

NEW MEMBER OF WASHINGTON SOCIETY



Mrs. Huntington Wilson, wife of the new assistant secretary of state, is not unknown in society circles at the national capital, having resided for three years prior to her marriage in Baltimore.

AIRSHIP LIKE DUCK

NEW CRAFT WHICH CAN FLY AND ALSO FLOAT.

J. W. Harrison, St. Louis Millionaire, Who Has Made Successful Model, Says His Plan is Sure to Be a Big Success.

St. Louis.—Aerial navigation is not a very difficult problem, according to John W. Harrison, millionaire manufacturer of this city. Mr. Harrison recently told a reporter that he had a plan upon which he has worked for more than four years, for an airship that would also float on water, and he says he is sure the machine will be successful, because he made a model of it and the model worked perfectly.

"I know it is practicable and will work successfully," Mr. Harrison said, "because I made a model some time ago which did all I thought it would and more. The only trouble with it was that it sailed completely away, and I never found it or any trace of it."

Mr. Harrison made his model along the lines upon which he has planned a bigger machine. It was two feet long and operated by a big clock spring. He liberated the airship from the roof of his home, and it flew away. He watched it until it was out of sight, and as far as he could see it the contrivance did not drop or show any defect.

Mr. Harrison fully described his contrivance. The machine is to be built of aluminum, the roof and wings to be of oiled silk. It is to be provided with two propellers, one for air and one for water navigation. The body is boat shaped, of aluminum. The propellers are to be of aluminum. Aluminum columns on the boat will support the roof, which is to be of oiled silk, surrounded by huge, rigid wings of oiled silk.

The dimensions are to be as follows: The aluminum boat is to be 54 feet long, the silk roof is to be 25 feet long and the wing area to be 75 feet long. The wings are to be 25 feet long. The 6 feet between their ends. This would make a wing area 75 feet long by 56 feet wide. The air propeller to have 18-foot wings and the water propeller 2-foot wings. The machine is to be operated by a 64-horse-power steam engine, weighing 750 pounds. This machine, by Mr. Harrison's calculations, would have a 2,100-pound lifting power.

The machine which flew away was a model of this proposed airship, two feet in length. It was built just like he proposes to build the big one.

He never made another model, but had an engine made for a big machine. About that time, however, he says other business distracted his attention.

Mr. Harrison sold the engine to a Japanese servant, and the Japanese went to New York, saying he would consult the Japanese consul there and try to construct an airship on Mr. Harrison's ideas, but the Japanese has not since been heard from.

Hill Springs Up in a Creek. Woodland, Cal.—A hill has risen out of the bed of Cache creek in Capay valley. The course of the creek has been diverted and is now running several hundred yards out of its course. The upheaval was accompanied by two sharp explosions. Seven acres in the vicinity have dropped from 40 to 100 feet, and the depression is rapidly filling from the creek.

CABINET TO KEEP ON THE MOVE.

Taft Advisers Will Travel to Get into Touch with Local Conditions.

Washington.—If President Taft's desires are carried out, his advisers soon will become known as the "traveling cabinet." Experience has taught the new chief executive that first-hand information is the best, and he will have the heads of the departments of the government make frequent tours of inspection.

Secretary of War Dickinson will make an early visit to the Isthmus of Panama to inspect the canal. Secretary of the Interior Ballinger will go to Alaska to investigate conditions in that territory, especially in regard to public lands. Secretary of the Navy Meyer probably will visit the various navy yards to acquaint himself with conditions. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson expects to visit the state experiment stations next summer, also inspecting the packing houses in the west.

Just what Mr. Taft has outlined for Postmaster General Hitchcock, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh, Attorney General Wickersham, Secretary of State Knox and Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel is not known, but the nation's energetic "traveling man president," as he has been called, will find a way to keep all of them moving.

GOPHER EATS COSTLY FILMS.

Pet Destroys Photo-Record of African Trip and Is Poisoned.

New York.—Just because a gopher was hungry priceless films recording an African expedition have been lost to the Museum of Natural History. The gopher ate them. Then he died of nitrate of silver poisoning contracted from the films.

The gopher's name was Peter, and he was the especial pet of Herbert Lang, of the museum staff, who owned the films Peter ate. When Peter was given to the museum, a month ago, Mr. Lang provided him with a box of earth, in which Peter dug his burrow and was content. By day he slept in his burrow and by night roamed about the museum halls.

One night Peter was hungry, also he was playful or else annoyed about something; and, besides eating the films, he gnawed holes in two expensive cameras, tore to pieces two pairs of trousers and put a pair of hunting boots out of business. The following day Peter could not be found, but he was located later in the camera closet, just breathing his last from nitrate poisoning. "Too bad he ruined your films," said someone to Mr. Lang. "It would not have been so bad if he had lived," was the reply.

DOCTORED BY WIRELESS.

Sailor Injured at Sea is Successfully Treated from Land.

Eureka, Cal.—Calling a physician on shore by wireless from the vessel where he lay dangerously ill and receiving successful treatment by wireless advice was the unique experience of a sailor on board the oil steamship Asuncion, which was off this port.

While the ship was near this port the Humboldt wireless station received a message stating that one of the sailors had fallen from the rigging to the deck, sustaining injuries resulting in severe internal hemorrhages. Medical advice for the injured man was asked.

The wireless station at once communicated with Marine Dr. Charles Falk, who prescribed treatment. The steamship remained here until the prescription of the physician had been received by wireless message.

BIBLICAL REFERENCES TO COAL.

Proof That Its Use Was Known in Time of King Solomon.

The first mention of coal in the annals of mankind occurs in the Bible, Proverbs 26:21, and is as follows: "As coals are to burning coals and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife." This was written about 1015 B. C., at the time King Solomon came into power. Part of his domain was Syria, and ancient coal mines are worked in that country today. There are several other references to coal in the Bible, all of a later date. Tools and cinders have been found near the Roman wall, indicating that the Britons were familiar with the use of coal prior to the Roman invasion in 54 B. C.

The first actual record of a coal transaction is the receipt of 12 cart loads of coal written by the good abbot of Petersborough, A. D. 852.

Years before the Christian era coal was in common use in China. Anthracite coal is powdered, mixed with wet clay and rolled into balls. These are dried in the sun and the poor use this fuel in little, hand furnaces precisely as they did centuries ago. Marco Polo speaks of seeing, in 1275, "a kind of black stone in Cathay that is used to burn better than wood." Marco Polo's countrymen refused to believe the traveler's tale.

The earliest historical mention of coal in the United States is by the French Jesuit missionary father, Hennepin, who, in his journal in 1679, speaks of traces of coal appearing on the banks of the Illinois river, and makes the site of a "Cole mine" on the James river, near Richmond, the first mine opened for the market. In 1766 anthracite was discovered in the Wyoming valley and was a sample of the coal sent to Thomas and William Penn in London.—Metropolitan.

THE RICH AND THE POOR-RICH.

Where Fashionable Increase of Living Expenses is Leading People.

At the recent automobile show in New York \$7,000,000 worth of cars were said to have been sold. Now it ought to make no great matter how the rich waste their money—except to them. But it does matter greatly if the well-to-do follow the fashion of the rich, and the poor in turn follow, as nearly as they can, the fashion of the well-to-do. For then great numbers of persons buy or hire houses that they cannot afford, maintain servants that they ought not to tax themselves with, outeat and out-drink and out-wear their incomes, and put their lives on a false economic basis. If the economic basis of one's life be false other things also quickly become false; and the whole atmosphere in which these poor-rich people live is unhealthy.

This fashionable increase of living expenses adds to a necessary increase of expenses even of men who object to it, for the whole community tends to adjust itself to the highest pitch possible. Rents go up, servants' wages increase, professional fees are higher, larger tips must be given, the good restaurants raise their prices. The man who wishes to lead a simple and inexpensive life finds it harder. The whole community is corrupted from the financial pot. City life becomes a sort of intricate but most comprehensive and effective robbery; and to avoid all these useless taxes, a modest man who would hold fast to his economic character must put himself to much trouble and run the risk of being regarded as eccentric.—World's Work.

Dogs Guard Hunter's Gun.

Three hunting dogs belonging to Harry Smith of Berlin, Pa., spent the other night on a mountain road guarding Smith's gun where it had fallen. Smith and his three hounds after a day's hunt returned late in the afternoon to a wagon which had been left near the road. The dogs stirred up some animals and Smith drove on after placing his gun in the wagon.

The dogs did not come home that night and Smith found he had lost his gun. Going back over the road he discovered his three dogs lying beside the gun, where it had been jolted from the wagon. The dogs coming upon the gun, decided to guard it until their master should appear.—Cumberland correspondence Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Cheap Wireless Cooker.

Miss Winifred Gibbs of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor of New York report that she has had unusual success in introducing the wireless cooker among the women of the east side. Miss Gibbs makes a wireless cooker at a cost of only a few cents. Her materials consist of a butter tub, a bag of sawdust, a tin pan with a closely fitting top and two yards of denim. She is said to have more than a dozen going full blast among the tenement families that she teaches.

Hairless Dog Latest Salome.

Mme. Tetraxini has a little dog named Salome. It is of Mexican hairless breed, weighs six ounces and cost the diva \$33 an ounce. There are two reasons why Tetraxini called the tiny mite Salome. Firstly, as it is a naked dog, then because some one remarked to her: "Do you think if it swallowed Mary Garden's Salome costume it would suffer from indigestion?"

A Timely Guess.

"They say trouble is brewing in New York." "Perhaps it is that bear famine they are talking about."

WAS OUT FOR THE SURE THING.

Actress Willing That Manager Should Take Chance on Getting Rich.

John La Farge, the famous mural painter, received last month in New York from the Architectural League a gold medal. In his speech of acknowledgement Mr. La Farge said dryly that he was thankful to get in his old age a medal for mural painting from a society of men who his whole life long had refused to give him any mural painting to do.

"I dined with Mr. La Farge the other day," said a mural painter to a reporter, "and he talked again about his medal. He said he would have been better pleased with work in the obscure days when he needed it."

"Then he smiled grimly, and said he was a little like a famous actress. A manager offered this actress \$1,000 a week to make a tour of the world. She insisted on \$1,500. But the manager said \$1,900 was all he could give, and he reminded her of the fabulous jewels that South American millionaires, Russian grand dukes and Indian rajahs are wont to lavish on the ladies of the stage when they are touring."

"Go home," said the manager; "think the matter over, and let me know your decision in the morning."

"In the morning the actress sent the manager this wire:

"Give me my terms and you can have the jewels."—Washington Star.

COVERED FIELDS AND HOUSES.

Started by Floods an Irish Peat Bog Carries All Before It.

A peculiar catastrophe in the shape of a moving bog recently occurred in Galway, according to the Queen.

No one who has not visited the scene can have any idea of its horror and misery. The district is at all times subject to floods, but when these floods are accompanied by tons upon tons of moving bog traveling at the rate of about five miles an hour the consequences cannot fail to be terrible and disastrous beyond all conception.

Unlike most of the former bog slides, there were in the present instance absolutely no premonitory signs of the dreadful upheaval, the recent heavy rains being generally regarded as the cause of the calamity. No one seems to have seen the actual bursting of the bounds within which the peat had been confined, the first intimation of what was happening being the strange and alarming sounds which roused the farmer Martin from sleep only to find his cottage partially surrounded by the oncoming torrent of water and peat.

He succeeded in warning most of his neighbors, with the exception of one poor old widow, whose cottage was almost instantly swallowed up. Mercifully no other lives have been lost, but many families have been left homeless and destitute.

Trapping Mosquitoes.

Here is a suggestion to end the mosquito pest in your house. Try it, and see what it is worth. The following is taken from a consular report published by Uncle Sam. The consul tells of the awful annoyances caused by the mosquitoes in the suburbs of Calcutta. Life wasn't worth living there until Mr. Lafroy of the Indian entomological department invented a mosquito trap which appears to have solved the problem. The invention consists of a box 12x3 inches fitted with a hinged lid provided with a small opening, over which moves a sliding cover. The box is lined with dark green baize and has a tin floor. The trap is placed in a shady corner of the room and the mosquitoes on entering the house in the morning find the tray a delightful place in which to seclude themselves. When the morning rush of mosquitoes is over a teaspoonful of benzine is injected into the box, which promptly kills the pests.

Unclaimed Bank Deposits.

Massachusetts treasury is likely to come in for a tidy sum of money under a recent decision of the supreme court of that state which holds that deposits in savings banks unclaimed for 30 years go to the commonwealth. The decision was rendered in a case brought to test the title of \$100,000 of deposits in the Provident Institution for Savings left there for more than thirty years. The court says that the length of time that these deposits have been in the bank without any action by the depositors in regard to them furnishes a strong presumption that willingly or unwillingly or ignorantly the depositors have permanently abandoned them.

Chinese Good to Animals.

The Chinese of Oakland, Cal., have formed a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. The Chinese are really a humane people. It is said, a man who for a long time has been president of an American humane society relates that years ago he asked Anson Burlingame, then American minister to China, whether a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals ought not to be formed in that country.

"It isn't needed," said Mr. Burlingame. "The Chinese are naturally good to animals. Such a thing as cruelty to animals is rarely heard of there."

Natural Curiosity.

"Why do you think you would like to vote?" "I don't know that I should like it," answered the determined woman. "I merely desire the opportunity of finding out for myself."

WILL LIE ABOUT THE WEATHER.

Something About Which Honesty Seems to Cut Little Figure.

The thing most lied about in the world is the weather. The weather can't sue for libel, so it is a safe thing to lie about, although it does strike back now and then.

Most people see no harm in stretching meteorological truth; in fact, they look with mistrust on the person who insists upon banding the weather a square deal. If your neighbor says his thermometer registered 20 below, and you tell him that yours only showed ten below, he despises you for a person without imagination. In the summer, likewise, when your mercury stands at 86 in the shade and he says his stands at 98, you are the one on whom popular doubt will rest.

Honesty is not the best policy when the weather is under discussion, unless you like to appear at a disadvantage. There is a large and flourishing class of liars who everlastingly pretend to know what the weather is going to do, setting themselves up as intimate friends of the weather, when, as every one knows, their acquaintance is barely a speaking one. Once in awhile a born liar, meaning to lie, will tell the truth in spite of himself, and it is thus with the weather professors; they can't miss the right guess always, because there are so few things for the weather man to do.

Call on half a dozen of your weather-wise friends and ask them what it is going to be to-morrow, and they will disagree as widely as the attorneys in a murder trial, without any apparent harm to their professional reputations.

BROUGHT FORTUNE TO FAMILY.

The Refrigerator Car the Invention of a Cape Cod Yankee.

Gustavus Franklin Swift, the first of this commercial dynasty, was a Cape Cod Yankee who bought a steer now and then and peddled the meat from the back of a certain go-cart which has since become famous.

He moved to Albany and went deeper into meats, discarding one after another partners who had not the foresight and daring which he possessed. He located in Chicago at the beginning of those days of great possibilities in bringing into touch the new west and the older east.

It was he who invented the first refrigerator car. This was the one revolutionary act which put his sons and a few other sons in very fair control of half of the meat of America.

He saw the market for dressed beef extended only after the hardest of fights. All great revolutions are fought against. All the east, all England, all Europe, fought the idea of dressed beef and then accepted it. I doubt if we could do without it now.—Cosmopolitan.

Grief is an Illness.

Grief is an illness and must be treated as such. Sorrow, grief and the emotions caused by all great misfortunes should be regarded as akin to acute physical maladies. Recent medical observations show that the physical results of depressing emotions are similar to those caused by bodily accidents, fatigue, chills, partial starvation and loss of blood. Birds, moles and dogs, which apparently die in consequence of capture and from conditions that correspond in human beings to broken heart, were examined after their internal organs. It was found that the nutrition of the tissues had been interfered with, and the substance proper of various vital organs had undergone degeneration.—From the Osteopath.

Plant Savings Banks.

All bulb plants have savings banks—storehouses that in fat seasons they fill with substance which in the lean days may be drawn upon.

The leaf-buds on the bare winter branches of plants are savings banks full of the plant currency called starch. This currency, accumulated in the easy summer, makes life through the hard winter endurable.

Some plants—the beet, carrot and turnip—run particularly fine savings banks called tap roots. These plants have turned economy to parsimony. They are misers. Their banks, or tap roots, are bigger and finer than themselves.

Hence their destruction. Man eats them. Or rather he eats their savings, their best part.

Scraping Along on \$50,000.

We have heard it laid down by a thoughtful man, and a Scotchman to boot, that the most impossible of all positions is that of a man who has a wife and a large family and but a thousand pounds a year to keep up an appearance on. Why not for variation's sake, discuss the question as to what a man can manage to cut anything of a figure on? It was laid down by a former member for Sheffield that it was absolutely impossible to make any real show in public life with an income under ten thousand (\$50,000) a year.—London Saturday Review.

Woman's Rights.

"Woman, do you believe in woman's rights?" asked the man standing in the car.

"I do," she replied shortly.

"Excuse me," he went on. "I am but an ignorant male seeking light. May I ask you if you construe these rights to include the privilege of spreading your really becoming skirts over three seats?"

Thereupon she condensed herself, he took a seat and conversation flagged.

"SOCIETY" IN THE TENEMENTS.

Rules and Regulations for Conduct That Are Binding.

Keeping company, as interpreted by the best sages, simulates an engagement without involving an engagement. In society, one takes short views of life, while Nellie gave Hefty her lips to kiss and her waist to clasp, she has kept her heart whole. They were chums, those two. Chums no more, each may seek a new comrade; only the smash should have been come at more decorously. "He ain't no gentleman!" cries Nellie, as she reminds bits Mr. McCafferty's literary remains—those clumsy, brief notes written on ruled paper with an embossed design in the upper left-hand corner, and beginning, as is proper, "Friend Nellie." She reiterates the verdict as she pitches his gifts down the air-shaft—"soo-neers" from the benches, medals reminiscent of holidays, and sundry buttons and badges inscribed, "Ski-doo," or "I'm Afraid to Go Home in the Dark," or "23 for you." This frenzy of vandalism redoubles her fury and affords us our opportunity to awaken within her a resolve to have done with the whole race of Hefty McCaffertys, and to choose her next steady in a more distinguished social milieu. The thing is perfectly possible. It happens. Like many another girl, she will rise in the world.—Rollin Lynde Hartt, in Atlantic.

INSISTED ON SHAVING HIMSELF.

Patron of City Shop Who Wanted to Be His Own Barber.

Two barbers were disengaged when the customer came in. Both got their chairs ready, but the newcomer dodged them.

"I need a shave all right," he said to the proprietor, "but I want to shave myself. Can you accommodate me here?"

"Certainly," said the proprietor, "but I'll charge you the same as if one of my men shaved you."

"That's all right," said the man. "I'm not kicking about the price. All I want is a chance to do my own barbering."

A tonsorial outfit was speedily produced and the self-sufficient individual went to work, and apparently he knew his own business.

"Isn't that a new wrinkle?" asked another man, who had been an interested observer of the proceedings, and who had been through the barber's hands.

"Not at all," returned the proprietor. "Every once in awhile we run up against a fellow who prefers to shave himself, but hasn't the apparatus handy. We keep a lot of razors in stock for the accommodation of just such independent customers."

Stork Day.

At Haslach, in the Kinzig valley, in Germany, February 22 is a holiday and has been observed as one for hundreds of years. Once upon a time, the story teller who explains its origin begins, Haslach was overrun with snakes, and no one knew how to drive them out. One day a great flock of storks appeared, and they were the saviors of the place. In recognition of this deliverance from the pest, which occurred on February 2, the day has been kept sacred and is known as "Stork day." An appointed official known as the "Stork Father" parades the streets, followed by as many children as care to join the procession. He wears his "Sunday clothes" and a high hat, decorated with two stuffed storks. Stops are made by this procession at houses along the line and the children receive gifts of sweets and small coins, every householder feeling pleased to show his gratitude to the stork.

Pat Broke the News.

Pat had been delegated by his fellow employes to tell Mrs. Casey the news of her husband's accidental death. On the way to the Casey home, Pat pondered on how to break the news to the widow. Finally he hit on what to him seemed a most humane way of preparing Mrs. Casey for the sad news.

Knowing the violent hatred which Mrs. Casey as well as all loyal Irishmen have for the A. P. A., he said on greeting the woman:

"Ah, Mrs. Casey, it is bad news I have to bring you. Your husband, Mike, has turned an A. P. A."

"Mike turned A. P. A.!" The accoutrements, I hope he is dead."

"He is," answered Pat.—Milwaukee Free Press.

Phosphorus of the Sea.

The phosphorescent light that is often seen at sea, sometimes following the ship like a great streak of fire, is caused by a variety of small animals, chiefly crustacea. The globe-like lights often seen at sea in the night-time are due to the Medusae, or jelly-fish. But the most dazzling displays of phosphorescence come from the Pyrosoma, a jelly-like, cylindrical mass, measuring from two to ten inches. These bodies congregate in immense luminous shows, floating near the surface and sometimes embracing the whole of the visible horizon.

Jane Was Sensitive.

Jane is an athletic girl, and her feet are not of the Cinderella type.

"I see that Sizer, the shoe man, is having a sale," said Jane's mother.

"Perhaps you could find something there to suit you."

Jane frowned.

"I certainly shall not enter Sizer's store," she said with much firmness.

"And why not?"

"Because the sign over his door says 'Big Sho' Sale!'"

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