

**ROSES ARE BAIT FOR RATS**

**Rodents That Spurned Tempting Cheese to Pick Out Snowy Flowers Finally Caught.**

Oakland, Cal.—The use of choice roses as rat bait is perhaps unworthy and degrading, from the point of view of the horticulturist, but experiments conducted in the home of Mrs. Alice Proctor, near Hayward, have shown conclusively that those flowers completely surpass cheese, bacon rinds, and all other edibles that are commonly used to entice the rodents into traps.

Attracted by their sweet perfumes, the rats in the Proctor household gnawed through doors to get at the flowers. They despised traps set with ordinary bait, and it was only when a bunch of faintly Augusta Victorias was placed inside of a wire cake that one of them was at last caught. White roses seem to be preferred, for, although the others were stolen when the white were absent, the faintly rose, the snowy Nephitis, and the Augusta Victorias were inevitably selected out of a bunch of assorted colors. For a time the mysterious disappearance of roses that had been placed in the sick room of Mrs. Proctor was considered uncanny and almost supernatural, but evidence soon showed that the thefts were done by rats. Traps were then set near the flowers, and baited with the choicest morsels, but without avail.

**HOCH'S STAY OF SENTENCE**

**Story of Means by Which Stranger Became Interested—Name Is Kept from Public.**

Chicago.—A casual glance at a newspaper by an entire stranger who happened to be spending a day in Cleveland, O., it has just been discovered, is what intervened to save Johann Hoch, alleged murderer and bigamist, from death at a time when his execution seemed certain and has resulted in the postponement of action of the courts until thorough inquiry has been made by the supreme court of the case.

The man who, unsoftened, tendered his check for the amount that would make possible a stay of execution and an appeal to the supreme court is James H. McNicholas, a millionaire miner with headquarters at Portland, Ore.

According to the statement made by Mr. McNicholas during a visit to Chicago, he was on route last July to Hornellsville, N. Y. At Cleveland he read the story of Hoch's trial and the critical situation he was in, with no money to assist him in carrying his case to the higher courts for review.

Hoch's condition made such an impression upon McNicholas' mind that he was unable to think of anything else. Finally he learned the names of the attorneys who were assisting in Hoch's defense and that Representative Frank Comerford was at Springfield seeking to secure a stay of execution from Gov. Deneen.

**OLD "BOYS" WANT TO RACE**

**Pair of Septuagenarians Issue Challenge to Their Class—Offer \$100 Purse.**

Eldora, Ia.—Active, lively and hearty and healthy, Charles Rathbun, of Waverly, Ia., aged 73, and Hunt Barnes, of West Union, aged 77, the two oldest drivers and trainers of racing horses in the state of Iowa, have just issued a challenge to foot-race any men of like age in the Third congressional district for 40 rods at \$100 a side.

Rathbun has been a horse trainer and driver for more than 55 years, and is as well-known a figure at the county fairs and racing meets this year as the youngest and most popular and successful horse fancier or driver.

He lives in a tent during the racing season, cooks his own meals and sleeps at night alone in his canvas home.

Mr. Barnes, of West Union, is next to Mr. Rathbun, the oldest driver in Iowa or in the entire west, and has seen nearly 75 years. It is an interesting sight to see these two old gray-headed men seated in skeleton skulies, speeding on the half-mile or mile track at a 2-10 clip. Neither has ever had a serious accident during his long career.

The Commercial Factor.  
It has been demonstrated that plants can be raised and forced to bloom by acetylene gaslight, and without the use of the sun's rays. The experiments, where comparative tests have been made, have generally been favorable to acetylene. Nevertheless the slight expense of running the sun is so much in its favor that we hardly expect gaslight to paint the rose or perfume the lily.

**COUNTRY FOOD DRUNK**

**EDISON URGES AMERICANS TO EAT LESS.**

**Work Harder and Don't Sleep Too Much Is Remainder of Wizard's Advice—Inventor Tells of His Own Remedies.**

New York.—According to Thomas A. Edison the country is food drunk. He says it is a fact the people eat too much and sleep too much, and don't work enough. The average man would be much better off and would do much better work if he would cut down his food and sleep and labor a little harder.

"Men eat and sleep themselves stupid," said the wizard. "Sometimes they eat and sleep themselves into the grave. They talk about working too hard. That is absolute nonsense. Generally speaking, a man can't work too hard. Work does him good.

"Why, I've worked five days and nights without sleep and with little food, and did as good work under those conditions as ever I did in my life. This was when I was working on the incandescent lamp.

"Some time ago my stomach troubled me. I didn't know what the matter was, but I imagine now it was the X-ray that caused some internal constriction. It also drew my left eye out of focus, although that trouble since has disappeared. You know that the X-ray so affected one of my assistants that the doctors had to amputate one limb after another. They literally cut him to pieces, and finally he died. His brother, who is out in the laboratory, also was affected by the X-rays.

"However, when my trouble became acute I began to experiment with my diet to see what would become of it. I always had been a light eater, but I decided to cut down my food still more. For two months I lived on four ounces of food each meal. That made 12 ounces of food a day. Of course I varied the food. I would take a teaspoonful of peas, a small piece of toast and caviar, a tiny sandwich, a little bit of ham, a fragment of rye bread with Swiss cheese, and so on.

"What was the result? At the end of two months of this diet I weighed just as much as when I began, exactly 185 pounds.

"I found living on 12 ounces of food a day for four weeks had made me mentally brighter and neither had diminished my strength nor my weight. And, mind you, I had been working just as hard as before I cut down the size of my meals.

"Louis Cornaro, a Venetian, wrote a book on how to live long. He lived a life of excess until he was nearly 40 years old. He was weak and melancholy, and could accomplish nothing. His doctors told him he was on the straight road to death. Then he decided to change his way of living. The principal change made was to eat less. He grew strong, his mind became brighter and more cheerful, and he lived to be 100 years old.

"Now, my father lived to be 94 years old. My grandfather lived to be 102 years old. My great-grandfather lived to be 104 years old. All three were disciples of Cornaro, and lived according to his ideas.

**DRINK KILLS ROOSTERS.**

**Prize Fowls, Worth \$700, Received Too Much Stimulant—Were Thought Poisoned.**

Allentown, Pa.—It has been discovered that two Leghorn roosters, valued at \$700, which died while on exhibition at the Allentown fair, were not poisoned, as was supposed at first, but succumbed to strong drink.

The owner declared they were poisoned by rival fanciers. The Leghorn Club of America, a wealthy organization, in which some millionaires have membership, took up the case, and it was found that the roosters were jaded from confinement, and, to refresh them on the day they were judged, some colchicum wine was given to them.

Each won first prize in his class, but the intoxication caused their death. The older rooster for several years had beaten all competitors at the chicken shows in the east, and was valued at \$500, the cash prizes and cups he won being worth even more than that sum.

**ENTERS TO ROB; IS GUEST**

**Wizard of Music Cannot Resist Temptation to Play Piano and Tells Story to Astonished Auditors.**

Lorain, O.—The family of James Allenbach, of Elyria, was aroused recently by the sound of a piano. Allenbach found a roughly-dressed man seated at the grand piano playing Handel's "Messiah." One classic followed another for some time. Then the fellow, still unconscious of his auditors, fell forward on the piano, his head buried in his arms.

At the first move of Allenbach he leaped to his feet as if to escape. Being assured there was no danger, he gave the name of John Schmunk. He says he was a musician by profession, but became a criminal and served a term in prison. He said he had entered the house to rob it. On seeing the piano he could not resist the temptation of touching the keys. He was given a place to sleep, a suit of clothes and a \$20 bill to start upward again.

**UNSINKABLE SHIPS NEXT.**

**Model at the Naval Academy Shows How Bulkheads May Be Closed by Agency of Electricity.**

Annapolis.—A very interesting demonstration of the "long-arm" system for the preservation of ships after collision or other accident by means of electrically operated doors and hatchways controlled from a central point, was given before the officers of the marine engineering department of the naval academy, of which Commander J. K. Barton is head, by representatives of the Long-Arm System company, of Cleveland, O. This is one of the latest devices connected with marine engineering, but already it has been applied to 15 vessels of the United States navy and it is being applied to 15 more.

The department of marine engineering at the naval academy has only been in its splendid new quarters for a few months, but its collection of working models of every mechanical appliance connected with its branch is wonderfully complete. It has just completed the installation of a model long-arm plant, consisting of a sliding bulkhead door, a hatchway cover and the appropriate controllers, motors and emergency stations. These were all operated in a smooth and satisfactory manner, and the whole forms one of the most interesting devices in the whole building.

In cases of emergency, the long-arm system closes all the bulkhead doors and hatchways in the ship from a central station placed on the bridge, just as if the officer could reach out and place his hand on every door or hatch, thus completing the cellular construction of the ship; that is the system of construction by which the vessel is partitioned off into water-tight compartments. By this prompt closing the vessel is made practically unsinkable and there are devices by which there is no danger to anyone by the sudden closing of doors or hatches. There are also devices by which the doors or hatches can be opened and closed from either side, so that there will be no danger of imprisoning some one in a compartment.

**FIND STORM-SWEPT CHILD.**

**Incident of the Galveston Hurricane Has a Joyful Ending—Is Returned Safe and Sound.**

Galveston, Tex.—Alexander Wright, who was less than three years of age on September 8, 1900, when he was swept from the arms of his mother and carried to sea by the flood that swept over Galveston and vicinity, has been found and restored to his parents, Alexander L. Wright and wife, of League City, this county.

The Wrights were living in 1900 at Virginia Point, a small railroad settlement across the bay from Galveston. The hurricane swept the settlement out of existence, and a flood ten feet deep inundated the mainland for 20 miles from shore. From their home, which was wrecked, the Wrights were driven to a freight car which was destroyed. The child was torn from its mother and carried to sea. The parents mourned it as dead, but the tidal wave after taking the infant to sea brought it back and deposited it near Texas City, 25 miles away. Here it was found the morning after the catastrophe and nursed back to life. The child was not known and was sent to an asylum at Luling.

A report of the child's story came to the ears of the Wrights, who a few days ago found their long lost son adopted by a wealthy couple ten miles from Brownwood. His foster parents agreed to give him up upon identification by birth marks.

**FRIGHT IS BRAIN BLUSH.**

**So Declares British Physician at Trinity College in Describing Causes of Nervousness.**

London.—"Stage fright or nervousness may be described as an attack of brain blushing," said Dr. John Warmer, lecturing at the Trinity college of music, when he gave some valuable hints on the cure of stage fright.

He explained that our actions were either dominated by the higher nerve centers in the brain or the lower or reflex centers in the spinal cord. Unintelligent repetition of a certain piece of music, for example, would ultimately lead to its being performed automatically, when the action is governed by the lower nerve centers. These impressions, however, are at the mercy of the emotions of the moment, and the mental anxiety caused by an appearance in public may wipe them out for the time being.

The remedy was to take care that the pupil or student never allowed him or herself to become an automaton. The higher centers of the brain should never be ignored when practicing, and the mental concentration necessitated by this method prevented stage fright.

Deficient or impeded circulation also led to nervousness in public, and tight necked gowns or collars were a direct invitation to an attack of this character.

**Germs Lurk in Girl's Long Hair.**  
That women should cut their hair short for hygienic reasons is the advice of Andrew Carnegie, who advised the girl students at Dundee university. The iron master said, however, that he hoped they would retain their long-haired ways should they adopt a new style.

**Bite of Woman Fatal.**  
A Berlin professor says the bite of a girl is frequently fatal. It has been noted that the bite of a girl often brings a box of chocolate creams to a early end.

**FAMOUS INDIAN DEAD**

**GROUARD, NOTED SCOUT, PASSES UP LONG TRAIL.**

**He Was Chief of Warriors at the Battle of Wounded Knee—Held Prisoner by the Sioux for Six Weary Years.**

St. Joseph, Mo.—Frank Grouard, who died a few days ago at his home here, was one of the few men who during the Indian warfare on the borders of Dakota, Montana and Wyoming gained fame as a government scout.

During the last Sioux outbreak, in the winter of 1890-1891, which culminated in the bloody battle of Wounded Knee creek, he was chief of scouts and rendered valuable aid to the government in putting down the insurrection.

Grouard's life was filled with thrilling experiences and not many men were fortunate enough to have as interesting a career as he. He was born September 20, 1850, in the South Pacific islands, his father having been a missionary to the islands and his mother the daughter of a native.

When 19 years old he was captured by Sioux Indians while employed as a mail rider in Montana, and not for six years was he able to make his escape.

When Gen. Crook inaugurated his campaign against the Sioux Indians young Grouard was employed by him as a scout. The knowledge gained by him when a captive of the Sioux, during which he entered into the spirit of savagery with a zest that astonished even those who had been friendly toward him, stood him in good stead when he took up the duties of a government scout.

Grouard first met Gen. Crook at Fort Laramie in the winter of 1874. His really remarkable work as a scout made the general a lifelong friend, and when the warlike Sioux had been subdued, Gen. Crook fled with the war department a recommendation that Grouard as a reward for his work, be carried on the rolls of the government as a scout at a salary of \$150 per month to the end of his days.

Grouard was generally recognized as the first white person to have reached the Custer battlefield after the massacre of Gen. Custer and his command.

During the summer of 1877, Grouard was stationed at old Fort Reno, on Powder river, under the command of Capt. Pollock. The horse herd of the beef contractor at the post was raided one night by what was known as the Black Hills gang of horse thieves, and Grouard and ten men and a sergeant were detailed to follow the thieves and capture them and recover the stolen horses.

The thieves were chased nearly to the Missouri river, in what is now central South Dakota, and before Grouard left their trail he had, with the assistance of those who accompanied him, been instrumental in capturing 14 members of the gang. All were tried in due time and convicted, and what had been one of the best organized bands of horse "rustlers" in the history of the Black Hills was effectually broken up.

**BREAK BONES IN PRISON.**

**Tortures, by Russian Police Chief's Order, Inflict Many Wounds on Prisoners.**

Warsaw.—Two prisoners named Zehuz and Engrat, charged with shooting a cotton manufacturer, have been removed to a Red Cross hospital, after being subjected to frightful tortures in prison by order of Chief of Police Scholokovich, of Lodz.

Both prisoners were injured internally by their torture, their fingers are broken and their bodies are covered with wounds. Zehuz has a broken shoulder blade. Both of his arms were broken when he was in the hands of his persecutors.

The torturers placed iron rods between the fingers of their victims and then squeezed their fingers together with ropes.

Later the hands of the prisoners were bound behind their backs and the men were hoisted by means of pulleys and ropes to the ceiling of the room in which the tortures took place. When near the ceiling they were allowed to fall to the floor.

Both prisoners were whipped daily with leather thongs. Engrat was able to prove an alibi, showing his innocence of the crime charged against him, but neither was tried.

**Boy Grows So Fast He Dies.**  
Growing so rapidly that his stomach was unable to assimilate enough food, Berthold Wemhagen, Jr., a Milwaukee boy, is dead in Denver. With his parents and sister the boy was on his way to New Zealand, where it was hoped he would improve in health. His case had puzzled a number of the best physicians, for, though but 14, he had grown two feet in a year, being six feet one inch in height when he died. Instances have been frequent in which patients have become seriously ill because of too rapid growth, but few in which this has caused death. It is believed the boy literally starved to death.

**Clamor for Live Pigs.**  
Good meat is scarce and dear in Germany. The executive committee of the German trades unions has petitioned the federal diet to allow an increased importation of live pigs that the necessary meat requirements of the German population may be satisfied. The petition declares that the working people are suffering severely from the extraordinarily high prices ruling for meat.

**GOLD ON A THEATER SITE.**

**Excavators Uncovering Enough to Help Reduce Cost of Future Construction.**

Deadwood, S. D.—Deadwood's theater will have a distinction equaled by no other city in the world. It would be hard to find another town where a lot 55 by 150 feet would yield enough placer gold to pay for the foundation and possibly for the building.

When work began on the excavation a channel of valuable placer dirt was uncovered. The location, at the confluence of Whitewood and Deadwood creeks, was formerly part of one of the richest placer claims of early days.

It was supposed that the claim had been worked out. It is a long way here to bed rock, but as bed rock had to be reached before a suitable foundation could be made, work was pushed rapidly, and the trenches grew deeper day by day.

What was the astonishment of the workmen one morning to see among the dirt and gravel the gleam of the yellow metal. Pan after pan of dirt was washed out in the adjacent creek, each pan showing a good string of colors, but the find proved not to be merely a pocket, as was first thought, but a well-developed channel of placer undiscovered these many years.

It is the intention of the builders to sluice all the dirt that is taken out, and they say with assurance that the profits will be sufficient to pay at least for the cost of the foundation. As it is 15 to 18 feet to bed rock, the foundation cannot be a cheap one. The men are now hunting for nuggets. Only small ones have been found as yet, but every morning brings new expectations of the big nugget that materializes with every new discovery of gold.

**COURTS-MARTIAL IN NAVY.**

**List of Convictions Includes Twelve Commissioned Officers—Judge Advocate's Report.**

Washington.—In the annual report of Capt. S. W. B. Diehl, judge advocate of the navy, the record of general courts-martial for the fiscal year shows that 12 commissioned officers were convicted and three acquitted, while 905 enlisted men were convicted and 30 acquitted. The record of summary courts-martial shows that 4,157 blue-jackets were convicted and 200 acquitted and that 1,915 marines (enlisted men) were convicted and 77 acquitted. A total of 422 enlisted men were convicted of desertion, 147 of absence without leave, 25 of desertion and fraudulent enlistment, and 83 of fraudulent enlistment.

Capt. Diehl says that Col. A. C. Kellton, United States marine corps, has developed in the naval prison at the Boston navy yard a school of discipline of the highest order for offenders against naval laws and regulations.

The large number of prisoners received from the Asiatic station has resulted in an overcrowding of the Mare Island prison to such an extent, the report states, that it became necessary to fit up two prison ships to relieve the situation until permanent extensions to the present shore institution can be provided by legislation. The Manila at Mare Island and the Nipic at Bremerton, Washington, are being prepared for the overflow of prisoners.

**MANUFACTURING IN IOWA.**

**Statistics Issued by Census Bureau Show Rapid Growth of the Industry.**

Washington.—A bulletin issued by the census bureau places the number of manufacturing establishments in the state of Iowa at 4,788, with a product for last year amounting to \$169,604,161, an increase of almost 21 per cent since 1900. The total capital engaged is \$111,444,929.

The wage workers number 49,482, and to them is paid \$22,997,723. The number of salaried officials and clerks is 7,124, with salaries amounting to \$5,948,857. The cost of materials used was \$102,871,844.

Among the cities Cedar Rapids took first rank in production, with \$16,379,706. Des Moines occupied second place with an output of \$15,084,958. Des Moines shows the greatest increase of the cities since 1900. The principal industry is slaughtering and meat packing. Dairy products held second place, with a total output valued at \$15,138,027.

**BIG EAGLE BLOCKS TRAFFIC**

**Bird of Freedom in Smokestack Chokes Draft from Boilers of Traction Company.**

Sioux City, Ia.—An American eagle, measuring a little more than four feet from tip to tip, was removed from one of the smokestacks of the Sioux City Traction company after a desperate struggle.

The smokestack had not been used for several days. When the fires were started in the boiler the draft was not good. Nothing could be found wrong with the furnace, and so the smokestack was examined. The bird was lodged in the smokestack near the bottom. It had slid down 80 feet and was so crumpled up that it could not make use of its wings to fly. Several men entered the smokestack at the bottom, only to come out covered with scratches and soot. Finally one of the employes succeeded in getting the bird by the feet and dragging it out.

**Hint to Counterfeiters.**  
A new \$10 counterfeit is in circulation, which we are told may be distinguished by its size, being longer than the genuine note. What is wanted is a \$10 bill that will not merely look longer, but last longer.

**BING O, 1873 FOUND.**

**KEY TO ROMANCE OR TRAGEDY IN EAST RIVER.**

**Divers at Work in Gotham Unearth Sparkler Which May Conceal Mystery of Many Years Ago—Is Advertised.**

New York.—From the depths of the East river, just above the Brooklyn bridge, was dredged recently the heart of a romance of 32 years ago. Along with some pigs of lead and an old shoe there was brought to the surface a wedding ring slipped upon the finger of some blushing bride by a proud bridegroom in 1873.

How it came to be at the bottom of the river and what may be the romance, or perhaps tragedy, buried with it can only be surmised. Just before the scoop of the steam dredge dragged the ring from its bed of a third of a century the water-logged rudder of an old wooden vessel was brought up, along with an old shoe. If there is a connection between them only the ring's owner, perhaps, could tell the story.

It may be that even the last detail of the burying of the ring may be known for, even if the one who wore it is beyond solving the riddle, there may be relatives who will recognize it from the outline of a story it has to tell.

Of rather more than the usual weight in wedding rings, it bears the inscription on its inner side: "H. M. B.—Elizabeth—J. E. L., August 16, 1873." Upon being identified beyond any question the ring may be recovered from the Merritt & Chapman Derrick and Wrecking company.

The lighter Alfred was recovering a load of pig lead upset three weeks ago when the lighter Pollard of the Commercial Lighter company struck the Maine of the Fall River line. Capt. Thomas Kilvin was in charge of the Alfred, with John Johnson, a diver, second in charge. As the scoop came to the surface and was dumped on the deck of the lighter two pigs of lead fell out. As they struck the deck the ring dropped lightly on top of one of them. Lying there sparkling in the sunlight it caught the eye of Johnson.

When the ring reached the hands of I. E. Chapman, head of the firm, he realized its perhaps inestimable value to somebody, and at once ordered an advertisement published.

**FAIR JAPS REFORM DRESS.**

**Great Interest in Changes Ordered in Costume of Schoolgirls—Semi-Foreign Style Favored.**

Tokio.—Japanese women have begun the reform of their method of dressing and a "mere man" is one of the leading characters in aiding the reform.

The minister of education in order to improve the costume of schoolgirls has asked the president of the women's university to prepare designs for a suitable costume.

Three designs have been sent in, including one by Miss Smart, secretary of the Women's Christian Temperance union, in the semi-foreign style, which is said to be most highly favored.

For several weeks sewing teachers have been at work under Miss Smart's supervision, and many others are waiting to learn the details of the new costume, the popularity of which is spreading rapidly.

The principal of the women's seminary at Kioto has also requested patterns of the costume.

It is evident that at least in the costumes of schoolgirls reform is inevitable. It is reported the minister of education says long sleeves must go. The change is regarded as of the greatest significance in the educational, social and fashionable worlds.

**370,000,000 YEARS OLD.**

**Chicago Geologist Figures Out Birthday of Father Neptune—How He Figures It.**

Chicago.—Three hundred and seventy million years is the approximate age of the oceans, according to the calculations of Prof. R. D. Salisbury, of the department of geology of the University of Chicago.

"It has been calculated," writes Mr. Salisbury, "that if the salt now in the sea were precipitated it would make something like 3,500,000 cubic miles. If to this be added the other mineral matter in solution in sea water the amount would be swollen to about 4,500,000 cubic miles."

Prof. Salisbury estimated the quantity of salt and water brought to the sea each year by rivers, and on this basis obtains 370,000,000 as the estimated number of years it would take for the amount of salt now in the sea to have been brought to it by rivers at the present rate.

**The Navy Short of Men.**  
If the United States should go to war to-day these would not be half enough officers and men to handle the ships of the navy. Within a year ten fine, large ships will go into commission, carrying crews aggregating 7,000 men. They can only be manned by laying up vessels now in service, some of them very efficient craft which should be kept in commission. The discrepancy between material and personnel in the navy is daily growing greater.

**Suspended for a Kiss.**  
A Virginia preacher has been suspended for six months for kissing a pretty girl. He would probably have been excused if he had picked out some homely old lady with traces of a mustach. Preachers who desire to kiss should always remember these things: