

## Richest Woman in the World.



This woman until recently Miss Bertha Krupp, with her sister are the owners of the immense Krupp gun factories of Germany. Her husband was formerly in the diplomatic service of the government.

## FOOD FACTOR IN SEX

THEORY ADVANCED BY A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR.

Asserts Poverty and Riches Determine Children—Proportion of Boys Greater Amid Conditions of Plenty.

New York.—That poverty and riches are factors in determining the sex of human offspring was a theory advanced recently in a paper read before members of the American Society of Naturalists, assembled in Schermerhorn hall, Columbia university, by Professor T. H. Morgan, of Columbia's department of zoology. He did not stand as sponsor for this new conclusion in biology, but offered it for what it was worth, after setting forth the data upon which it was based. The biological significance and control of sex was the topic. It drew an immense audience, a large majority of which were women. Many of the women who sought admission were turned away, as the hall was too small to hold them.

Professor Morgan took up the part of the theory that concerns the material prosperity of the parents. He had in recent years scientific investigation had found that the one external factor above all others supposed to have an intimate relation to sex determination is nutrition. Amid conditions where food was plentiful it had been ascertained that the proportion of male offspring was greater than the proportion of female, and where food was scarce the proportion of females was greater. In other words, that female characters survived on starvation and males on abundance.

Professor Morgan cited an experiment made by Landors as early as 1867, by which was furnished the first evidence in favor of the nutrition view. He claimed he could produce will males and females of the butterfly Vanessa by regulating the quantity of food. A similar but more recent conclusion was reached by Mrs. Treat and by Gentry.

## OLD CANNONS ARE SAVED.

Sons of the War of 1812 Are Rescued from Junk Heap.

Philadelphia.—The war spirit of 1812 revived for a little while on Water street, at the foot of Walnut street, and a dozen sturdy policemen plunged into a sharp struggle to save 18 rusty old cannons which for nearly a century have remained there as landmarks. As they saved the cannons from the junk heap.

Seven junk dealers had designs upon the historic guns, and were about to cart them away. Some one told Director McKenty and Superintendent Taylor, and the policemen were sent to rescue the guns. The cannons were painted in several alleys which open on Delaware avenue. The properties were sold recently, and the junk dealers purchased the junk privileges of the old buildings, which are to be torn down.

Britain Has 27,000 Barmaids. London.—Efforts made by the reform societies in England to get a law abolishing the barmaid have disclosed that 27,000 girls are employed in barrooms in the United Kingdom and that 7,500 in this city. Most of them are under 25 years of age and above 25 salaries vary from \$1.25 to \$3.50 a week.

Musen't Pull Whiskers or 'Jaw'. Cleveland, O.—By order of court Barbara Glade has been enjoined from pulling out the hair or whiskers of her husband, John. The injunction also restrains her from 'jawing' her husband in the street until his suit for divorce has been settled.

## "ORIGINAL EGGEATING KID."

Joseph Wigge Defies All Missouri to Equal His Record.

St. Louis.—St. Louis has a man who can eat 25 raw eggs in 60 seconds, and is a famous player of harmonicas.

His name is Joseph Wigge. Until recently he has hidden his light under an egg case. Suddenly he recognized the fact that he was great.

So, in order to tell a sporting editor of his varied and vigorous virtues, he sent around a note. Here's the very note, and this is what he wrote:

"Dear Sir: Mr. Joseph Wigge, who is known as the Missouri original eggeating kid. Mr. Joseph Wigge holds the title at present as the champion raw eggeater of Missouri. Joe Wigge issues an open challenge to all comers for a purse of \$25 to \$100 a side bet, that he can put away more raw eggs than any man of his size in Missouri, and every egg that he puts away is retained and swallowed with great relish and without exertion.

Joe is 24 years of age, and is five feet nine inches in height, and 170 pounds in weight, of athletic build and has a pair of lungs like a Belows. Joe Wigge's record in eating raw eggs is 25 raw eggs in 60 seconds.

Mr. Joseph Wigge is an active member of the Benton Athletic club of St. Louis, Mo. Joe is known among his friends as the champion strong boy, and he is also known as the North St. Louis most famous mouth harmonica player; he can perform many feats and brilliant effects on the mouth harp; he can play a few specimens of his ability on the mouth harp with his nose; he can also give various imitations on a Jews harp. Joseph Wigge is well known in society circles and athletic clubs of St. Louis, Mo., where his extraordinary virtues are said to be highly appreciated."

WED RICHES OR STAY SINGLE

Savant Tells College Instructors Plain Living is Drawback.

Philadelphia, Pa.—If you are a college professor and wish to be successful, marry a rich woman. If that is not possible, don't marry at all. If you do marry for love, and not for money, your family must be small, in keeping with your income.

These were some of the radical utterances Prof. Edward Everett Hale, Jr., of Union university, gave vent to at the opening session of the annual convention of the Association of College and Preparatory Schools, held at the Boys' high school, Broad and Green streets.

Dealing sarcastically with the subject, Prof. Edward Everett Hale said: "The present system of compulsory plain living may produce a race of professors incapable of high thinking.

The trustees of universities think professors would grow lazy in such a Utopia as a college would be if decent salaries were paid. This is not the case. They would have a chance to take a greater interest in college life and become more valuable if they were not compelled to skimp and save and spend their time doing outside work to earn a living.

"Marry a rich wife," he said; "her means will provide you with the time, the books, the accessories of culture and the social setting you need."

"In the event of not being able to do this, a brilliant solution is not to marry at all, and if you take unto yourself a wife, it is certainly due to all concerned to have as small a family as possible."

GRINDSTONE SAVES THE DAY.

In Emergency Linotype Operator Hitches It to His Machine.

Clarksville, Tenn.—An event unique in the history of newspaperdom occurred when the Leaf-Chronicle was issued by the use of a grindstone. The electric wires furnishing power for operating a motor which was used to run the linotype machines were cut out on account of the burning of a building next door, and things looked exceedingly blue for the issuance of a paper unless hand composition was resorted to. Then it was that American ingenuity came to the front.

The linotype operator observed a big grindstone downstairs, and his was the bright idea of hitching it to the linotype by a belt.

The connection was quickly made, and nothing more was needed but to hitch sufficient muscular energy to the grindstone to keep the outfit moving.

Two laborers were secured and set to this task, and the thing was done. The queer-looking device went to work with utmost facility.

Its appetite for copy was something phenomenal, and the newswriters aver that never before were they kept in such a rush to supply material.

SOLOMON AS A CANDIDATE.

Professor Says King's Record Would Beat Him for Office Nowadays.

Macon, Mo.—In the course of a lecture on "Honesty," Prof. W. A. Annin, superintendent of the board of public schools, said that, measured by the morals and customs of to-day, David would have been lynched or sent to the penitentiary for a long term of years.

Solomon, had he aspired to the senate or any other large representative body, would have been turned down because of his domestic life.

The speaker said, however, that it was unfair to judge those illustrious men by later-day standards, and argued that the world was progressing so rapidly toward correct ideals that before long only men of the purest honor and integrity, both in public and private life, would dare to aspire to important positions.

## LITTLE BABY TALKS PLAINLY.

Only Nine Months Old But Exercises Reason in Using Words.

St. Louis.—Although she is but nine months old, Barbara Jacques, of 5819A Fairmount avenue, is able to talk, and talk plainly. Every word she says can be distinctly understood and the child apparently exercises reason in using her words, as they are seldom in the wrong place.

Doctors who have examined the child declare that her mental faculties are as well developed as a child of three years and that her talking is nothing short of marvelous.

Barbara's linguistic ability was first noticed when she was six months old. Brought to the table one day last September, she startled her parents and brothers by saying distinctly "all gone." Since then she has added constantly to her vocabulary. Her mother says that the little girl from the very first of her life has been unusual.

"We never tried to push her," said Mrs. Jacques, "but in everything she tried to say after we discovered she could pronounce words we helped her. The little mite attracts many persons' attention by touching them and saying, 'Hay, hay,' which has gained her a nickname in the family of 'Farmer.' Upon being handed a watch the child will say without hesitation, 'Tick, tick, watch.'"

Pointing to the Christmas tree in the parlor of her parents' home, she said: "See girl dollie; then 'pretty, pretty,' was her comment.

She says bear, girl, boy, bowwow, bottle, and everything children two years old say and gain the admiration of their parents by saying.

333,000 CROWS ROOST THERE.

It Takes Three Hours for All to Get Away Each Day.

Mitchell, Ind.—A great roosting place for crows is to be seen at a point two miles east of this place. Three hours are required for the crows to leave and an equal length of time to return, and a mathematician, taking the number passing every minute, figures out that 333,000 crows are roosting in close quarters.

The crows have been roosting in this vicinity for seven years and more, and their numbers seem to increase rather than decrease. It is known that they fly as far as Kentucky to find good feeding ground, and they also roost on the farmers' corn in the Ohio river valley, but the birds always return before daylight.

Recently farmers attempted to drive them out of their roosting place, but the crows showed fight and caused the farmers to retreat, but not till hundreds of the birds had been killed. The crows begin leaving their roost at break of day, and by nine a. m. very few are to be seen. About three p. m. they begin returning, and the sky is thick with them till dusk. They have not changed their roost more than a few miles in several years. Formerly they could be seen near the Monon railway. Now they are roosting near the E. & O. S. W.

OFFERS WIFE AS SECURITY.

Applicant for Loan Presents Novel Proposition to Omaha Concern.

James Bean, a railroad man, started officers of the Omaha Loan and Mortgage company by offering to leave his wife with the company for three days as security for a loan he was trying to negotiate. Mrs. Bean accompanied her husband and expressed her willingness to be turned over as security for the loan.

"I've just come in off the road and I'm dead broke," said Bean. "I got to have some money at once. I could give you a mortgage on my household goods if I had any here, but I haven't. I have no property of any kind as security for the loan I want you to make me, but if you will accept my wife here for a few days she will be willing to be turned over to the company and held till the money is paid back."

The officers of the company declined Bean's unique proposition and he went away much disappointed.

COMPLAINS TO STATE OF WITCH.

Farmer Who Has Poor Luck Convinced of Bad Spirits.

Harrisburg, Pa.—"I have had no luck no more no way. I am convinced that I have been bewitched, and I wish you would give me something against it," was the close of a letter received by State Zoologist Surface. The letter came from a farmer in the eastern part of the state. The man says that in a year he has lost three farms, his horses died, his hens grew fat and would not lay, his "sawb factory" turned out worthless, while porkers of the same breed that used to yield 280 pounds at nine months now gave only 100 pounds at a year.

Surface says the man had been trying to do too many things at once, and he will write him and tell him to specialize, but the state will not stand for the witch.

CHRISTMAS TREES FOR PET DOGS.

Baltimore.—At the suggestion of her manager, Miss Nellie Sloan, a popular young lady well known in social circles, had a Christmas tree on her estate at Paele, near Lutherville, for the especial benefit of pet dogs. Instead of the usual decorations, the tree was hung with pieces of chicken, turkey, sausage, cake and all manner of delicacies that appeal to dog fancy.

## THIS MAN A WORK OF ART.

Wonderful Mechanical Figure Constructed by a German.

Berlin.—The latest invention in automaton is attributable to Frederick Ireland of Germany who has constructed a mechanical figure which was recently on exhibition at the Busch circus here. The figure, which is that of a man, not only walks with a measured step, but rides a tricycle, writes its name on a blackboard, gesticulates, laughs, smokes and draws a vehicle filled with passengers.

The construction of the mechanism which actuates the figure is very complicated. The figure itself is 85 centimeters high, weighs about 50 kilograms and contains in all about 365 pieces of mechanism. The feet are made of terra cotta, the legs of steel and wood and the arms of steel and bronze. Concealed within the body are seven motors, some of which are operated by means of metal springs and others by electricity. The two most powerful motors move the automaton's legs and four other motors are used to discharge 14 accumulators which develop a force of 84 volts and 2,700 amperes per hour.

The equilibrium of the figure is sustained in the following manner: The right leg is pushed forward by means of one of the motors and the body leans to the left; a spring then establishes contact with the other motor, which act with great precision and distribute their power among the other members of the automaton in such a manner that the equipoise is always maintained. In the same manner and by a still more complicated means the other movements of the figure are brought about.

NO SNAKES IN CANADA.

The Great Forests Are Singularly Free from Reptiles.

A curious thing about Canadian forests is that there are no snakes, and even from a description of the Indian guides did not seem to understand what a snake would be like.

Fishing all through Canada is as good as the hunting, and should one fail to bag a moose he is fully compensated for the trip by the abundance of other game, including bear and deer. There is a weird melancholy about Canadian forests, with their hundreds of small lakes and rivers scattered here and there, and although the scenery never rises to the magnificent, there is something haunting, aside from the sport in it, that draws the hunter back season after season.

Canada is filled with legends and strange superstitions, most of them of Indian origin, and all of them interesting to a degree, especially when related by one of the Indian guides who can be induced to talk.—Leslie's Weekly.

A SKATING ONE.

Yvette Guilbert, the famous French actress, is an excellent skater. In the Bois de Boulogne, in Paris, there is an ice rink where Mme. Guilbert's skating is one of the principal attractions.

Talking about skating in New York one day, Mme. Guilbert said:

"It is only through perseverance that one learns to skate well. I am sure no one ever suffered more than I in learning to skate."

"I remember one day in my girlhood, the second or third time I had ever been on the ice. I was returning home in a crowded omnibus, and a kind old man got up and offered me his seat."

"I shook my head, and the old man laughed a good deal when I said: 'No, thank you. I've been skating, and I'm tired of sitting down.'"

EXPORTS TO PANAMA BOOM.

Leap from \$2,500,000 in 1904 to \$14,000,000 in 1906.

Washington.—The remarkable growth in the export trade of the United States with Panama within the past two years is shown in a statement issued by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor.

From a little more than \$2,500,000 in exports to Panama two years ago, American trade with that country for the present year will show an export trade aggregating more than \$14,000,000. It is shown that for the 11 months ending with November the export trade amounted to \$12,936,871, and the figures for the single month of November totaled \$1,273,507.

These figures cover only the exports to Panama sent in merchant vessels and do not include that sent by the government transports or naval vessels. What proportion of this export trade is intended for government consumption cannot be determined at present, it is stated, but a considerable part of the merchandise is doubtless intended for use by the government in the construction of the canal or upon the canal railroad.

The exports from Panama into the United States aggregated nearly \$1,000,000 at the close of the year.

SMOKED 133,590 TIMES.

Whitney Consumed Six Pipes a Day for 61 Years—Is Hearty at 85.

Concord, N. H.—Elmer Whitney has just celebrated the eighty-ninth anniversary of his birth and is as hale and hearty as he was at 45. During 61 years of his life he has smoked a pipe and to this he believes he owes his fine physical condition.

"Tobacco is a mild antiseptic and kills off many of the minor germs," he said. "I believe it will prevent grippe, colds and such disorders if one does not smoke to excess and thereby injure his constitution. As I began smoking when I was 28 years old, I have smoked 22,265 days of my life. I have averaged six pipes of mild tobacco a day and thus have consumed 133,590 pipefuls. I smoke once after breakfast, twice after dinner and three times before I go to bed."

Mr. Whitney does not know the taste of liquor, but in late years he has nibbled tea leaves occasionally.

HOTTENTOT.

The origin of this name for the natives of South Africa is peculiar. It is said that the early Dutch soldiers at the Cape of Good Hope particularly noticed the elck that forms so distinct a feature of the Kaffir language, which sounded to them like a continuous repetition of the syllables "hot" and "tot." They therefore called the natives Hottentots, the "en" meaning "and" in the Dutch language.

DOG DAYS.

Bill—Did you get any frankfurters while you were on your vacation?  
Jill—No; I asked for 'em several times, but they told me they were out of season.

"That's all nonsense! You were away during the dog days, weren't you?"—Yonkers Statesman.

A BEAT ALL-AROUND.

"The count's rich wife said he beat her."  
"His creditors said he did the same thing to them."—Baltimore American.