

SNOW PLOW IN THE ROCKIES



The problem of keeping open the trails across the mountains for winter travelers is one of the most perplexing with which railroads have to contend. Steam plows are used and pushed by powerful locomotives; they often lit wally burrow paths through the huge drifts that block traffic. The accompanying photograph shows a snow plow and locomotive ready to fight the snow.

MANY ALIENS LEAVING

FEAR OF HARD WINTER DRIVES FOREIGNERS HOME.

Immigration Official Says Men Out of Work Can Live More Cheaply in Europe Than in the United States.

Washington.—Analysis of the causes of the recent marked exodus of aliens from the United States is contained in an interview given by T. V. Powderly, chief of the division of immigration. Mr. Powderly, who is formerly a prominent labor leader, is the official who is trying to divert immigration to those parts of the United States where it will do most good, and on this account he has given careful study to the economic tendencies of the foreigners who come to the United States at the rate of 1,000,000 annually.

"Several causes combine to bring about the eastward march of the aliens now leaving us," he said. "Every year great numbers of aliens return to their homes for the winter. The railroads, principally in the north, east and west, lay off men engaged in outdoor work and following this others are thrown out of employment.

"These men find it desirable to return to their old homes for the winter; they have the opportunity to visit their friends and relatives and can live much cheaper there during the winter than here, for food and lodging are cheaper and the climate is not so severe.

"In other years the exodus began in the latter part of October and continued up to Christmas, but this year the rush was accentuated by the financial flurry. And right here I pause to remark that those who imagine that our aliens do not read are somewhat in error, for those who cannot read have others to read to them, and they keep a sharp eye on the trend of events in this country, so that when the papers announced under scare headlines that things were going wrong, these men, not trained to analyze the statements, took alarm, and quite a number more went away than would have gone in other years.

"Another cause is to be found in the fact that every four years preceding the presidential election there is a tendency eastward on the part of the aliens. They hear so much said about the uncertainty of the presidential year that they prefer to take no chances and go home for that year.

"There is still another cause for the return of Italians to their native land. The railroads of Italy are owned by the government. Up to this year they were managed by private corporations to whom they were leased by the government. It was found that they were not paying. The rolling stock was not kept in order and the maintenance of the schedules was not deemed important. A consequence of all this was that traffic fell off, no one traveled unless he had to and the railroad service became demoralized.

HATLESS FOR 25 YEARS.

Minnesota Man Keeps a Vow He Made a Long Time Ago.

Rochester, Minn.—Emil Ruff, who 25 years ago registered a vow to entirely dispense with head covering and as far as known has lived up to his resolve, is about to leave for the Pacific. For 13 years Mr. Ruff has been superintendent of the Rochester Gas company and has resigned his position to move to California, where he will endeavor to inaugurate a hatless cult in that state.

Mr. Ruff has no particular prejudice against hats, per se, but as a personal adornment he has no use for them. He can find no record in the Bible where Adam and Eve indulged in silk hats or the latest style of mushroom millinery, and after a careful perusal of the latter parts of the same authority he still finds that from Noah down hats were not popular.

Following his Biblical researches further, Mr. Ruff finds a plentiful scarcity of hatless heads which he correlates with the fact there were no corresponding hatted craniums. He is accordingly a firm believer in the usefulness of the hatless cult as an extirminator of the hair-restoring advertisements.

On the warmest days of summer, or when the Minnesotaephyrs have blown with an accompanying temperature of 20 below, Mr. Ruff has appeared hatless upon the streets of Rochester sans confusion, sans self-consciousness and sans hairlessness.

Another one of his health fads is the desirability and advantages of long walks. He is the champion walker of his time, and his daily pastime is to walk to Oranoco and back, a distance of 25 miles. A walk from this place to Winona, or Owatonna, a distance of 40 miles, is also a trip frequently taken by him.

BIG INCREASE IN CRIME.

New York Insurance Companies Contemplate Raising Rates.

New York.—More burglaries, larcenies and thefts of all kinds have been committed in this city in the last 60 days than at any similar period in its history.

A canvass of the managers of the burglary insurance business revealed an interesting condition of affairs. Several of these openly declared that so frequent had robberies in this city become that it was a case of either abandoning business altogether or of a large increase in rates.

MANICURED WAITERS ONLY.

New York Establishment Lays Down the Rule.

New York.—Rector's Broadway restaurant has decreed that not only must its waiters be neat and well shaven, but that they shall also be manicured. The rule has gone into effect, and the proprietor says it will be imperative. Infractions will be punished by fines or dismissal.

BULLET NINE YEARS IN BRAIN.

Young Woman Dies After Fourth Operation to Remove Missile.

New York.—A bullet wound received nine years ago resulted fatally for Mrs. Helen De Pratz, 24 years old. She died in the Kings County hospital after a period of insensibility lasting for two weeks. The bullet which struck her when she was a 14-year-old girl found lodgment in her brain and had never been removed. After an operation to extract it she died.

The wound was accidentally received nine years ago. She was on the street in Manhattan when a shot aimed at a man close to her struck her in the forehead. She was taken, unconscious, to Bellevue hospital, and an operation was performed to take the bullet from her brain. The surgeons were unsuccessful, but to their amazement the girl recovered, and within two months left the institution.

Three times the surgeons of Bellevue hospital tried to get the leaden pellet, but their efforts failed each time. They told her that any serious disturbance would displace the bullet and cause her death, and advised her to keep as quiet as possible.

Soon after she was put to bed she fell into a state of comatose which lasted until her death. Her flesh had, on a waxen hue and sustenance had to be given her through a tube. At abscess had formed about the brain in the locality of the bullet.

The surgeons were confronted with a problem. To allow the abscess to grow would result in the woman's death and a removal of the bullet would probably have the same fatal result. The latter was the only hope for the woman, so they again operated upon her to take out the piece of lead. They could not get at the bullet because of the abscess, so they had to cut that away. Mrs. De Pratz died a few hours later.

POSTAL DEFICIT DECREASING.

Nearly \$4,000,000 Less for Current Year Than 1906.

Washington.—If the amount lost by fire, burglary, etc., is added to the ordinary excess of expenditures over receipts, including expenditures during the year on account of previous fiscal years, the gross deficit in the postal service during the year 1907 will aggregate \$6,692,031. The third assistant postmaster general, A. L. Lawshe, in his annual report gives the above figure, and with it quotes the amount of the postal deficit in 1906, which was \$10,518,995.

The third assistant postmaster general goes at length into a discussion of the troubles which vex publishers and those who have to do with the second-class postage rates. A ruling has been made in regard to sample copies of newspapers and periodicals which will be put in force in a few days. It is in effect that the publisher shall be allowed to mail sample copies at the pound rate to a limit of ten per cent. of his bona fide subscription list.

It is recommended that the money order system be extended to every post office in the United States. "All post offices transact registry business," says Mr. Lawshe. "Why not money order business?" The passage of a bill providing for a form of postal note whereby sums of money less than \$2.50 may be sent through the mail cheaply is recommended.

MADNESS IN MOLARS.

Cleveland Dentist Claims Tooth Pulling Will Cure Insanity.

Cleveland.—The cure of certain forms of insanity by the extraction of teeth is the announcement recently put forth by Dr. E. Ballard Lodge, a dentist of this city, who has been conducting experiments in the state insane hospital in Massillon.

The operation, as explained by Dr. Lodge, consists in the removal either of the wisdom tooth or third molar, or its neighbor. Many cases of insanity are developed, experts agree, through irritation caused by the rubbing together of these teeth, the result of third molars growing out at right angles to the jaw.

In several instances Dr. Lodge has been able to induce improvement in patients in the hospital, and he asserts he has found the cure. To aid his researches the hospital trustees have ordered an X ray machine for his use in taking photographs of patients' jaws that he may locate teeth inspiring insanity.

Kaiser Buys Our Mules.

Hoboken, N. J.—When the steamship Patricia sailed for Hamburg the other day it had as a portion of its cargo 30 of those much-derided animals, mules, but these 30 are the kings of their race and the pick of over 1,000 of the best bred mules that the state of Kentucky produces. Each one of them is a picked animal, standing at least 17 1/4 hands high, and they are valued at \$1,000 a pair. They will be consigned to Carl Hagenbeck, but he will immediately turn them over to the German government, and they will be used in the military service. Hagenbeck gave the commissions to Mr. Steffens, of the Cincinnati zoo, who executed them.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

ABOUT 4,000,000 USED IN THIS COUNTRY YEARLY.

Chief Forester Pinchot Says It Is No Waste to Chop Them Down—Many Complaints About Denuding the Forests.

Washington.—Four million Christmas trees were used on Christmas day, according to the estimate of Gifford Pinchot, chief of the forestry bureau, President Roosevelt's woodchopping companion and a member of the tennis cabinet.

The chief forester has carefully considered the question of Christmas trees because at that season of the year he is deluged with appeals to prevent the "needless destruction of the nation's forests by the cutting of Christmas trees." Letters pour in by the basketful and many persons take the trouble to call in person and file their protests.

Mr. Pinchot is not one of those who believe that damage is done by taking an evergreen from the hillside for the purpose of entertaining the children. He has given this subject attention for ten years and finally reached this conclusion: "Trees are for use. There is no other use to which these trees could be put that would contribute so much to the happiness and good of mankind as their use for the children and family on Christmas day.

"So far as endangering the future life of our forests is concerned, the effect is infinitesimal compared to the destruction caused by forest fires and wasteful lumbering. It is estimated that 4,000,000 Christmas trees are used in this country each year, one in every fourth family. If planted four feet apart these could be grown on less than 1,400 acres, a good-sized farm. You see, the amount is utterly insignificant when compared to the other great drains on the forests.

"Trees suitable for Christmas do not grow in the old forests, where reproduction is most important, but in the open. Even if serious denudation were threatened, the proper remedy would be not to stop using the trees, but to adopt wiser methods. There is no more reason for an outcry against using land to grow Christmas trees than to grow flowers."

It has been found by Mr. Pinchot that the cutting of Christmas trees is perfectly compatible with the welfare of the forest. This has been demonstrated in Germany, where the consumption of Christmas trees is great and where the most highly developed forest policy is pursued. There is scarcely a hut in Germany that has not a Christmas tree.

The most popular evergreens for Christmas are the fir, spruce, pine and cedars. The pines are in great demand when fir and spruce are not available.

The chief center of the Christmas tree industry lies in the large cities of the east. New York city and the New England states consume 1,300,000 trees, or nearly one-half of the total output. Maine, New Hampshire, the Berkshire Hills, in Massachusetts, the Adirondacks and Catskills, in New York, are the sources of supply for New York, Boston and Philadelphia. The swamps of Michigan furnish the markets of Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Detroit. In Illinois and Ohio nurseries supply local demands with nursery-grown Norway spruce.

According to Chief Forester Pinchot, the sizes of Christmas trees vary all the way from seven to 35 feet. The popular heights are from seven to ten feet. Prices range from 25 cents for the smallest tree in a dull market to \$35 for the largest and most shapely trees in New York city.

There is said to be little profit in the Christmas-tree business. The farmer gets a low price, while all the profits go to the middleman and retailer.

SAME BEARD FOR 51 YEARS.

Hoozier Vet Vowed a Vow and Discarded His Razor.

Morocco, Ind.—On the morning of the presidential election of 1856 David M. Pulver of this place walked four miles to a little old log schoolhouse to vote for John C. Fremont.

While at the voting place he became involved in a heated political argument with a neighbor, and vowed then and there not to shave if Fremont should be defeated. As a result of this vow Mr. Pulver is now wearing a beard 51 years old, and still there is no perceptible sign of relenting on the part of the wearer.

Mr. Pulver is 77 years old, and he has served continuously as justice of the peace for 51 years. He is one of the oldest pioneers in Newton county, and in the early days it was no unusual occurrence for him to walk 20 miles through dense forests and treacherous swamps to perform a marriage ceremony, congratulating himself if he received a coon skin or two as compensation.

Cloudy Eyes is a Bad Indian. Kalamazoo, Mich.—After scattering skunk hides about the city and spreading the odor over the business section, Cloudy Eye Mendoka, a Pottawatomi Indian from near Wayland, was arrested for intoxication and was sent to jail for ten days.

TO START ISLAND COLONY.

Sociologist Will Take 300 People to South Pacific Ocean.

New York.—Five Hundred Americans, Germans, Irishmen, Swedes and Russians, including clergymen, butchers, saltmen, bookkeepers, stenographers, printers and carpenters, will in a few days leave New York for San Francisco, whence they will go in a bark to seek homes in the South Pacific ocean.

Back of the expedition is Elmer S. Prather, president of the Modern Science Publishing company. Mr. Prather is a sociologist. Becoming convinced that the wage-earner was being ground, he decided last June to start a South Sea colony. He discussed the matter with friends and then started to carry out the plan, with the result that 478 members have been accepted. Only \$200 is required to participate in the enterprise. The entire amount is to be put into a common fund to establish a cooperative colony on an island. When a suitable island is found everyone will settle down to business. All will be expected to do six hours work a day, with four weeks' vacation a year.

The colony will be nonsectarian and the form of government that of a republic, with a president elected every year. Shredded accounts will be the chief product of the colony, but the members may try tobacco and other crops.

THINKS SHE IS TWO BEINGS.

Writer and Scholar at Times, a Stone Age Savage at Others.

St. Louis.—In Mrs. Susan Edward McGee, a young woman now at the city hospital suffering from hysteria following her arrest on the charge of stealing jewels, physicians have one of the most interesting cases in their experience.

Mrs. McGee says she is a second Jehyll and Hyde. She is 27 years old. She was married when but 16 and divorced three years ago.

She becomes two different kinds of a woman in a short time. Now she is loathe and talks intelligently on all subjects, and again she becomes almost savage.

Mrs. McGee explains these moods by saying she was a dual personality. She says: "Since I was a child I have dreamed and thought of prehistoric times and people. I believe that I am not one but two. One of me is the girl who likes to write stories, figure out mathematical problems and discuss religion; and the other is the girl of the historic age, who sits in a cave and takes part in gory feasts, the while giving utterance to half-formed words that would sound like monkey gibberish in this enlightened and advanced age."

UTOPIA FOR OLD MAIDS.

One of Them Planned a State in Which Women Would Rule.

Newport, Mass.—A state in which unmarried women should rule and in which man's position should be restricted, as a woman's is in other states, was the plan of Miss Gibbs, who left all her estate to Barnard college, ignoring her sister, Mrs. Margaret O. Post, who is now contesting the testament.

"Portions of Miss Gibbs' manuscript were read in court at the trial. One of these, entitled 'Gleanings: A Gift to the Women of the World,' copyrighted 1892, contained the following: "My idea is to found a woman's state, a state which women alone shall govern and direct, one in which man's position shall be restricted, as a woman's is in other states. As married women are too easily swayed by the opinions of their husbands, single women alone should fill the offices. Let us have a state in the United States to be a woman's state. When they marry they must resign their places."

MULE IS VICTOR OVER BEAR.

Two Volleys from Hind Feet Put Bruin Out of the Battle.

Port Jervis, N. Y.—Driving to market at Cokerkin Center behind the family mule turned, dumping the load of honey and pumpkins on the ground, and broke away from the wagon.

The bear started for the mule. Then both hind feet flew out and struck bruin, knocking him flat. When bruin arose the mule was given a sweep with the big paw. Again the two hind feet flew out and the bear turned a somersault.

"Good mule!" yelled the Browns, who were hiding out of harm's way. A few minutes later a hunter, Charles Slezler, following the bear tracks, came down the roadway with his gun, and before Bruin recovered from the mule's stunning blow Slezler had shot it through the head.

Makes War on Church Bells.

London.—To the great satisfaction of distracted workers who have long complained of the constant church bell ringing which occurs daily in various churches, the Society for the Retirement of London has prepared a petition asking the home secretary for greater power to deal with street noises and that church bells be deemed street nuisances.

Arts Meets as Guides.

In Australia are found some of the most remarkable ants' nests in the world. They are known as "magnificent" nests, for the reason that they are built in a due north and south direction. Consequently, a traveler may readily direct his course by their aid.

TOBACCO WAR IS ON

DAMAGE BY KENTUCKY NIGHT RIDERS PLACED AT \$1,000,000.

Hopkinsville Second City Seized by Them in Effort to Force Up Price of Leaf Article—Warnsness Burned Down.

Louisville, Ky.—The "night riders" have received in Kentucky the terror of the Ku Klux days. Their last exploit was to seize Hopkinsville, a city of 10,000 inhabitants, the largest in southern Kentucky.

The night riders are the most conspicuous feature of the war that is being waged by the tobacco growers of Kentucky against the American Tobacco company. By reducing the competition in the buying of tobacco to practically nothing the company forced down the price of leaf tobacco until the growers say they cannot realize enough to pay for raising it. The tobacco crop is a mainstay in many parts of Kentucky, and thousands depend on it for their daily bread. The growers determined to force the price up.

The plan proposed in the beginning, and which is still being followed, was to form a combination of the growers to oppose the combination of the manufacturers and by withholding the tobacco make the tobacco trust come to terms.

Many associations of growers have been formed in the different tobacco raising regions of Kentucky. But some of the growers did not come into the association ranks and others grew weary of waiting and sold their crops. The more violent men in the associations have resorted to the measures that gave rise to the night riders, and by destroying the property of the tobacco company and the growers who are not allied with them have sought to carry through their plan by force and terror.

The Hopkinsville raid was the second time in 12 months that the night riders seized and terrorized a city. On December 1, 1906, they entered Princeton, a town of several thousand inhabitants about 30 miles north of Hopkinsville, took possession of the police and fire departments, the water works, the telephone and telegraph offices and with the town shut off from the rest of the world dynamited and set fire to two tobacco factories, which were allied with the trust. The damage here was \$100,000.

The first appearance of the night riders was in November, 1906, when they destroyed some tobacco barns and small factories in Todd county, with a loss of about \$10,000. The first raid came on the night of November 11, 1906, when masked bands entered the towns of Eddyville and Kuttawa, situated close together in Lyon and Caldwell counties, and destroyed two plants with \$20,000 loss.

Besides these there have been many smaller raids and visits to individual growers. Tobacco barns have been burned, growers who refused to pool their tobacco have been taken from their homes and whipped, houses have been fired into and the occupants wounded.

The loss approaches a million dollars. In part it is as follows: Hopkinsville raid \$200,000 Princeton raid 150,000 Mrs. Gibbs' tobacco damage 20,000 Eddyville and Fredonia raids 20,000 With the same object as the night riders, though following different methods, are the day riders, or peaceful army, as it is known. This is composed of growers who go through the tobacco district in the daytime trying to persuade other growers to pool their tobacco.

They do not use force, thinking that the moral suasion of the call from 20 or 30 men will suffice for the average planter. Owensboro, in Davies county, northern Kentucky, a city of 25,000 inhabitants, has been the gathering place of the largest peaceful army so far. Thousands of growers from the northern part of the state held a series of meetings there recently.

They called on the warehousemen and the buyers in the city and urged them to stop buying. Then they sent squads through the surrounding country on the same mission. The presence of a large number of growers who were not members of the association almost precipitated a fight in Owensboro on the last rainy day.

Paducah, a city of 30,000 in the northern part of the state, received warnings from the night riders and stationed heavy guards at all its approaches. Even Lexington and Louisville are threatened.

The greatest fear from the night riders is that the fires they start, with the fire department held in check, may spread until they consume an entire town.

The tobacco war is not confined to the Black Patch or the western part of the state. The white burley district, which comprises 52 counties, or the greater part of central Kentucky, has the same fight on. So far this district has been comparatively peaceful, though there have been many barn burnings, plant bed scrapings and acts of individual violence.

Vermin Bring Divorce.

Ravenna, O.—Charging that his wife neglected their children to the extent that they became so infested with vermin that the authorities threatened to expel them from school, Gottlieb Rufener filed a petition in common pleas court asking for a divorce and custody of his four children. The defendant, Ella V. Rufener, is alleged to have spent most of her time visiting to the neglect of her home.