hidden wealth dates.

When the young pretender was at Derby there happened to reside in Bradley a Scotch minister who had strong leanings toward the Stuart cause. This gentleman dispatched a messenger to the prince inviting him to come to Bradley, where money and valuables could be obtained.

So good did Prince Charles consider this prospect of replenishing his empty pocket-book that he did pay a visit to the town. After a day of plunder and a night of carousal the army left in a hurry upon the news of the approach of Cumberland and his troops.

It would seem that the whole truth of the story of buried wealth rests on this story of sudden departure. The highlanders had plied their piferings in a heap in one of the cellars of Bradley Hall. Did they have time to remove it in their haste to escape from the pursuing enemy? The town folk of Bradley answer the question in the negative.

PRINTS OBITUARY OF DOG.

New Jersey Woman Buries Pet in Public Place in Country.

New York.—Pluto Rutherford, a well-bred St. Bernard dog that had been in the family of Mrs. Sarah J. Rutherford of 13 Lombardy street, Newark, N. J., for nearly the entire eight years and two months of his life, was buried with honors last Saturday. The facts concerning the burial were kept secret until after the following notice appeared in a Newark newspaper among the regular death notices:

RUTHERFORD—Pluto, on May 31, at 12 Lombardy street, aged 8 years, 2 months. Members of N. Y. K. C. please take notice. Funeral private at convenience of family.

Pluto was one of the finest of his kind and was registered with the New York Kennel club as No. 53,587, under the name of Pluto R. He had a long pedigree, his ancestors having been blue-blooded St. Bernards.

Pluto was kept in the home of Mrs. Rutherford nearly all the time. He was a family pet and noted in the neighborhood for his extraordinary intelligence. When he fell ill he was sent to a dog hospital, but even the skill of a veterinarian could not save him. He died on Friday. His body was placed in a richly lined box and taken to a field near Maplewood, where it was buried under a large tree.

"We could not bear to let Pluto's body go the way of most dogs," said a member of the family, "so we buried him in the country, where the children of families who loved him dearly can visit his grave."

Nevada's Clip of Wool.

The clip of wool on the Nevada ranges this season is the greatest that the state has ever known. More than 3,500,000 pounds have been clipped and shipped and a very good price has been received for it all. One prominent sheep man stated recently that counting the sheep ranges tributary to Nevada there would be more than 13,000,000 pounds of wool shipped from the state this year.