

STUDYING WATER POWER.

The French Government is Anxious to Assist Industrial Development.

The French government is pursuing a course which promises to result in great benefit to the manufacturers of that nation, by surveying the rivers and streams of the country in order to determine their capacity for generating power for the service of factories, reports the New York Tribune.

In France the rivers susceptible of being controlled with a view to industrial utilization are numerous. But before erecting hydro-electrical works of importance, it is very important to know the variations in the volume of the stream to be utilized at various seasons of the year.

HER CURIOSITY AROUSED.

Thought the Man Who Was "Et Up" Might Have Been a Distant Husband.

It was the mayor of a western city, says the Detroit News, who received the following letter of inquiry from a Boston woman:

"Kind and Respected Sir: I see in a paper that a man named John Spies was attacked, and et up a bare whose cub was trying to get him when she bare come up and stopt him by eatin' him up in the mountains near your town.

"P. S. Was the bare killed? Also was he married again, and did he leave any propy with me laying claims to?"

Novel Arctic Station.

Arctic science should be greatly advanced by the permanent station for its study to be established this year on the south coast of Disco Island.

Odd Epitaphs.

At Worcester, England, the slab erected over a departed auctioneer is inscribed with a single word—"Gone." In Sussex the initials and date of the death of the deceased are followed by two words—"He was."

Specific Information Needed.

Wigg—Some parts of New York are pretty tough? Wagg—Yes; the last time I was here there was a man shot on the east side.

Not Bad.

When Princess Ena becomes queen of Spain she is to have \$50,000 per annum with the washing given out.

CALLING HIM DOWN QUIETLY

Uproarious Supplication "Salaciously" Squelched by Parson Pagster.

"While I isn't namin no names and don't aim to be personal in nuch specifications," said good old Parson Bagster, during a recent sermon, according to Puck.

"Yassah! Yassah!" doggedly replied brother Shipnaw, the culprit, rising in his place in the midst of the congregation.

EACH VILLAGE A VENICE.

Strange Relic of Ancient Customs Prevailing in a German Forest.

One of the most interesting regions in the "old fatherland" is the so-called "Spreevald," the Forset of the Spree, situated not far from the German capital, in the province of Brandenburg.

It is on these lagoons that all traffic is conducted in boats during the period from spring, when the last vestiges of frost and ice are disappearing, until the end of autumn.

Ancient Fish Story.

Here is an eighteenth century fish story. It is told in a letter written by a traveler in Russia to a woman in England. A vessel laden with the latest fashions from Paris was run down in the channel of St. Petersburg.

Queen's Modest Treasures.

Of her many treasures Queen Alexandra values most a modest milk jug of earthenware, which she keeps in the boudoir attached to her dairy at Sandringham.

Only One Obstacle.

Mrs. Hewligus—Absalom, they say there is going to be another coal strike. What is to hinder us from putting in our next winter's supply?

Mr. Hewligus—Why—er—nothing, Amanda, except that I haven't paid for the coal we're using now.—Chicago Tribune.

Odd Benefaction.

Sir John Sinclair, a Scottish baronet, has presented gramophones and records to 300 asylums and other institutions, on condition that they are played to the inmates for half an hour every day.

SPAIN'S FUTURE QUEEN.

Preparations for Gorgeous Reception of Princess Ena Into Her New Realm.

Madrid.—All the details of Princess Ena's solemn entry into Spain next June on the occasion of her marriage to King Alfonso, have been arranged.

The future Spanish queen will cross the northern frontier at Irun, where the troops will accord her a royal salute and a special delegation from the king will receive her with magnificent ceremonial.

The presentation will be made by the British ambassador to Spain, escorted by all the personnel of the embassy, a special train, composed exclusively of royal saloon cars, will then take the princess to the palace of El Pardo, about ten miles from Madrid.

On the morning of the wedding the princess will go to the capital incognito and do the wedding gown. The king, on horseback, will escort her to the gates, and when the princess is ready a gala concert will take her to the church for the marriage ceremony.

JUNK DEALER'S REVENGE.

"Spite" Tenement House in Yonkers, N. Y., Shows His Malicious Cunning.

New York.—Yonkers residents living near St. Andrew's Memorial church are much exercised over the erection of a tenement house for Italians by James Callahan, a junkman, within 50 feet of their church and in the midst of a number of private houses.

The neighbors did not think he was serious when the foundations were dug and the plans filed with the building department. Then several offers were made to him for the property, but he put his price so high that it would have been a veritable gold mine had he received it.

NAB "KITTY THE KISSER."

Pretty Girl Shocks City by Embracing Men on Street and Is Arrested.

Philadelphia.—Darby has produced a rival to "Jack the Kisser." "Kitty the Kisser," the police call her, and those who saw her before Magistrate Kochersperger in Central police court wondered why a lawyer, who caused her arrest for saluting him affectionately in the street, objected.

Katherine Jordan, she calls herself, and despite her 30 years, is pretty and dresses stylishly. If Kitty stayed in Darby all might be well, but she ventured into Walnut street, east of Broad.

The lawyer was greatly agitated and disheveled when he ran up to Policeman Curtis and explained that a young woman was kissing every man she met.

Sculptress Wins. Miss Evelyn B. Longman, the sculptor whose figure of "Victory" in Festival hall at the St. Louis fair first gained her first public attention, has won by unanimous vote in the competition for the bronze entrance doors of the chapel at the United States Naval academy at Annapolis over 28 sculptors. She will make about \$6,000 out of it.

WOMEN RIDE IN SMOKER.

New Railway Accommodation Meets with Favor in England.

London.—Three women, accompanied by a man, calmly engaged and occupied the smoking carriage on the American Steamer Express from Euston station to Liverpool the other day.

It is asserted that in the whole of the fashionable world men and women alike are addicted to the use of expensive tobacco. The women are constantly growing bolder in the matter of smoking in public.

Lady Marjorie Wilson, while avoiding the subject of smoking, says that the servants in the great household establishments of England have become somewhat imperious, and that a sort of servants' peage must be maintained, such houses employing more persons and a greater variety of attendants than they need, simply to provide the kind of life which the servants demand.

Smoking by women is further attested by the appearance of women's cigarette holders, boxes and match safes of gold, silver, platinum and other metals, often studded with jewels.

WASHERWOMAN AN AUTOIST

Michigan Woman Enjoys Riding About the Country on Sundays.

Battle Creek, Mich.—Mrs. Christian K. Huber, a Battle Creek washerwoman, who rides in an automobile purchased with money she earned over the tub, is the most conspicuous motor car enthusiast in the city.

For 18 years she has taken in washing, caring for five children and giving them a commendable education. She owns the house in which she lives, another house which she rents, and a farm. Besides this she laid aside \$1,000 with which she bought her car.

When Sunday comes Mrs. Huber enjoys herself immensely riding through the country in her automobile. She says she forgets her home cares and enjoys the woods and the green fields. Then on Monday morning she "makes the rounds" with her machine, gathering the washings. She uses the machine also to deliver the clean clothes.

Mrs. Huber's house is modern and is better than the homes of many persons who earn large salaries. "That automobile," she said, "is the only recreation and comfort I have. Why have I not the same right to own one as a wealthy person?"

SOLDIERS SENT TO GIRLS.

The German Emperor Provides Partners for Young Women to Dance With.

Crefeld, Germany.—When Emperor William visited Crefeld in 1903 a group of girls complained to his majesty that they had no dancing partners and begged him to send a regiment to do so and a regiment of hussars arrived here from Duesseeldorf and with it came the emperor, who had decided to take part in the regiment's reception.

The young women of the city enthusiastically acclaimed the soldiers and handed the staff officers heaps of floral offerings for his majesty. The latter, replying to the mayor's speech of welcome, said: "I have kept my word. To-day I have given the town its garrison and the young ladies their partners."

The emperor's remarks were greeted with cheers. "The city, which is the center of the silk and velvet industry, was gayly decorated for the occasion, a mile of the principal streets being hung with decorations of velvet and silk.

Since the emperor made his promise to the young women at Crefeld in 1903 the reichstag appropriated the sum of money necessary to erect permanent barracks here, which have been constructed for the accommodation of a regiment of cavalry.

Old City Servant.

Enoch Howlett, city paymaster and one of the oldest public servants of Cambridge, Mass., has just returned to his post at the city hall after a ten days' absence caused by illness. He was 80 years old March 22 and it worries him considerably to have been forced to spend his eightieth birthday at home instead of in the city's service.

FUTURE NOT BRIGHT.

FIRST PARLIAMENT OF RUSSIA WILL BE A FARSE.

The Revolutionary Programme Is Still the Paralysis of Administrative Machinery from Within.

St. Petersburg.—The uselessness of expecting that the meeting of Russia's first parliament on May 10 will in any way abate the internal struggle is now asserted by everyone. The fire of revolution is burning everywhere continuously, but it has not by a long way burned out or smoked out the government.

The present slaughter of minor government employes in obedience to the orders of Count Witte and Minister of the Interior Durnovo is a salient feature. Thirteen postal telegraphers at Tschita who shared in the general strike in October have just been sentenced to death.

Against the existing system the revolutionary programme is still the paralysis of the administrative machinery from within. Street fighting and other disorders are not part of their scheme. The leaders are not likely to call a general strike at present because the installation of the Duma as part of the fabric of government offers some hope of wrecking the whole system.

Dimitri Shipoff, the leader of the moderate conservatives, makes the following estimate of what the Duma will amount to when it meets. "The majority will be peasants, who will arrive quite unprepared for the mode of procedure. Many will not even understand the words used, which will be of the official kind and wholly strange to them. The peasants will maintain that the agrarian question is their paramount interest and will refuse to trust its solution to anyone outside of their own class. But it is just the agrarian question which is bound to meet from the beginning insurmountable difficulties which will serve the revolutionary propaganda."

Shipoff holds strongly that the double and triple system of election makes the people regard the whole procedure as intentionally complicated and obstructive. He emphatically denies that the new council of state will serve in any sense the purpose of upper chambers and senates elsewhere.

He maintains that it will be almost the same bureaucratic wall which exists now as an enemy of public life. He is certain from long experience that the council of the empire and the Duma are foredoomed to a disagreeable struggle, inasmuch as no decision of the Duma can be brought direct to the emperor's notice. The council, in its new form, not only diminishes the authority of the Duma but concurrently reduces the prerogative of the emperor.

The majority of those who have analyzed the constitution of the chambers agree with Shipoff that they have been so drafted under Count Witte's guidance as to strengthen the bureaucracy at the expense of both the czar and the people.

NATURE'S PACKING PLANT.

Salton Sea in Southern California Freezes, Salt Gathers and There It Is.

Washington.—The recent extreme cold weather in the southwestern part of the United States has produced one extremely curious result: The Salton sea, which is produced by the overflow of the Colorado river into a depression in southern California, has been frozen over to a great depth. The Southern Pacific railroad, which has been greatly embarrassed by the flooding of its tracks occasioned by the rising of the water, has moved its tracks to the ice, and is now running over the surface.

The water of the lake being salt, it has, in freezing, deposited upon the surface, quantities of salt, which, by the action of the desert winds, has collected in windrows upon the ice. This has given rise to a new industry, or rather to the revival of an old industry. Thousands of cattle have been driven to this neighborhood from the great ranges to the north and south, and the business of slaughtering and meat packing is being carried on upon an enormous scale, the salt and ice for the purpose being right at hand. How long this will last is of course problematical.

In the meantime the good people of Imperial on the sea are greatly enjoying their skating, a pastime which they have not enjoyed since the founding of the town until this date.

Oldest Missourian.

Frederick Saugrain, the oldest native-born person in the Louisiana purchase, celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of his birth a few days ago at his home in Sedalia, Mo. Mr. Saugrain is the son of Dr. Anton Francois Saugrain, the friend of Benjamin Franklin and the "pioneer scientist of the Mississippi valley." The centenarian was born at the Saugrain home in St. Louis 100 years ago.

Ice from Mont Blanc Glacier.

A company has been formed to cut into the Mont Blanc glacier in Switzerland at a height of 4,000 feet. The ice is mixed with dynamite and the blocks are cut into cubes and sent into the valley by a narrow gauge railway. There they are cleaned and then sent by train to southern France.

MEXICAN DYNAMITE FIENDS

Peon Miners Have Discovered That the Explosive Is a Dream Producer.

An American business man of this city who was on a visit a few days ago to a mining camp situated near here, says a Denver News correspondent of Monterey, Mexico, was surprised and mystified to hear one Mexican miner say to his companion as they came from the depths of a mine.

"Come over to the cantina to-night and take some dynamite with me." The American superintendent explained the invitation: "That was not an invitation to take a drink of some new brand of liquor, as might be supposed," he said. "Those two Mexicans are dynamite fiends. They actually eat dynamite and get drunk on the dangerous substance."

It is a fact that many of the Mexican miners of the peon class are dynamite eaters. It is a vice that is rapidly spreading to all of the mining camps of Mexico. J. C. Ford, a prominent American mining man of the Guadalupe y Calvo district, said concerning this new habit:

"Users of dynamite soon learn that it is a powerful stimulant, and that the effects of intoxication are pleasing while they last beyond the most ex-cruciating phantasies of an opium dream. Dynamite is manufactured for the purpose of smashing things, and a tiny bit of it coursing through the veins swashes the whole end of care and blows dullness into atoms."

"The dynamite usually is very faulty and exact in his method of going about the introduction of a high explosive into his system. The preferred way to do this is to cut off a small piece of 15 per cent. dynamite about the size of a pea. This is dissolved in a small glass of mescol or tequila, and the draught is quaffed down with a gusto that comes from pleasant anticipations. The performer of this trick then rolls in his blanket and stretches himself at length in the cool shade. It is said that the very soon his nerves begin to tingle and stranger dreams come to him than the weird visions induced by hashish."

"The amount of dynamite consumed at an ordinary camp by those addicted to taking it into their systems in the way above described is so large that it appreciably affects the quantity of that explosive required to carry on the regular work. There is a large and increasing number of people addicted to a vice that only the most imaginative of persons could have invented. It may not be assuming too much to state that eventually dynamite will be dispensed at saloons as much as are tobacco and alcoholic drinks, and that the dynamiteur will be as distinct a class as the abstemious or ordinary toper."

JOINING THE WET CLUB.

Membership Fee of Twenty Cents Procured the Much-Desired Drink.

"Down in the quaint old seaport of Norfolk a few days ago I saw a beautiful example of the workings of a strict Sunday law," said Mr. W. L. Rogers, of Baltimore, according to the Detroit Free Press.

"It was not possible to get any liquid refreshments in the hotels, and the saloons were hermetically sealed. Strolling along one of the principal streets, my attention was attracted to a crowd of men who swarmed in and out of a place as though it possessed a magnet. Sure enough, it did, as I found by joining the crowd. The place was dingy and unattractive, but it had a bar in full blast, and the man behind the counter couldn't dash out the liquor fast enough. I called for a drink, too, but the bartender, instead of waiting on me, asked me for my ticket. I told him I had none, and he proceeded to explain:

"This is a clubroom, and we don't serve drinks to any except members. However, there is the secretary, and you might ask him."

"At this the person pointed out as secretary came up and repeated what the other had told me. "We have to comply with the Virginia law," said he, "on risk of going to jail. But you look all right, and I can make you a member of the club. The fee is 20 cents."

"I paid it without a murmur, and thought it a pretty cute mode of selling a drink for 35 cents."

Air de Luxe.

W. P. Northrup says that civilized man has learned how to eat and drink, and now to wash, but he has not yet learned how to ventilate. The author depicts the unhygienic conditions existing in most places of public assemblage owing to the lack of fresh air, and says that the need for reform in this regard is also great in private dwellings. The curse of modern living is overworking, overheating and lack of ventilation, not to mention worry and hasty eating. The suggestion is made of utilizing the roofs of dwelling houses as sources of fresh air, by constructing roof gardens.—Medical Record.