

TOURISTS IN PANIC

How to Keep Within \$100 Exemption Has Them Guessing.

Collector Lobb Has Homecomers Worried as to What Will Happen to Baggage—Declare or Not to Declare.

Berlin.—The remaining days in Europe of countless thousands of home-bound Americans are being made miserable with worry over what is likely to happen to them and their baggage when they reach the New York custom house.

Stories of excessive activity on the part of Collector Lobb, inspector in charge of this side, have spread a genuine panic among the returning fraternity.

Usually the problem of how to crowd a suitcase, European purchases into the \$100 exemption which is allowed to each visitor on board the steamer 24 hours before landing, when the passengers are accustomed to go together and compare notes.

The needless, even with which Collector Lobb seems determined to enforce the law has caused the home-going travelers in their traveling trunks to be in a state of nervousness. It is their habit to declare to the collector the contents of their trunks, but they are now in a state of nervousness as to whether they should or not to declare the contents of their trunks.

The case with which Americans run the customs blockade throughout Europe affords them to appreciate the benefits of the system in vogue in their own country. According to the statements of various passengers throughout the continent they enjoyed an exceedingly prosperous American season, so that Collector Lobb probably is justified in believing that a more than ordinary amount of trinkets is westward bound.

There is a fair degree of unanimity among the home goers, however, that the total acquisitions do not exceed \$100 per person. Animated advocacy is expressed that Mr. Lobb's sleuths seem inclined to doubt these assurances.

"If the globe trotting contingent," said a congressman in Berlin this week, "would air their grievances during the congressional campaign as vigorously as they do on the eve of their arrival in New York there would be fewer sandpapers in Washington and a better chance of eliminating the protective tariff. I find that most of the customs kickers are Republicans. It is a good thing for them to get such convincing proof of the workings of their pet theory."

TEARS MAR ACTOR'S PRANKS

Comedian Rattles Off Witty Sayings and Does Funny Stunts While Son Lay Dead.

Wilmington, Del.—While a large audience at Shelltop park the other night applauded the witty sayings and actions of James Cole of the comedy sketch team of Hughes and Cole, they did not know that the comedian could hardly keep the tears back.

He had been informed during the day that his son Leonard Cole, an automobile mechanic, was killed in the 24-hour race at the Brighton Beach track. After finishing his act, the parent gave way to his grief. Cole went to New York. He received word of his son's death from his wife Lilian Tyce, a vaudeville performer, with whom the young man made his home.

"It was only last week" said the father, "that I met my son in Philadelphia and pleaded with him to give up automobile racing. I told him that some day he would be killed. He replied that he only had to die once and be might as well go that way as any other. Although I feared for his safety I did not think then that his end would come so soon."

BIG SNAKE IN HER WORKBAG

Missouri Woman Discovers Reptile and Quickly Shuts it in Reception Until It Is Killed.

Paris, Mo.—Mrs. Perry Smith of Paris prepared to do some sewing Friday and went to the room of her daughter, Miss Amber, for the latter's workbag. The bag, with the mouth almost drawn to by the gathering string, hung near an open window, and Mrs. Smith sat in a chair and placed it in her lap.

On opening the bag she discovered a big black snake coiled cozily in the bottom. She drew the gathering strings tightly together, and, carrying Mr. Snake downstairs, called Mr. Smith to dispatch him, not becoming frightened until all danger had passed. The snake measured four feet in length.

Vankees to Build Turk Road.

Constantinople.—After a long debate the chamber in substance approved the proposed concession to an American company to construct a railroad from Bivas to Mosul in Asiatic Turkey. The concession was granted on condition that if in the 16 months' time the company asks to study the route, better terms are offered, the latter shall be accepted. The ministers of works and finance heartily supported the American applicant.

CACTUS PATCH IN MICHIGAN

Plant Is Supposed to Have Been Brought North by Indians.

Located in the northern part of Blue Lake township in Michigan, and forming an area of several acres, and preventing to a great extent the successful farming of the land, the vicinity is an immense patch of cholla. Naturally growing only in the warmer portions of America, the spread of the big cactus in the extreme northern part of Michigan has long been the cause of no little comment. The story of its origin is as follows:

Nearly half a century ago, when the territory connected with that name in Michigan was a part of the Michigan Territory, a party of Indians, who were engaged in the fur trade, happened upon this strange cactus patch. He pronounced the plant a native of Arizona and was able to explain its presence in Michigan only on the theory that some Indian tribe, either migrating here willingly or driven northward rather than become enslaved to some more powerful tribe, had brought the plant.

Legends of how the cactus was brought to this country are still told by the residents of Blue Lake, who have heard from time immemorial the stories of its origin from the lips of aged Indians who live in the vicinity of the cactus. The Indians used to say that the cactus was brought from Arizona to the hands of Zuni Indians, who were conquered by another of the major tribes, were forced to accept exile or slavery.

The date of this coming to Michigan was placed by these Indians as about the year 1400 from estimates made in the stories told them by their forefathers, and to prove their statements that the cactus was the best food they would burn off the herbs and make various native dishes of them. In spite of the climate, here the cactus seems to flourish in the dry regions of Blue Lake and in the last few years have been extending the area which they cover.

WHITE ANTS DESTRUCTIVE

They Eat Away Support Timbers of Military Buildings in Philippines.

White ants have wrought great destruction at Schofield hall at Fort William McKinley, and it has been necessary to temporarily brace the building to prevent it from collapsing. The chief damage has been done to the timbers and braces of the rear portion of the structure, and pending repairs the use of the rear gallery has been forbidden.

It was feared that if many persons used the balcony at one time the whole structure would collapse. The destructive work of the ants was discovered several weeks ago, but it was not thought that the building was in a dangerous condition. A closer examination made several days ago, however, revealed the startling fact that many of the heavy timbers were almost entirely eaten away and that under any strain would have fallen to pieces.

Prompt steps were taken to make the building safe. Special braces were placed at several points and arrangements are now being made to replace the injured timbers.

The residence of the governor general at Malacanang has also been found to be in very bad condition, and repairs are necessary to prevent its collapse. Experts from the bureau of public works have decided that it will be unsafe for the new governor general to occupy the building until a large amount of reconstruction work has been done.

Snake Infested Canyons.

This is said by old timers to be the best year for rattlesnakes—or the worst—in the history of the county. The canyons are full of them, and snake stories are heard on all sides. On that part of the Guadalupe ranch known as the De Grasse tract there are a number of tumble-down shacks. Recently Charles Pitcher, who lives in the neighborhood, had business on the place and in visiting the shacks found and killed a big rattlesnake. He heard another and before he was through he had killed ten.

His experience was told to the Haddock brothers, who had themselves farmed that tract. The Haddocks had their doubts and went to investigate. They killed 17 snakes. They heard more, but could not stand the war any longer and turned the thing over to the crew of the Donlon brothers' threshing machine, camped in that neighborhood. The threshers turned out the following Sunday and killed a total of 27 rattlers among the old buildings. That made 54 killed there.—Los Angeles Times.

Woman Structural Iron Worker.

"I just got tired of working around the house and being away from my husband all day long. That explains why Mrs. Eva Talbert, 27, a pretty bride, left her cozy cottage in Canton to learn the dangerous structural iron working trade.

Go down to 311 Main street and you can see the only woman in the world who follows this hazardous work, high in the air on a five-story building risking life and limb, helping Harry Talbert, her brave husband, put up fire escapes.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Disappointed. "I thought I'd buy direct from the fountain head and save money." "And did you save?" "No, I got soaked."

RECOVERY OF RUYDER ZEE

Gold and Silver Lost in Shipwreck Will Be Searched For.

The Dutch award with courtesy the results of a work undertaken in the Zuyder Zee. On October 15, 1769, the English ship of war, *Lutin*, sunk in Dutch waters, carrying with it to the bottom thirty millions of gold and silver in bars that the British cabinet was sending to Hanover to help at a financial crisis in the Hanse town. The cargo, insured for nearly twenty-five millions, was entirely lost.

The Dutch government, urged by France, tried to recover the wreck, but a violent storm covered the ship with such a thickness of sand that it had to be given up. After the restoration of European peace the king of Holland abandoned his rights to his English colleague, who ceded them to the company of Lloyd.

The company made a new attempt in 1820 and its efforts were not successful, for they drew from the ship 128 bars of silver and 1,200 ingots of gold, a total value of \$2,500,000. Probably France has no claim.

The company of Lloyd has entered into a contract with another society which undertakes the work with the help of a new apparatus invented by an engineer named Lok. This apparatus is composed of a floating bridge, at the end of which are fixed the instruments for diving. They consist of a number of pipes which can pump up in 24 hours 10,000 tons of sand. At the extremity of these pipes one finds the room of the divers, all built of metal. This chamber rests on intended wheels placed in action by a motor of a particular system, in such a manner that the divers can remove their room like a carriage and roll it at the bottom of the sea, which makes the work easier and quicker.

MONKEY AS AN AUTHOR'S PET

One Owned by Chateaubriand Tore Up His Manuscript and Stole His Orders.

A Paris contemporary dealing with the love of great men for animals gives an amusing account of Chateaubriand and his monkey. When he was engaged in preparing Fontanes' works for the press on returning one day he was met by his monkey.

"Ah, you rogue!" said Chateaubriand, "your sham-faced look tells of mischief." The monkey was chained up, but as things did not appear much disturbed Chateaubriand thought no more of the matter until it was time to resume work. Fontanes' manuscripts were not to be found. At last Chateaubriand looked into the waste paper basket and there were the manuscripts. The monkey had watched his master, and as he had seen him fold a sheet of paper and tear it into four, so he had dealt with Fontanes' writings. With much labor they were pieced together and afterwards published.

Chateaubriand thought it advisable to see what else the monkey had done. His orders had disappeared from a drawer which was always kept closed. The servants searched everywhere for them, but they were not to be found. Nearly a week elapsed before they were traced, and then a domestic noticed that the monkey had suspended them in the cornice in a quasi-symmetrical way. The monkey was given his cage and Chateaubriand replaced him by a cat, which was allowed a place on his master's writing table, and great was the pleasure which he derived in playing with puss.

Falcon in London Streets.

The escape of a pet eagle which has just provided residents in the neighborhood of Hoxton with a sensation in the form of a hunt across the house-tops, is a reminder (writes a correspondent) that for many years the spire of the adjoining church at Shoreditch, popularly known as the actors' church, was the home of a falcon which took up its abode there at all times and in all weathers.

The appearance of a falcon in the crowded streets of London is a rare spectacle—as rare almost as the snipe which some time ago were seen careering over the Marylebone road by an observant naturalist, or the swan which was gracefully preening its feathers on the roof of a train standing in Luton station. Several years ago a buzzard visited the metropolis and greatly astonished some workmen who were engaged upon the roof of one of the buildings of the house of commons.—London Daily News.

Naval Torpedo Made Effective.

The day has gone by when the torpedo can be regarded as an unreliable instrument of war of strictly limited use. Today the British navy is about to be equipped with a torpedo which will carry a destructive charge of upward of 200 pounds, and will possess an effective range of over 7,000 yards, which it will be able to cover at an average speed of 31 knots. Such a weapon is bound to influence battle tactics, owing to its range and the accuracy with which it runs. The new torpedo, in association with improved gunnery methods, has already banished the familiar six-inch gun from the newer battleships and battleship cruisers.—Cassier's Magazine.

Merely a Shortage.

Stranger—Your new city directory seems to be a case of too much Johnson. Resident—Not at all; it's a case of not enough Smith.

URNS BURGLAR FOR LOVE

Prisoner Gives Romantic Excuse for Infraction, But Justice and Jury Take No Stock in It.

London.—Was he a burglar or simply a lovelorn youth prepared to brave all risks in order that he might feast his eyes upon the countenance of his adored one? It was a romantic problem which the recorder of Hull was asked to settle.

That he should take the prosaic matter of fact view of the circumstances and decide that the man in the dock was a bold criminal and not a passionate Don Juan was perhaps inevitable. But it seemed sad that so picturesque a story should be of no avail.

The prisoner, an alien, said he was an officer on a Dutch dredger lying in the Lumber, and the day before the affair he saw two young women in the window of the prosecutor's house. He had wished to see them, and that was why he broke into the house. He had no felonious intentions. He used the flash lamp and skeleton keys on board the dredger.

Griffiths Jones submitted that, improbable as was the prisoner's story, it was the most probable. This house was a small one, and not one which would tempt a burglar. Of course, the man would take off his boots if he wished to gaze upon a woman's sleeping form, and if that was his way of satisfying his sudden love for her.

At all events, he had not awakened the young women. The reason he had run away was because he was afraid of a thrashing. Was not that the likely frame of mind of a man or boy discovered in a girl's bedroom by the parent?

The recorder, in summing up, pointed out he had never heard of a case like that argued by the prisoner in which there were skeleton keys and a flash lamp, and he would leave it to the common sense of the jury to say whether the prisoner was guilty or not guilty. He was sentenced to 12 months' hard labor.

GIVEN PLACE ON THE STAGE

Sweetness of Telephone Girl's Voice Secures for Her Position with Comedy Company.

New York.—Nearly all the "hello girls" in New York are dreaming of becoming tollgate queens. The origin of the craze lies in the streak of fortune that has befallen pretty Miss Florence Victoria Grant formerly good fairy of Henry B. Harris' telephone switchboard.

One day last week Harris picked up his telephone receiver and, while waiting for a number, was struck by the sweetness of Miss Grant's voice and the unassuming manner in which she corrected "Central's" reading of the line, "Melrose, 2286," for the sixth time. In another moment Harris stood in front of Miss Grant.

"How'd you like to play a part in our company?" he asked. The girl's heart thumped so loudly that it awoke the officeboy. She feebly murmured that she wanted a day to think it over. "No, you must decide this minute," said the manager.

"Then I accept," said Miss Grant. A few minutes afterward she left the switchboard to sign a contract.

HOBOS' NOVEL HAIR DRESS

Restrains Flowing Forelocks with Tin-foil and Copper Wire Because Matches His Red Tresses.

Springfield, Mass.—A tramp who braided his hair with copper wire in the back and restrained flowing forelocks with tin-foil was an object of curiosity in the Indian Orchard police station. His appearance so startled the first woman to whom he applied for food that she slammed the door in his face and telephoned for the police.

"I'm the Ward McAllister of hoboes," confided the tramp to the police. "I set a pace no other hobo can follow. Once I had a pair of leather pants, but a jealous pard cut 'em up while I was dreaming, and tried to make a pair of shoes out of the piece."

The prisoner explained that he used copper wire for gathering his shaggy locks into knots partly because it was pliable and partly because it harmonized with his red hair. The tramp protested vehemently when some one suggested running a comb through his hair.

Grasshoppers Are Mascots.

Guthrie, Okla.—The grasshopper, formerly as much feared in the early days of Kansas and Nebraska, has made his appearance in certain sections of Oklahoma. No damage to crops, however, has resulted. At Guthrie grasshoppers by the thousands hailed down on the citizens of the town for a few minutes one evening recently and then disappeared as suddenly as they had come. The people of that section accepted the temporary visitation as a sign of a big crop this season. An army of grasshoppers made their appearance at Chickasha also during the evening and disappeared the following morning no one knows where. Wise men of grasshopper lore say that in August of every year the young grasshoppers become strong enough to migrate and that they fly in swarms, taking an eastward course.

Falls from Balloon.

Coffeyville, Kan.—Henry E. Hoffman, an aeronaut, was killed the other night by falling 500 feet from his balloon. His parachute failed to open and he dashed headfirst to the ground.

WHEN NAPOLEON'S CORPSES

Pathos in Last Address of Fallen Emperor to the Troops Laid Loyal to Him.

It was at Fontainebleau that Napoleon received the blow in 1814. It was at Fontainebleau that he hurried on the pope, the apartment which served as his prison is still shown. In 1872 and 1873, finally, for Napoleonic would have it so, it was at Fontainebleau that Napoleon signed his abdication and said farewell to his army in 1814, coming down the horse shoe staircase at the head of the Cour d'Orleans. There and placing himself at the head of the guard, as if for a vow.

"For 20 years," he said, "I have been well content with you, and you have always been with me on the path of glory. With your help and that of all the brave men who are still loyal, I could have carried on the war for three years longer, but France would have suffered, and I did not wish that to happen."

"I might have died, that would have been easy, but I would not prefer to follow the path of honor, and to write the history of our exploits. I cannot embrace you all, but I will embrace your general. Come, Gen. Pelet. Bring me the eagle. Dear eagle, may these kisses find their echo in every brave man's heart."

"I am well, my children."

STRANGE ACTION OF MEMORY.

Scenes of Other Days Thought For gotten, Are Suddenly Flashed Into the Mind.

Often suggestions out of all keeping with the surroundings come, and it may be asked, What made you think of that? Frequently we are positive that no conscious train of thought has brought up the idea. These memories, out of all rhyme and reason with our atmosphere and conscious occupation, pop into the mind and surprise us with their incongruity. As these spontaneously originated as they seem to be, or have we merely forgotten the connecting train of ideas, as is often contended? The author, but recently, while looking at some old pickles, had flash upon his mind the image of a Southern California beach and an incident associated with the scene. The memory came so suddenly and the connecting link was sought for so immediately that a dropping out of a segment of consciousness is altogether improbable, yet he felt that there was a connection somewhere, if it could but be found. And it was found after a little thought. Where the brine on the pickles had dried, there were left fine, white salt crystals just as he had seen on kelp and sea mosses that he had gathered on that beach. The memory in the stream of consciousness was spontaneous, and yet we see how it may come under our law, at least in its physiological version.—From the Mental Man.

Her Choice.

They were sisters-in-law and reasonably well disposed toward each other. One was the mother of George, aged six months, and the other the mother of Marian, aged six months. It was impossible that a slight parental rivalry should be altogether concealed. "Marian does not seem to grow very fast," said the mother of George, with a suggestion of commiseration in her tones. "George is much taller" (height being measured in inches). "Perhaps he is," replied the mother of Marian, coldly, "but Marian weighs more." "Oh, well," responded the sister-in-law, with a smile of highbred superiority, "of course I should not wish George to be gross."

Drawings and Paintings.

The first sketch from nature which a great artist makes nearly always has a freshness which he only labors away in the picture he bases on it; and the rough pencil or charcoal lines of the former frequently reveal more of his feeling toward his subject than all his anxious manipulations of the brush. That is why it is so exceedingly worth while to collect and catalogue every scrap of drawing that once littered a great painter's studio. His drawings give you his intentions, his paintings do not always give you their fulfillment. It is true that a drawing is incomplete, but therein lies its charm. Possessing a drawing you possess a hope, and hoping is better for mortals.—T. P.'s Weekly.

About Corn.

"I can't understand about the corn in this country, you know," said the Englishman. "It is the best vegetable you have here, you see what I mean? And you never serve it fresh. It is always canned, you understand, always canned." "Now, why in the name of common sense do you take the fine fresh article, you know, can it, and offer it to people to eat, when they might better eat it in its pristine condition? You see what I mean?" "But, but, but, all the year round, they serve you canned corn, canned corn. Can they can it cheaper than they can cook it fresh? Is that it? Eh?"

The Divorce Habit.

"How long will it take to get my divorce?" asked the woman. "About two months, I think," replied the lawyer. "As long as that? I don't know whether the other man who wants to marry me will wait as long as that!"

ODD JOBS OVER THE TELEPHONE.

Performer of Various Tasks Employed From One End of the Another Far Away.

The other day a prominent business man of this city went into a drug store to use a telephone. Just before him a young woman with a large bouquet of carnations had been using the phone and when he went into the booth the odor of the flowers nearly stifled him, so much so, in fact, that his intention was to hurry the conversation and get out as soon as possible. With the thought of the strong odor of perfume in his mind, he called a man at the other side of the city. Without a word having been said on the subject, the other man remarked about the strong odor of carnations, and the man who called up, without thinking, said a woman with some carnations had just been using the phone on which he was talking.

"Hold the phone just a minute," said the man at the other end of the line, and I will find out if there are any of the flowers in the store."

After waiting for a few moments he again came to the telephone and said that there were no carnations there and that the clerk was positive that there had been none in the store that day.—Chicago State Journal.

HAD NO TIME TO BE AFRAID.

Italian in Deadly Peril Saved Himself By Feat That Fea Couid Duplicate.

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing to the man who handles dynamite. Italian laborers who never read up on explosives and have no suggestions about them seldom are injured through any faulty handling of their own. It was dynamite that caused a man to die. If you drop a small bit of it on the ground all you have to do is to pick it up.

Some Italian laborers were digging a well. They got down about a dozen feet and struck a ledge. The foreman approved a ladder, drilled a hole and inserted a half pound of dynamite. He lighted an ordinary fuse, but it snuffed the ladder. Before he reached the surface his mask-shirt had burst and down he tumbled at least ten feet to the splintering base. Many a better educated man would have realized his awful peril to the explosion of every other thought. The Italian foreman whipped out his pocket knife and clipped off the burning fuse. When he appeared at the surface, grinning, he exhibited the cartridge with a bare inch of fuse sticking out.

Animals Are Poor Sailors.

The polar bear is the only wild animal that likes a trip on the waves, according to a French scientist who has just studied its behavior at sea. He is quite jolly when aboard ship, but all the other animals violently resent such a voyage and vigorously give vent to their feelings until sea sickness brings silence. The tiger suffers most of all. He whines pitifully, his eyes water continually and he rubs his stomach with his terrible paws. Horses are bad sailors and often die on a sea voyage.

Oxen are heroic in their attempts not to give way to sickness. Elephants do not like the sea, but they are amiable to have a little sea-breeze. A good remedy is a bucketful of hot water containing three and a half pints of whisky and seven ounces of quinine.—Fury News.

City Life Is Lopsided.

"Sometimes think," says Mr. Mark Ham, "that only men with lopsided brains love to live in the city. God never made a city. He made a garden. City life is largely the cause of the general nervous breakdown of the race. This is an age of nerves, and the city is responsible for it. My ideal is a life that has the freshness and freedom of the country, and yet is within easy access of the town, where men can go and transact business in my business, that of making verse. I need the peace of the country, which is the peace of God. But I like to come in contact with men, and so I go to town. I think the city of the future will not be crowded by city dwellers—we are coming to know too much for that. But, for the present, mankind is still lopsided."—Huburban Life.

Plenty of Birds.

If we allow six inches, the measure of the English sparrow of our streets, to be the average length of a migratory bird, then this mighty host, if we could arrange its restless, flitting members in a quiet, orderly manner, like soldiers on parade, would make a line 4,990,909 miles long. This earth is much too small for such a line. We might arrange our birds in 325 lines and each would extend from the north pole to the south pole along the whole length of North and South America. If we arranged the birds at the equator they would encircle the globe 163 times.—D. Laage, in the Atlantic.

Wit Often an Affliction.

Wit is an affliction unless used with discretion and good sense. The habit of being invariably amusing will bring you into great disfavor. The sharp-tongued woman who will have her little laugh at the expense of her neighbors usually pays dearly for her fun. It is as much an art to be quiet and self-possessed as to be vivacious and entertaining, and the woman who can adjust her moods to the occasion is the one who ends herself usually the most popular member of her community.