

The Home of President Diaz When He Farmed for a Living.



This house is situated in the ancient Aztec town of Tlalcoapam and is the memorial of a period of great happiness in the life of the maker of Mexico. In the closed door at the left farmer Diaz was wont to sit of an evening smoking cigarettes (he no longer smokes) and twanging his guitar. It was the one period of his life when, as he pathetically expresses it himself, he could sleep whenever he was tired.

FEW WHITEFISH LEFT

WINNY DELICACY FAST PASSING FROM GREAT LAKES.

Government Asked to Provide Funds to Prevent Loss of Remunerative Industry and Valuable Food Product.

Detroit, Mich.—That the whitefish of the great lakes are passing rapidly from existence as did the millions of bison which at one time swarmed the American prairies is an undisputed fact, and with the realization that with the departure of the whitefish industry the United States government loses one of its most remunerative industries, and also one of the most valuable food products on the market, it is strongly urged that some remedy be adopted at once.

The government should be willing to expend ten times the amount of money it now does on the propagation of the whitefish, said the hatchery man, because the whitefish is the most valuable fresh-water fish known, and even exceeds the value of salmon \$50 per ton in the eastern markets, while considerable more is paid out yearly for the Pacific coast hatcheries.

And then, too," he continued, "30,000 more whitefish eggs can be handled in the same space taken by salmon eggs."

To illustrate the seriousness of the impending whitefish destruction, the following figures, which are correct in every instance, were given out for publication:

The catch of whitefish in Michigan in 1881 was 8,110,000 pounds, while in 1884 it fell off to 4,197,000 pounds. In Lake Erie the catch for 1889 was 3,200,000 pounds and in 1899 it came to 2,100,000 pounds. From 1893 to 1905 the catch in Ontario decreased from 7,500,000 pounds to 2,895,000 pounds.

The total catch of whitefish in the great lakes on both the American and Canadian sides in 1904 exceeded 12,000,000 fish, averaging two pounds and a half in weight, and the loss of eggs contained in these fish exceeded \$5,000,000,000. In 1905 the combined hatcheries of the United States and Canada only propagated the eggs from less than 10,000 fish, which is altogether inadequate to overcome the great loss of eggs destroyed by the fishermen.

Lake Michigan alone in 1904 gave up 1,000,000 fish, and it is safe to say that Lake Erie provided 1,000,000 of the funny tribe, so to overcome this loss the eggs of fully 75,000 fish should be propagated each year.

A three-pound whitefish yields over 30,000 eggs, but of these only 80 per cent hatch, and only four per cent of these reach maturity—that is, four years old.

Last year the American and Canadian hatcheries propagated less than 200,000,000 fry, while the number of eggs in fish caught was 35,000,000,000.

Forty years ago the catch of whitefish in the Detroit river on the American side alone exceeded 1,000,000 pounds annually, while in later years the combined catch of both the American and Canadian sides only amount to 15,000 pounds.

SETS WORLD SMOKING RECORD

Gardener Pulls at Pipe One Hour and Fifty-three Minutes Without Stop.

London.—At the pipe smoking competition at the Bazaar exhibition in Kingston the world's record for a snapper smoke was broken by a Michigan gardener named Gating, who kept an old briar root pipe alight an hour and 53 minutes.

Each of the numerous competitors took his pipe and was supplied with an eighth of an ounce of tobacco, and at the word "Go" the matches were struck. Six seconds were allowed for lighting, and after that no lighting was allowed.

The second place winner kept his pipe going an hour and 30 minutes and the third one an hour and 30

DON'TS FOR BADGER BARBERS.

State Board of Wisconsin Mentions Some of them in Report.

Madison, Wis.—"Don't put fingers in customer's mouth when shaving lips."

"Don't breathe in customer's face after shaving or smoking tobacco, or after eating onions or garlic."

"Don't play with dog or cat, then wait on customer without washing hands."

"Don't ask personal questions."

These are a few of the "don'ts" incorporated in the yearly report of the state barber board.

No prohibition is put on asking if the customer wants a massage.

"Undertakers who charge for shaving corpses in this state will be prosecuted for a violation of the barber law," the report continues. The minimum fine for violation of the law is \$25. The statute requires barbers to register and take an examination, for which a fee of one dollar is paid.

"When barbers realize they are better off working in large shops, with good wages, than alone in the little stuffy room of a 'dinky' shop, the profession will advance. Small shop business is demoralizing. The barber working in these little dinky shops loses interest in himself and his business."

The report is to be made public and in pamphlet form is to be sent to all barbers in the state.

BULLET IN HEART A YEAR.

Case of Philadelphia Negro Ranks with Medical Marvels.

Philadelphia.—By living one year with a 38-caliber bullet nesting in the apex of his heart, Frank Robinson, a giant Germantown negro, has won a firm place in the ranks of the "medical marvels."

Robinson was shot on September 6, 1895, by Policeman Morley, in trying to escape arrest for shooting "craps." He was taken to the Germantown hospital, and the doctors, being unable to probe for the bullet, said he would die within a week.

Showing superhuman strength, the negro, who then weighed 200 pounds, successfully withstood an attack of blood poisoning, and recovered. When his trial for assaulting Morley came up in May Judge von Moschzisker said Robinson had suffered enough, and gave him a sentence of 13 days, after serving which he was released.

The doctors say Robinson will not live more than seven years with the bullet in his heart and, strange to say, the more the negro exerts himself, the better his chances of living out the limit. The bullet is now less than one-sixteenth of an inch from the walls of his chest, and if he allows himself to get any stouter the walls will press the bullet and he will die instantly.

"I never knew what hard work was before I was shot," said Robinson. "But you can just bet I'm working hard, movin' furniture, every day now, and I'm goin' to try and get so thin that my chest won't never touch that bullet. I'm down to 180 pounds now."

BURIED IN EMBERS 19 DAYS.

Cat Found Alive by Men Repairing Burned Building.

Portland, Ore.—F. E. Beach is mourning the tragic death of his cat that had outlived being buried for 19 days when his store was damaged by fire several months ago.

The feline on that occasion had been buried in the charred debris and was found by workmen who were removing the charred timbers from the basement. Thinking the cat was dead the men threw the body on a pile of rubbish prepared for the garbage men.

Soon after its limbs were seen to move. The cat was then placed in the sun that it might revive. It lay around in a comatose condition for several days. It was offered food, but partook of the milk very sparingly. Its hair had been singed off its body and its eyes were blinded by the fire, but it gradually exhibited signs of life, until Mr. Beach began to have hopes of its living.

"Of course, the sight of a badly singed and blind cat around the store was not an inspiring one," Mr. Beach says, "but in the interests of science I wanted to demonstrate how much a cat could stand and live. One of my men, however, got tired of what he considered an eyesore around the store and he dropped its head with a

DREAM REVEALS HIS NAME.

Man Who Forgets Identity Found to Be Prosperous Banker.

Sacramento, Cal.—A dream has cleared up the mystery of the man who forgot his identity. Several days ago a well-dressed passenger on a train from the east visited the police station and requested the aid of Chief Denny toward ascertaining who he was, where he had come from and what he was in Sacramento for. On all other subjects the man was perfectly rational, but he was at an utter loss to account for his identity or his presence here.

Thinking that the man's lapse of memory was due to some sudden shock or to illness, the chief had him quartered at the county hospital, where the case ever since has baffled the physicians. The man, who is of middle age and fine physique, seemed in normal health, but still his memory on the all-important subject was blank and his effects offered no clew.

City Attorney Howe visited the county hospital and learned from the strange patient that he had experienced a dream the night before in which he imagined himself the recipient of a letter upon which were the words "Dixon, Coon Rapids, Iowa."

Thinking that the incident might lead to something, the city attorney looked up the name in Bradstreet's and found A. Dixon rated as the president of the National bank at Coon Rapids, Iowa. He at once sent a telegram making inquiries about the unknown man and promptly received a reply asking him to give Frank E. Dixon the best of care.

From the message the conclusion is drawn that Frank E. Dixon is the man's name and the authorities are satisfied that the dream will be found to have lifted the strange mystery veiling his history.

FIND WATER UNDER THE CITY.

Many Owners Get Good Supply from Beneath Buildings in New York.

New York.—The underground ponds, rivulets and old wells of Manhattan island have for years had little realty value. In some instances to the flow of water from subterranean channels has cost real estate operators many thousands of dollars. Now practical use is being made of the underground water. The factory site or office building plot with a natural supply of water is considered much more valuable than property lacking such a supply, and the well digger is busy.

Among the large business concerns which have recently had wells dug on their premises are Downing & Lawrence and the American Manufacturing company of Brooklyn and Lippmann & Eisman of Manhattan. The natural supply of water on the Downing & Lawrence property is about 100 gallons a minute, on the Lippmann & Eisman site 75,000 gallons a day, and at the American manufacturing plant 150 gallons a minute. Artesian well water is inferior to city water for boiling use, as it causes a scale to form more quickly. Nevertheless, it can be put to many good uses in business buildings, greatly reducing water bills.

FINDS SHE IS NOT A WIFE.

Woman After 19 Years Learns She Has Not Been Legally Married.

Media, Pa.—A jury in court has awarded to Jane C. Clymer the sum of \$3,758.75. Her suit was for \$100,000 and interest. The case was one of the most peculiar ever tried here in the county.

Levi H. Clymer, now dead, was married three times. Jane B. Clymer was his third wife. The second wife was in court aiding the executor under the will in their protest as to the payment of the amount claimed by the plaintiff. It was shown, however, that the plaintiff had lived with Clymer for 19 years and he thought that she was his legal wife. A bill of separation was put in evidence between the deceased and the second wife, which was claimed to be a legal separation or equal to a divorce.

In law, however, the separation did not amount to a divorce, but the plaintiff testified that she had lived with Clymer for 19 years, believed that she was his lawful wife, that she had loaned him \$3,000 on property in Lansdowne borough, and also that during several years' illness she had taken care of him. The jury gave her the amount of the mortgage and interest.

MARRIED THE SAME MAN TWICE.

Wife Finds Husband is Bigamist, and Asks to Be Freed from Him.

New Orleans.—The suit filed by Mrs. Coralie Amelia Bernier in the New Orleans district court, asking for the formal annulment of her marriage, develops the remarkable fact that, although she twice married the same man, she was yet unwedded. Mrs. Bernier married, in 1902 in St. Bernard's parish, a man calling himself Lays M. Lemoine. Some years after the marriage she discovered that this was an assumed name, and that Lemoine was Louis M. Thompson in reality.

Fearing that the marriage under a false name might invalidate their marriage, she insisted on a second marriage under the true name, and this was solemnized in Mandeville less than two months ago. The publication of the marriage brought out the fact that Thompson had one wife already in Helena, Ark. and the twice married woman now asks that she be freed from him.

SCALLOP INCUBATORS

EFFORT TO PREVENT EXTERMINATION OF THE SHELLFISH.

New England Fishermen Becoming Alarmed at Disappearance and Artificial Propagation is Being Tried.

Boston, Mass.—An effort is being made by the Massachusetts fisheries commission to propagate the scallop by artificial means. That is to say, the experts will try to find out how far it may be practical to take the eggs from the spawning mollusks and fertilize them by hand, rearing the young in some sort of marine kindergarten.

This valuable shellfish is disappearing from New England waters, and unless something be done with promptness it will be too late. The trouble is due, as usual in such cases, to reckless fishing, and chiefly to the taking of seed scallops for the market.

To make this clear it should be explained that science has only recently ascertained that scallops rarely live more than 20 or 22 months, and practically never survive their second year. Inasmuch as they do not spawn until they are a year old, this implies that those specimens which are taken before they are a year old—that is to say, as seed scallops, to use the fishermen's term—never get a chance to breed at all.

The scallop spawns in early summer, and the young grow at such an astonishing rate that they are big enough for market in the late fall—before the temptation to catch them. The baby scallop attaches itself by a thread to eelgrass at the bottom and so remains stationary until it is quite well grown, when it casts loose and becomes a wanderer.

For the curious mollusk is able to swim with great rapidity by opening and closing the valves of its shell—a fact in natural history which was unknown to an unfortunate Frenchman who undertook, a few years ago, to establish a scallop plantation on a quiet New England beach. He deposited several thousand scallops in shallow water, expecting them to breed, but when he looked for them the next day all of them had fled.

JAPAN IS BUYING RAILROADS.

Government Paying High Prices for Nationalization of Highways.

Washington.—Now that the Japanese government has undertaken to nationalize 17 private railways, having a total of 2,887 miles of line at a cost of 421,500,000 yen (\$210,000,000), or about \$73,000 a mile, the latest annual report of Ichiji Yamamoto, director of the imperial bureau of railways of Japan, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1905, becomes of the highest historical and comparative value.

The total mileage open for traffic in 1905 was 4,693, divided as follows: Government railways, 1,461 miles; private railways, 3,232 miles. This showed an increase of nearly 198 miles over 1904.

Calculating the Japanese yen at 50 cents (commercially 48 cents), the cost of construction of the mileage was:

Cost per mile. Government railways, \$148,300. Private railways, \$126,322. Totals, \$137,311.

It will be perceived that the Japanese government now pays almost double the original cost of constructing the private railways and there is no suggestion of graft or excessive valuation in the transaction. The price paid was 20 times the average of the net earnings from operation for 1902, 1903 and 1904, divided by the cost of construction and multiplied by the paid-up capital.

IOWA FARMERS USE 'PHONES.

Over 104,000 Instruments in Operation on Rural Lines.

Des Moines, Ia.—For the first time a census of telephones has been taken in the State of Iowa, and this has disclosed that there are now in use 222,325 instruments. Of this number 104,524 are classed as instruments used in connection with rural lines. That is, they are used by the farmers of Iowa.

During the past few years the Government Weather Bureau here has arranged for telephone distribution of forecasts, and a large percentage of these farmers now receive by telephone every morning the forecast of weather for the coming thirty-six hours. This, in fact, has been one strong incentive for installation of telephones in the homes of farmers of Iowa.

The assessment of telegraph and telephone lines in Iowa for 1906 has been fixed at \$2,580,729, which is an increase over last year's assessment of \$231,672. The assessment by law is not levied upon the instruments in use, but upon the number of miles of line struck.

Girl Makes Cotton Picking Record.

Lawton, Okla.—Mabel Jackson, a negro girl from Hill county, Texas, recently picked 795 pounds of cotton in one day on a farm near the town of Temple. She is but 15 years old and weighs 115 pounds. It is claimed that this is a world's record for cotton picking, considering age, size and sex. A Boston society that gathers up curiosities and employs people who excel in certain lines, is making an effort to have the girl go to Coney Island for exhibition.

WILL REMOVE HISTORIC FORT.

Famous Old 'McHenry' Soon to Close Career as Defensive Point.

Baltimore, Md.—A general staff order, which announces the definite removal of historic Fort McHenry from the list of military posts and marks the close of its career as a defense of the city, has been issued by the acting secretary of war, upon the recommendation of the chief of artillery. After March 31, 1907, the Thirty-ninth company of artillery, now stationed at Fort McHenry, will be transferred to Fort De Soto, Fla., and the fort grounds will be taken over by the engineer department of the army, with the prospects of its ultimately being turned into one of the large army depots for storage of supplies.

It seems probable, however, that this last order from the general army staff promises a favorable answer to the question recently agitated, of the Maryland militia using the Fort McHenry grounds for drill purposes, rifle practice and the needs of the Naval Reserves. Col. E. L. Woodside, acting assistant adjutant general, who has been conducting the negotiations with the war department on behalf of the Maryland militia, said that recently the government had granted the use of the wharf on the harbor side and several of the barrack buildings at Fort McHenry to the Naval Reserves, and the use of the parade ground and the rifle range had been granted, where it will not conflict with the uses of the regular troops. Now that the last artillery company is to be removed from the fort, Colonel Woodside thinks the chances of the militia obtaining the use of the place under certain restrictions, very favorable.

When the Thirty-ninth artillery company vacates next April, several ordnance sergeants, with an assistant or two—perhaps five men in all—will be left at the post to look after the place. What goods cannot profitably be taken along by the company or removed by the quartermaster's department, will probably be sold at public auction, and the buildings will then be closed. If, however, the place afterwards becomes a large depot the number of caretakers will be increased and a number of civilians may be employed to assist.

DIG UP SKULL OF AN AUROCHS.

Bones of Progenitor of Buffalo Found Beneath Bed of Missouri River.

Pierre, S. D.—At a depth of more than 20 feet the workers in caisson No. 1, on the new bridge, found a number of bones and an immense skull of a buffalo. The skull was perfect, but the outside horn had disappeared, leaving it to measure 31 inches from stub to stub of the inside horn formation.

The find was in a bed of gravel and bowlders, and the bones must have lain there for years, as the river bank has long extended far out beyond where the sinking is going on. In years gone by the channel of the stream was probably at that point, and the bones were swept to the bottom with the gravel and stones, remaining there to be covered by the accretion with a change in the channel.

The skull is a peculiar one, showing a dome between the horns, while the average buffalo skull is almost straight. The specimen has been placed on exhibition where it is attracting a great deal of attention. It is claimed by some that, on account of its size and shape, it is a skull of an aurochs, a larger animal and a progenitor of the buffalo, instead of the buffalo itself, in which case it has been buried in the sands of the Missouri for many hundreds of years.

RICHES REVEALED BY DEATH.

Recluse Dies a Millionaire While Children Were Ignorant of Wealth.

Omaha, Neb.—By the filing of his will here, it came to light that Joseph A. Bent, the eccentric recluse of Omaha, who died in Los Angeles, Cal., last February, was one of the richest men in Nebraska. His estate is valued at \$1,500,000. So eccentric was Bent in his habits, so quietly did he amass his fortune, and so little did he talk about his affairs, that his own children did not even suspect that he was wealthy.

One-half of his fortune is given to various charities and religious institutions, and the rest to his children, grandchildren and other heirs. His eldest daughter, Mrs. Mary C. Lane, of Denver, is made sole executrix of the estate. Bent lived the life of a recluse for years, and his personal expenses were less than those of an ordinary day laborer. He carried \$1,500 insurance on his life, and he had on deposit in banks in Nebraska \$50,000. He had outstanding on loans more than \$100,000, and he owned 30,000 acres of valuable farm lands in nine states, besides much other property.

Fights Finery By Publicity.

Berlin—Prompted by Cleveland Moffett's campaign against women's finery, Max Heinemann, the publisher, is organizing a similar movement here.

He does not believe in Moffett's suggestion to impose a tax on finery, but proposes a crusade by literature to be carried on by an international league. The league would circulate pamphlets containing photographs of the women of Paris, New York, Berlin, London and other cities, wearing priceless gowns, the better press detailing their careers and habits and spending their money.

Hornets Attend College.

Norman, Okla.—A swarm of hornets taking possession of the laboratory of the University of Oklahoma gave the class in pharmacy a vacation. An effort was made to drive the hornets out, but after several men had been badly stung the door was closed and the room turned over to the stinkers. Finally burning sulphur was placed in the room and the unwelcome visitors were ejected.

CANNON SOON USELESS

STARTLING ADMISSION BY ARMY ORDNANCE OFFICER.

Gen. Crozier Says Guns at Coast Fortification Would Not Last Two Hours in Battle Because of High Velocity.

Washington.—That the 12-inch gun in use at most of the coast fortifications of the United States would not last through an engagement of two hours, the period that would elapse from the time the leading vessel of a fleet would come within the range until the last vessel would pass beyond the range of the guns, is the statement made by Brig. Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordnance, whose annual report has been made public by the war department.

Gen. Crozier believes that it is of the utmost importance that a method be devised whereby the necessary gun powder can be obtained at less expense than that involved in using the high velocities of projectiles now employed, with the accompanying rapid wearing away of the rifling in such a manner as to destroy the accuracy of the gun after a few rounds. The 12-inch gun will last about 60 rounds, and as it is capable of firing for a considerable interval at the rate of 45 rounds an hour, it can be seen that the limit of the life of this gun could be reached in less than an hour and a half.

Similar statements can be made with regard to guns of smaller caliber, says the report, although as the caliber diminishes the admissible velocity increases. By lowering the velocity of the 12-inch projectile from 2,500 to 2,250 feet a second the life of the gun is increased to 200 rounds. The penetration of armor is reduced by the process, that of the 12-inch gun at 10,000 yards coming down from about ten and one-half inches to about nine inches and the range at which its projectile would penetrate 12 inches of armor plate being reduced from about 5,000 yards to about 6,000 yards.

The chief of ordnance states that it appears that by using in the situations requiring the greatest power a 14-inch gun with 2,150 feet a second velocity of projectile, instead of the 12-inch gun, with 2,500 feet a second initial velocity, the army would have a better gun and one which would last four times as long. Gen. Crozier says that the Taft board for the revision of the report of the Edgicott board on coast defenses recommended this gun and that the department has decided to use it in place of the 12-inch weapon in situations in which the highest power is required.

Gen. Crozier says that plans and specifications are in preparation for the army smokeless powder factory, for which congress at its last session appropriated \$145,000, and that upon the selection of the site the work of construction will be pushed to completion, but the site has not been selected.

In speaking of small arms the general states that the magazine rifle 1905 model was supplied to the regular troops in the United States for their use in target practice. The improved rifle of 1905 model, with bayonet and rear sights, has been issued to the troops in the Philippine islands and will be issued to the troops in the states and the first issue will be recalled. As a result of tests during the year some changes have been made in auto-loading magazine rifles which may render them satisfactory for service use. The manufacture of small arms ammunition is somewhat more expensive than formerly, owing to the increase in the cost of brass and lead.

Among the changes made in the equipment issued to cavalry, infantry and artillery during the year was that in the cup, which formerly was made of steel heavily tinned and which now is made of aluminum, adopted after an extensive service trial.

Gen. Crozier states that a number of militia batteries have been provided with the new three-inch field artillery material and others are being rapidly furnished with it.

This House One Huge Joke.

Monrovia, Cal.—John Baxter of Monrovia is building a new house on the site of an old house and building the new house out of the material of the old house and living in the old house while the new one is being built. Once when a new jail was wanted in Dublin an Irishman proposed some such bill on the floor of the British parliament and it was considered a bill and his bill was laughed down. Baxter is taking advantage of an extra ten feet of land on the avenue side of his livery stable to build the outside wall of his new building, and as this wall goes up the rafters of the old structure are to be placed out to the new wall and the boards in the old wall are used in making partitions. When the front wall is built in of brick the old wooden wall will be taken down. The livery stable will be used right along, although an extra guard will be placed over the street.