Meet in District of Columbia
Proves Distinct Success.

President Taft Telegraphs Approval of Tourney Which Is Given Under the Direction of Army Officers

—Press Also Aids.

Washington.-The success of the recent outdoor schoolboy rifle meeting in the District of Columbia has shown how easy it is to work up interest in this sport among the boys when concerted effort is put forth. Most of the credit is due to Lieut. Albert S. Jones, secretary of the National Rifle association, who organized the tournament, but he found that the officers of the army, marine corps and national guard of the District of Columbia, as well as a number of patriotically inclined civilians, had only to be asked in order to contribute their time, efforts and money, to encourage the schoolboy work.

A brief sketch of how this tournament was arrange and carried to a successful conclusion will be of interest to other cities. The first step was to secure the loan of the District of Columbia range and the co-operation of the National Guard officers as instructors and range officers. This co-operation was most heartily given. The war department was then approached on the subject of arms and ammunition. Washington is peculiarly situated in that it has a well-organized and well-drilled cadet corps, and under the law the war department can furnish the corps with arms and ammunition. A sufficient number of rifles was borrowed from the war department and some 5,000 or 10,000 rounds of ammunition secured. Gen. Elliott, commander of the marine corps, placed at the disposal of the officers of the match the services of an entire company of marines to act as markers and scorers, the non-commissioned officers present assisting in instructing the boys and guarding against accidents.

In addition, several officers from the army and marine corps volunteered their services. President Taft, who as secretary of war had more than once signalized his approval of rifle practice, sent Lieut. Jones a telegram which read:

gram which read:
"I approve the teaching under proper regulations of rifle shooting to our boys in advanced grades."

Co-operation of the Washington press was solicited and the local newspapers took an active interest in the affair. The publicity thus gained was of great advantage in arousing the interest of the schoolboys and of the citizens. The school board assisted in every possible way and the athletic and military instructors took a promiment part in the preliminary work and In the tournament itself. A canvass was made of a number of prominent citizens, each being asked for a small contribution which resulted in a sum of money to defray the expenses. Several of the local newspapers gave cups and other cups and medals were given by merchants, brokers and hotels. Secretary of War Dickinson, in addition to heartily approving the shoot, gave a medal, as did Assistant Secretary of War Oliver and Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordinance. The Washington chamber of commerce and the Du Pont Powder Company also gave prizes, and a local firm contributed the programs. Ten cents & card was charged and the balance received over the expenses was turned over to the school board to further rifle practice in the schools.

The liveliest interest was manifested by the boys. Although it was dark and cold, more than 300 youngsters turned out to participate in the matches. Some 40 or 50 officers were on hand.

on hand.

The shooting was all at 200 yards, with regulation military rifle and ammunition, some of it being offhand and some prone.

GIRLS BE USED AS SCOUTS

General Baden-Powell to Train Nurses
for Use in Time of War—Ait Wear
Smart Uniform.

London. — General Baden-Powell, whose "boy scouts" now muster no fewer than 300,000 throughout Great Britain, has founded a girls branch of the corps, which he thinks will develop into a useful training body for the existing Voluntary Aid organization formed to provide nurses in case

The general has issued a girls' guide, laying down the course of training for the feminine scouts. Their duties will include tracking (to find the wounded), signaling (to send messages for bringing the ambulance to the spot), first aid (to bandage wounds temporarily), transport of wounded, rooking, nursing and convalescent

nursing.

The girl scouts will wear a smart uniform, based on the ordinary play dress of young English girls—blue skirt, jersey and Tam o'Shanter, with the addition of a cape hung on the back, gauntlet gloves and a belt holding simple surgical appliances.

False Horns on Deer.

Harrisburg, Pa.—State Game Commissioner Kalbfus was the other day sottfied that a Butler county man had been detected in trying to beat the law against shooting female deer by sticking artificial horns on the heads of does. He paid his fine.

FRUIT DIET NEW LONDON FAD

Surtou Opened to Proclaim Advantages of Fruiterian Food as Cure

London. — The "fruitarian" has stepped into the field as an avowed ival of the vegetarian. In the end, of course, the former may prove a covorker with the advocate of garden ruck, for he, too, has aimed his diettic crusade against humanity's conumption of too much "flesh meat." In my event, "The Order of the Golden age" has opened an international bueau in Brompton road for the purpose of proclaiming the advantages of ruitarian diet as a practical and eficacious way of lessening human disase and suffering and preventing & reat deal of animal pain. Claim is idvanced that already adherents and workers have been enrolled in 48 countries and colonies throughout the

"Fruitarian food is man's natural ood," proclaims the ritual of this ortanization. "It includes all the cereals, tuts, fruits, both fresh and dried, and t can be supplemented by milk and noney, cheese and eggs. It contains ill the body building properties of lesh food, but in richer abundance. It also contains the principle of life. It a free from the germs of disease and also from waste products and deletering

ous adulterations. "It promotes health and longevity, reduces doctors' bills to a minimum, tures and prevents intemperance and nakes a humane and spiritual life nore possible. It does not necessitate bloodshed and cruelty. It increases nental and spiritual perception; helps nan to control his lower physical naure. It is in accord with the Divine Will, for our Creator made man a ruit-eating creature. The adoption of his reform will ameliorate the condiion of both individuals and nations, will lessen poverty, crime and physial deterioration and will tend to oring the people back to the land and

o a more natural and hygienic life."
Mr. Sidney H. Beard is the founder ind president of the new society, and iandbooks and recipes for the prepartion of fruit in various dishes are lealt out.

WINS TRIUMPH OVER DRUGS

endon Physician Claims Cure for Morphine Habit of Over Ten Years' Duration.

London. — A London physician rouches for a cure of the morphine tabit of ten years' duration by the infusion of dried leaves of a plant named combretum sundaicum, which is grown on the Malay Peninsula. He claims that a wineglass full of this taken every half hour daily for four weeks cured his patient. The patient was a man of 30 who had reached a stage where he injected 45 grains of cocaine and from 24 to 30 grains of norphine into his system daily.

He began the new treatment in Norember, but broke down after a few lays and secretly obtained a supply if morphine which he used while tating the half-hour infusions. But on December 8 the patient made up his nind to overcome the habit. His ravings for the drug returned at inervals, but always with lessened orce until a week ago when the adninistration of the new medicine was stopped and the cure was announced o be complete. The patient now sleeps eight hours each night. Twelve cases like this one have been successully treated during the last two rears, according to the physician.

The herb was discovered accidentilly. Some Chinese coolies who were working in the forests of the Malay Peninsula ran short of tea. In its place they used combretum sundaisum. After two weeks use it was liscovered that the herb destroyed the taste of opium among certain of the party who were addicted to its use.

AUSTRALIAN TRAMP IS RICH

mmense Fortune Left by Relative Transforms Hobo Into Real Gentleman in Short Order.

Oakland, Cal.—From one of the reat number known as the army of loboes, who drift from one end of the ountry to the other, to an Australian rentleman of leisure was the metanorphosis caused in the existence of E. W. Lacey, who, by the death of an Uncle in Australia, has just been left 1500,670. Lacey, with a record of beatng his way through Australia, Canada ind the United States, has been driftng between the Whosoeverwill mistion on Pacific street, San Francisco. and the mission of the same name of Vinth street, Oaklond, for the past two vears and regaling the "regulars" vears and regaling the "regulars" about places with tales of untole vealth coming to him at the death of nis uncle in Australia. At last, much .o the surprise of the cronies, he stagcered into the office of T. D. McGarvie, secretary of the Whosoeverwill misdon with documents recently delivered to him by McGarvie, asking him what he should do with them in order o convert the fortune they represented, amounting to over \$500,000 nto ready cash.

Rare Coins in Bible Fund.

As a contribution to the American Bible society's \$500,000 endowment and, a box containing several hundred rare coins, many more than 500 rears old, has been received from a armer in Carroll county, Illinois, The soins were gathered by the donor during the last 50 years.

The fund is now within a few thouand dollars of completion.

FEED HUNGRY BIRDS

Deprived of Sustenance by Snowstorms, Many Perish.

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, Superintendent of Chicago Public Schools, Urges
Children to Scatter Crumbs—
Others Indorse Plan.

Chicago.—Take one slice of bread, crumble it between the thumb and fingers, scrape a small patch clear of snow on the window ledge, on the back porch or in the back yard, scatter the crumbs and then retire to a safe distance and watch the eager, half-starved birds flock in.

This is the entire equipment and manual of rules for the very latest idea in winter sports, launched in Chicago, and from a hurried investigation it promises soon to have greater vogue than either golf or bicycling did in their palmiest days. Moreover, it is likely to return to favor every time Chicago has an old-fashioned winter.

That birds, pecking hopefully, but without result, in the huge snow drifts that cover their supply of food, are dying of starvation by the score every day in our city streets is the situation that has been brought home to Chica-goans. Many people have joined the game and Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, superintendent of public schools, promises that plans to teach the rules to the school children of Chicago will have her bearty sympathy.

have her hearty sympathy.

She characterized the idea as beautiful and said that it would be called to the attention of the school teachers of Chicago at the earliest opportunity.

Young was busily engaged in

Mrs. Young was busily engaged in going over the school budget and had left orders not to be disturbed, but she laid aside her work long enough to welcome the suggestion enthusiastic-

"Such a means of bringing the children to think of the suffering which the birds must go through is beautiful," she said. "This furnishes an excellent opportunity for that thoughtfulness for dumb creatures which we are trying to teach the children."

Mrs. Cy De Vry, wife of the keeper of Lincoln park zoo, has supported a flock of 20 birds for the last two months and probably is qualified as

an expert at the game.

"It is certainly true that the birds in Chicago are undergoing terrible suffering just now," she said. "There is hardly a day now that I do not see one or more on the streets that has died of starvation. The reason is not only the depth of the snow, but the frequent storms have kept everything the birds might eat completely covered up.

ered up.

"I try to feed the birds at the same hours every day. I don't know how it is, but these birds can tell when it is the proper time. If I happen to be a little late one big fellow will come and tap on the window with his bill. I think there are about 18 or 20 in the flock that comes to my window now. I stand behind the curtain and watch and if people knew how much pleasure and satisfaction it brings more of them would do it.

"My flock attracts a good deal of attention in the neighborhood, but I do not see very much inclination to follow my example. Everybody has some little scraps of food that go to waste and would do a world of good to the birds if they would only take the trouble to put them out."

Prof. F. C. Baker, of the Academy of Sciences, declared there would be much greater suffering among the birds when they start to come north in the spring and that some of the most beautiful and desirable varieties of our summer songsters are likely to perish by thousands at this period.

"A late sleet or snow storm freezes over the ground and they die in flocks," he said. "They undoubtedly suffer greatly and if large numbers of people would leave bread crumbs and other eatables where the songsters could get at them they undoubtedly would save a very large number of valuable birds."

FEET ARE GROWING LARGER?

Expert Declares Chicago and New York Have Many Men Who Need Size of Fifteen.

Brockton, Mass.—Are you feet bigger than your father's were?

A local expert asserts that feet are larger than they used to be, and that there is evidence of this in the increased demand for the large size in shoes, more eights and nines being

made up than ever before, with a run on sizes even larger.

"The demand is being felt for twelves, and from that anywhere up to fifteens. They say Chicago has a number of citizens who have to have fifteens, and that New York also has its quota of them," says this author-

Dog Saves Freezing Master.
Williamspost, Pa.—Rural Mail Carrier Yeager, on the lonely Bobst mountain road, found and saved R. K. Thompson, who had lain three hours in the snow with a broken leg and was fast perishing from cold. He had fallen on the ice. The barking of Thompson's faithful dog beside him attracted the mail carrier's attention.

Washington.—Six countries have promised to send representatives to the international congress on child welfare which convenes in Washington May 10.

MAKE BUGS FOR GOVERMENT

Woman Sculptor Engaged in Cutting Out Enlarged Models of Harmful Insects.

Washington—Making models of bugs for Uncle Sam's use in teaching agriculturists and "bugology" students how to distinguish between incects that are harmful and those that are useful, is the novel occupation of Mrs. Otto Heidenmann, well known as a sculptor in this city.

It's no easy task that Mrs. Heidemann has. All the skill of the sculptor is necessary in the dexterous fashloning of the queer looking models, for although they are made on a gigantic scale in comparison to the life-size of insects, a close microscopic study of the subject and the ability to shape the different parts on identical lines are details of Mrs. Heidemann's work that must be followed each time she molds a reproduction.

Mrs. Heidemann as a sculptor has produced busts of some of the leading celebrities of the day, but she says her art has never been more severely taxed than it is through her employment for the bureau of entomology of the department of agriculture. The models of insects cover virtually every known form of life in the world of

The models are a true production, fantastic in some cases and hideous in others, and they furnish exceptional means for persons interested in agriculture to study both the insects that destroy crops and the others that preserve agricultural products

A practical entomologist herself, Mrs. Heidemann is equipped for her difficult task as few persons in the country are. She is the wife of a well known expert in entomology, and has frequently accompanied him on collecting tours in various parts of the country. In making her models for the government, she uses wire, thread, wax, celluloid, rubber, papier mache and other materials, of which one is a composition she discovered herself and the secret of which she carefully guards.

Millions of dollars' worth of property is destroyed each year by destructive insects. The fight which the department of agriculture has made to combat this destruction is based to a large extent on the work which Mrs. Heidemann does for the government.

TREE FARM FOR ST. LOUIS

Twenty Acres of Land to be Devoted to Culture of Plants with Idea of Baving Expense.

St. Louis, Mo.,—St. Louis is to have a "tree farm" and a whopping big one,

too.

The board of education is preparing to engage more extensively in tree and plant culture, in the hope of raising trees, plants, bulbs, etc., for the embellishment of the school yards, at a minimum expense.

Acting under authority granted nearly two years ago by the Board of Education, William B. Ittner, Commissioner of School Buildings, is negotiating for the purchase of a tract of 20 acres in St. Louis county to be devoted to tree culture.

The board has been a good customer

for nursery goods for many years, owing to the number of new school buildings, and the enlargement of the school yards of some of the other buildings.

It has been the custom to plant trees in the school yards in order to make them more attractive as playgrounds. As many of the school yards are quite extensive, a large number of trees were required.

In some of the school yards, larger than necessary for playgrounds, sections are devoted to flower beds of attractive designs.

The yard of the Shepard school at Wisconsin avenue and Potomac street, is a notable instance of the landscape gardening of the school board.

The Board of Education has for several years, maintained a landscape garden at the Teachers' college. Two planthouses have been erected there and a vegetable garden for the use of the students engaged in the study of plant life, is provided.

A conservatory building erected a few years ago at a cost of \$6,480 has been maintained at one of the high schools.

It serves not only as a propagating station for plants and bulbs, but as an adjunct for the study of botany by the classes.

SNOWBALLS IN FIRE FIGHT

Promise of Reward Discloses Unusual Incident of Recent Wreck on Rock Island Road.

Trenton, Mo.—More than 100 persons who snowballed a burning passenger coach during the wreck on the Rock Island near here a few days ago in an effort to save the company's property are to be rewarded. While one of the coaches was burning Col. W. E. Carpenter, president of the Missouri Auction school, suggested the snowballing plan. He has received a letter from Superintendent Easley assuring him that all who took part in the work will be rewarded.

Meet After 47 Years.

Bowling Green, O.—Separated while serving in the Union army during the civil war, H. W. Sterling of Bowling Green and C. A. Sterling of St. Paul, Minn., have met here for the first time in 47 years. Neither knew of the other's whereabouts until H. W. Sterling recently by chance learned that his brother was living in St. Paul.

PETER PAN IN TREE

Boy Sleeps in House Among Branches During Summertime.

If Disturbed During Night by "Pirates'
He Calls His Father's Residence
by Telephone—Redskins
Bring Him Cake.

London.—A real Peter Pan, who lives with the fairles in a little wooder house high up on a tree top, has at last been discovered.

He lives in the garden of a house in Warren road, Bexley Heath, and unlike the original Peter, condescends to reside with his parents.

His name is Geoffrey Burghard, and

he is nine years old.

A correspondent was privileged to pay a visit to Peter Pan's house. It is made of strong wood and has three windows, a top hat for a chimney pot, and the branches of the tree, which come right into the house, are used for

hanging up knives and pistols.

The house is some 20 feet from the ground, and to get into it the visitor has to enter a cave, climb up a long ladder, and crawl through a trap door. And then you are face to face with Peter!

The visitor found Peter Pan sitting by the south window of his house, his knees drawn up to his chin, looking pensively at the country which stretches out to Sevenoaks.

But on the visitor entering he jumped up and welcomed him warmly. "Will you sit down?" he said, quite politely, and then proceeded to talk about the little house and his recent adventures.

In the summer time and when the weather is warm Master Geoffrey sleeps in the house in the tree every night. By the bedside he has a telephone connected with his father's big house at the other end of the garden.

If he is disturbed in the middle of

the night by "pirates" in the form of tramps, he can just ring up his father and give the alarm.

As Peter Pan was talking he rose to his feet and waved excitedly out of the south window. Nothing could be

seen except a small boy in the distance, who waved in reply.

"He is one of the lost boys' of my band." Peter explained. 'No doubt he is tracking the irates or going to

the lagoon."

The "lost boys," it must be explained, are, according to J. M. Barrie, who discovered them, babies who fell out of their mothers' perambulators when they were a week old and escaped to the Never-Never Land.

Master Geoffrey has several "lost boys" in his band, and many a fierce fight have they had, led by Peter, with the pirates on the steps of the little house.

And, occasionally kind hearted redskins, who are their fri-nds (in realty they are Geoffrey's uncles and aunts), visit the band, bringing cake and prorecions with them.

visions with them.

Peter and his boys know every inch
of the country round about. Opposite
the house is a strawberry plantation,
and in the summer—but it is unwise

to go into all their adventures.

At this time of the year, when the branches are bare, visitors can see Peter's house in the tree quite clearly. But in the summer it disappears, for the green leaves entirely cover it, and the birds build their nests all around

Every morning, when Peter is sleeping in the house during the summer months, he is awakened by the singing of the birds, and sometimes they fly in at the window and eat his breakfast.

Every year at springtime Peter Pan's cousin Wendy, whose real name is Miss Ethel Blessley, aged ten, comes to the little house and does his spring cleaning for him.

She scrubs the floor, cleans the windows, puts up clean curtains, darns his socks, and makes him generally comfortable for the year.

COW WEARS HORSE'S SHOES

Useful "Bossy" with Iron Plates on Feet Draws Vehicles Around Busy Connecticut Town.

Winsted, Conn.—Ruth is certainly the most distinguished cow in Connecticut. She can be driven to a carriage, sulky, sleigh or wood sled, and understands the meaning of a jerk on the reins and "giddap" as well as any horse. As if this were not enough, she now enjoys the extra distinction of being the only cow wearing shoes in New England.

This honor was thrust upon her the other day, when her owner, Rupert Stevens of Hartland, drove her to town and had Marshail Case, the village blacksmith do the work. Case has been in business 15 years, but never shod a cow before. He was loth to take the job, but Stevens was so insistent that Case buckled Ruth into an ox frame and put on four shoes with calks. Rupert wanted her roughshod so she wouldn't slip on the icy roads.

Ruth, who is four years old, behaved well and seemed pleased with her tootgear. Her owner began breaking her when she was a calf.

Antelopes Are Hungry.

Cripple Creek, Colo.—John Beeler, of the "Thirty-nine-Mile" ranch, is feeding eight antelopes driven from the mountains by heavy snows. The starving antelopes come into Beeler's corral with the cattle and return regularly twice a day.

BEARS VERY FOND OF HONEY

After Killing One Animal Hunter Returns to Find Cub Preempted

Store of Sweets.

Cross Fork, Pa.—When Edward Gillespie came upon a big bear that was so busy robbing a wild bee's storehouse of honey that it was an easy thing to pop him over, he thought he had about the biggest streak of luck of any hunter along Kettle creek. This luck seemed to hold good when he had examined the long hole in the big tree from which the prize bear had been feeding, for the store had all the evidence of abundance.

Gillespie had all he could do to tote his big bear out to an old road, from which point he fetched him with a wagon. He calculated that the bear meat and hide would net him at least \$50, for bruin was in fine fettle. The honey, he felt sure, would aggregate 100 pounds, and this, at 10 cents a pound would add to the profit of the lay's hunt.

The day following the bear shoot Gillespie, accompanied by his young son and a dog, went early to the woods where the bee tree stood with its rich store of sweets. He hadn't counted on a second bear; hence did not carry a gun, as the kegs of honey. he felt, would be all that he could lug. But when within a quarter of a mile of the bee tree the dog went off at a tangent into a-thicket of laurel and hemlock, and in a few minutes Gillespie saw a fine big bear hiking for the tall timbers within good shooting distance and fairly across the opening, so that the possession of a gun would have insured to him another \$50 worth of commercial prod-

He had calculated on chopping the opening in the tree somewhat larger so as to work more freely at the honey, and with a hatchet he climbed for the job. But, imagine his astonishment, upon reaching the hole, about 20 feet up, to find that the bee home had been pre-empted by a visitor—a youngster of a cub, so engrossed in the job that Gillespie was practically upon him before the cub knew of his danger.

danger.

Gillespie jerked back, lost his balance, fell and was crippled; but he calls and those of his boy attractive men on their way to work a birch still, one of whom shot brought down the cub, and boy whom managed to get the crip hanter and his game home.

COTTON CROP BE SMAE

Yield for 1909 Less Than Any 1899, Declares Expert of Depa.

Washington. — The cotton crop of the year 1909 is going to be the small est since 1899, according to a small ment of W. D. Hunter of Dallas, expert of the department of culture.

"It is due," said he, in addre III the house committee on agriculf.
recently, "to the weevil in Louislana and in portions of Arkansas and Mississippi, and to the extreme dry weather in Texas."

The boll weevil, he declared, undoubtedly would cause a remarkable redistribution of the production of cotton, first in large areas. What were large centers of production formerly, he said, were going to show a reduction, and, more than that, there would be a redistribution of the smallest plantations.

"In the large back-from-the-frontareas," Mr. Hunter continued, "the production is going to fall off. According to all we know about fighting the boll weevil, cotton cannot be planted properly in such situations as these back lands with poor drainage. But the soil and other conditions in certain parts of almost every plantation in the south will permit the planter to continue to raise cotton profitably despite the boll weevil. Recent experiments with a new kind of poison-powdered arsenate of leadseem to indicate that even where the weevil is most numerous a certain degree of control may be obtained."

POLAR BEARS PREFER COLD

In Their Element as Ice-Coated Cages
Roll About Sea-Washed Deck of
Atlantic Liner.

New York-Polar bears were in their element on the ice-coated, seawashed decks of the steamer Graf Waldersee during the liner's trip here from Hamburg. Passengers on the steamer, which arrived the other day, were terrorized by the fear that the bears would break out, as their cases. wrenched loose by the high waves, slid about the decks with every roll of the ship. There was five of the bears in all, and the cages of three of them were in the deck melee caused by the storm. Seamen tried to lash the cages fast, but their efforts were futile until the sea calmed. Meanwhile the passengers, hearing the howls of the animals, locked themselves in their cabins. It was three days before the cages could again be fastened and the timid passengers dared venture on

Map of North Sea.

London.—A large scale map of the North sea, showing the naval bases and military stations of Britain, Germany and France, and the time that would be occupied by warships and transports on the different sea routes between England and the continent, has been prepared by the National Service league. The naval and military strength of the three gountries is also shown.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS