

FARMER NOT TO BE TRAPPED.

This One Was Taking No Chances on a Possible \$300 Fine.

The government weather bureau supplies daily thermometer readings, quantity of rainfall and the forecast for the ensuing 24 hours to farmers along rural routes who apply for them.

The data are stamped with rubber type upon one of the fringed government cards and dropped in the rural mail box by the rural carriers each day.

On a western route a farmer had applied for the forecasts, and they were dropped regularly in his mail box each morning, but he failed to take them out, and the accumulation of cards became so great it nearly filled the box.

An inspector, going over the route, dropped in at the farmhouse.

"Why don't you make use of the weather forecasts?" he inquired "Didn't you apply for them?"

"For reply the patron of the rural route led him out to the mail box and put his finger on the corner of one of the cards, where was printed:

OFFICIAL BUSINESS PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, ONE DOLLAR

"You fellows ain't going to soak no \$300 into me," he declared, putting the card back into the box.

And the inspector had some difficulty in explaining that no penalty would attach to the removal of the card.

HAD DONE WORK THOROUGHLY. Corporal Literally Obeyed Orders of Post Commandant.

Gen. Clarence Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the war department, Avila how an Irish corporal got even with an unpopular post commander in Cuba.

Pronged. "I have good reason," said the head of the establishment, addressing the cashier, according to the Chicago Record-Herald, "for believing that you are living beyond your means."

Good in Either Event. Gen. Dabney H. Maury tells in his "Recollections of a Virginian" of an old lady in Fredericksburg who was reduced to taking in boarders in order to make both ends meet.

Went Too Far. Elderly Suitor—I offer you an honorable name, a large fortune and the utmost devotion.

One Was Enough. "Dad," said the white-faced lad, "how many cigars does it take to hurt a boy?"

How the Ruins Go. "I thought," said the American who was seeing Europe for the first time, "that you people had a lot of interest in old ruins over here."

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GREEN SPOTS IN WILDERNESS.

Relieve the Desolation of Desert of Northern Chile.

Northern Chile, which is so largely mountains or desert, is generally regarded as a forbidden wilderness, but in spite of its natural desolation the landscape presents a scene of great beauty under the softening hues of sunset, and here and there in the waste of sand and salt may be found, by looking for them, a number of oases, the most conspicuous of which are Pica and Matilla.

LITTLE TRAFFIC ON THE NILE. Not Much Use Made of Water Transportation in Egypt.

It is a curious fact that the Nile and most of the canals in Egypt run north and south. The wind blows nearly all the year from the north, and thus furnishes the cheapest propelling power for boats going south.

No Need to Come to Court. "There was a lawyer in Cincinnati who was noted for the strength of his lungs and the vehemence with which he would roar out his remarks to the court," said a jurist.

Husband and Wife. No man yet was ever made more tender by having tenderness demanded of him, no man yet was ever cried into loving his wife more, I am willing to admit that men are as faulty creatures as women themselves, unsympathetic in small things, often blind and that they may easily be exasperated into small brutalities of speech.

Peonies as a Medicine. Peonies were originally esteemed less for beauty of bloom than for value as a medicine. In recognition of its curative virtues, the peony was named after Paeon, the physician of the gods.

July and Independence. July is an important month in the history of political liberty. The United States celebrated its independence on July 4.

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INDIAN WOMAN GOT THE BEAR.

Predded Him Out with Her Scissors, Then Tomahawked Him.

As for that girl of women—meaning Indian women—which has been celebrated in a well-known book, there is a story in Fur News which is good evidence of their physical courage.

REAL ORIGIN OF UMBRELLA. Defoe Credited with Its Introduction into England.

In a recent controversy in England regarding the origin of the umbrella, and Defoe's knowledge of that non-universal article of "wearing apparel," a London writer says this knowledge may have been acquired in Spain.

Coloring Straw Hats. "Some persons take a lot of pleasure and no little pride," said he, "in coloring a meerschaum pipe, and I was thinking the other day what an awful blow it would be to the hat dealers if it got to be a fact to color a straw hat."

Dew. Dew does not "fall" in the sense that rain does. It has been scientifically demonstrated that "dew" is simply the moisture that is abstracted from the air by the rapid cooling of the bodies with which that air comes in contact.

Appreciates Teachers' Work. One woman says that when her children bring home their school reports at the end of the month she always finds five minutes in which to write a personal letter to the teachers.

Human Nature. An old maid's love affairs of her youth grow big in proportion to her years. By the time she is 50 she thinks she was the most popular girl in town and tries to make every other one believe she was once beautiful and attractive.

His Hopes Went Up in Smoke. Here is an instance of a man's hopes actually going up in smoke. The Rev. William Berg of Hartford was the man.

HORSES PERFECTLY TRAINED.

Extraordinary Intelligence of Mounts of City Patrolmen.

Chicago papers told the other day in picture and story of a policeman's horse that followed his master into a barber shop.

DEMAND MIRRORS IN CHURCHES. Architect Says Women Are Clamoring for Innovation.

"I won't name the church," said the architect's young man, "it is one that stood in need of repairs a short while ago. My boss got the job of putting it in order."

Angler's Bitter Memories. "Although angling has been and still is one of the chief delights of my life, something bitter always arises when I think of my fishing experiences."

Descendants of Massachusetts. Two princesses, representatives of the only real American royalty, descendants of that Massachusetts of 10,000 red men, are living in poverty on the shores of Lake Assawamisset.

Buys Stray Dogs to Kill. New York—Tarrytown, like every other town, has more dogs than is good for it. The problem of getting rid of them has been serious for Poundmaster William Martin, and as the dogs have not disappeared as fast as the people think they should, he called in the small boys to help him.

Woman's Nature. A woman wonders why her next door neighbor does not punish her child for putting his sticky fingers on her porch chairs, while she will allow her own child to jump uncontrolled on her neighbor's flower beds.

Tickled Mule with Straw. Philadelphia—Ticking a mule with a piece of straw George Fields of 459 Division street, Camden, was ticked, with such force that he sustained a fracture of the right arm.

HIS LEG IN THE LEMONADE.

Wooden Stump Used as Stirrer Got Harmon into Trouble.

New York—That a wooden leg is not a fit and proper instrument with which to stir a bowl of lemonade is the opinion of Nathan Wagner, a restaurant keeper at 215 Park Row.

Now, in front of Wagner's place is a stand on which he placed a large glass bowl of lemonade to be sold at the rate of a cent a glass.

"Heli," cried Wagner, just as Policeman Williams of the Oak Street station came along, and the policeman placed under arrest the man who had swung the leg.

"Why did you break the bowl?" asked Magistrate Kernochan.

"I didn't, your Honor," Harmon replied. "You can see for yourself that I couldn't have done it. I have no wooden leg."

"Indeed," said Wagner, wrathfully, "and why? Because I grabbed that leg out of your hand and threw it into the street, and a Dago picked it up and put it in a bag and ran down a side street."

"Well," said the magistrate, "while the police are looking for your leg you can rest safely on the island. Six months."

WOMAN DIES OF ELEPHANTIASIS. Disease Kills When it Reaches Heart Victim Weighed 510 Pounds.

Pittsburg, Pa.—After suffering for 19 years from elephantiasis, Mrs. Anna E. Lynch died at her home on the state road near McKeesport.

Wakes Up in Bed in Court. New York—The new combination common court-district court-farmhouse dormitory was put into complete operation at Orange, N. J., recently.

Man Ordered to Wed. Milwaukee, Wis.—When August Block was arraigned on a charge of abandoning his four children he gave as an excuse that he didn't know how to look after them since his wife died.

Was Anxious About Fido. Watertury, Conn.—Mrs. Nelson Chappelle reported to the police that her husband had wandered away from home and she wanted to find him.

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HIS CLOTHES STOLEN

WEALTHY MAN REACHED PITTSBURG IN HIS UNDERSHIRT.

Snack Thief Completely Cleaned Out the Berth of William E. McMillan, and He Couldn't Borrow a Pair of Pants.

Pittsburg, Pa.—William E. McMillan, president of the McMillan Lumber company, Chicago and Baltimore, was the victim of perhaps the most unique, certainly the meanest, sneak thief who ever entered a Pullman car.

While en route from Baltimore to Pittsburg over the Baltimore & Ohio railroad the thief stole every article of clothing possessed by Mr. McMillan while the latter slept.

The lumber king, who weighs 300 pounds, had retired wearing only a little dinky athletic undershirt.

He had this when he was waked, and in addition he had been left his fancy vest, a great, gaudy affair.

McMillan got the porters and train crew at work to find clothing, thinking that some joker friend had taken it, but it was not to be found.

The plight of McMillan however, was more pitiful than would at first appear, as the train was racing into Pittsburg at great speed and there was not a man on the train who weighed over 140 pounds, and so the question of borrowing a pair of pants for Mr. McMillan's 200 pounds seemed beyond question.

Finally the Pullman conductor, who weighed 137 pounds, announced that he had three pairs of extra trousers in a locker. Mr. McMillan split two of the pairs trying to get into them.

Even partly, but the third pair being good, and, aided by a sheet kindly contributed by the porter, the lumber king was enabled to reach the baggage shed of the police station, where he got a chance to telephone home for aid.

"I am a reasonable man and I don't want to meet the man who stole my clothes," said Mr. McMillan. "If I do I'm afraid I'll hit him. I traveled about 65,000 miles in the last 18 months, but never had a trick like that played on me before."

"It don't look good to come racing into a big city with nothing on but a short undershirt and a fancy vest, and a lot of splinter weights into whose trousers you couldn't get one leg of—ferry you advice?"

DOVE STUCK IN ORGAN PIPE. Church People Close Steeple and Birds Seek Shelter Elsewhere.

Conestoga, Pa.—There is a sequel of the odd and most striking sort to the fastening up of all possible entrances to Trinity church steeple with the purpose of shutting out pigeons that had overrun the belfry.

During the services, the choir and congregation were surprised when a pretty pigeon made its appearance at the end of one of the tubes of the pipe organ.

\$200 on Clothesline. Ansonia, Conn.—Two hundred dollars in bills hanging on a clothesline was the sight which attracted attention in Woodbury recently.

Willhelmy of this city drove to Woodbury to visit his brother. He was caught in a thunderstorm, and when he reached his brother's his trousers were wringing wet.

Willhelmy went calling on friends, and when he returned he found a crowd in front of his brother's home. The sight of his roll dangling on the clothesline was too much for him, and he collapsed with laughter.

After the girl had washed the trousers she found the roll of bills, and with clothespins fastened each on the line and left them unguarded.

Man Ordered to Wed. Milwaukee, Wis.—When August Block was arraigned on a charge of abandoning his four children he gave as an excuse that he didn't know how to look after them since his wife died.

The judge said that if he married a woman within 30 days who would care for the children he would dismiss the charge, and Block is looking for a wife.

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