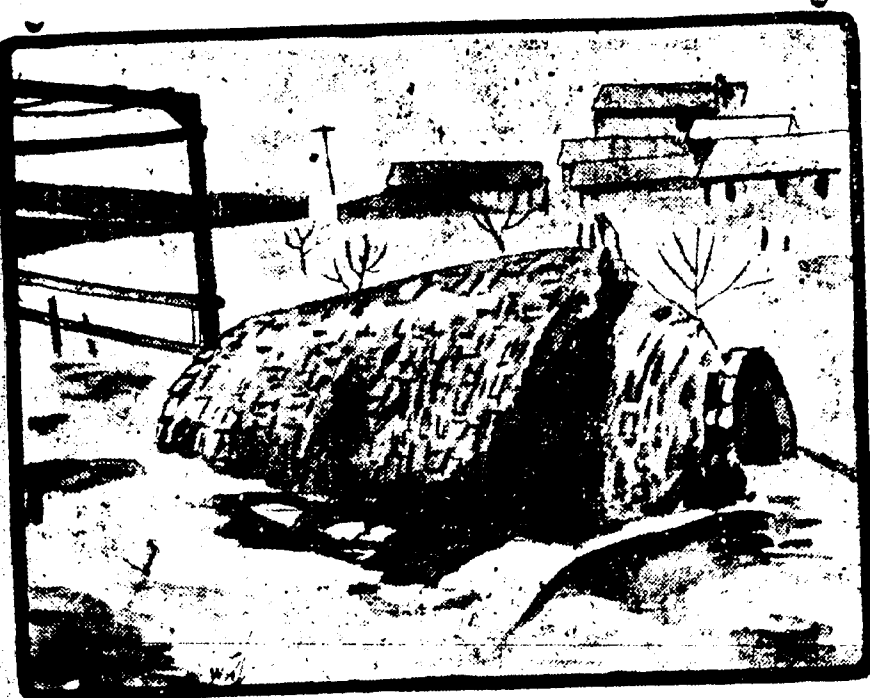


BIG BRICK CISTERN FLOATED BY FLOOD OF WABASH RIVER.



The cistern in the yard of Marion H. Church, Leon avenue, West Terre Haute, was floated from its foundation, ten feet below the surface, and tipped over on its side, when the water which broke through the Wabash river levee flooded the town.

MODEL CHILD VILLAGE

PROVIDED FOR BY WILL OF AN ECCENTRIC MILLIONAIRE.

Aim of Seybert Institution Will Be to Train Poor Young and Develop Them—Is First of Kind in the World.

Philadelphia.—The Seybert institution for poor children, with a \$1,500,000 fund just available under the will of Henry Seybert, who died in 1883, will go into the business of relieving poor children at the rate of 1,000 a year, first by an arrangement with the Children's Aid society to open a children's bureau at 1506 Arch street on February 15; next by creating a model village, unlike anything on earth, on a 300-acre farm at Meadowbrook, with cottages for 300 poor children and school-training facilities; next by setting up a training school for child savers.

Other branches of child-saving work will be developed in the future as need arises under the Seybert institution, created by the bachelor benefactor in honor of his father and mother, Adam and Maria Sarah Seybert. The full text of the announcement has been handed out by the trustees of the Seybert institution, all well-known citizens of Philadelphia.

The children's bureau, a clearing house in its way, begins business February 15 by going to the relief of the juvenile court. It offered by a letter to Judge Breyer to "provide for destitute and neglected children and those whose delinquencies, if any, are not sufficiently serious to require commitment to the house of refuge."

HEART-SHAPED BRIDAL COACH.

Gorgeous Equipage Designed to Boom Wedding Business.

Pittston, Pa.—A bridal coach, designed to boom matrimony and do away with the custom of decorating ordinary hacks with white ribbons, has just been completed here at a cost of \$1,800. The coach, which is designed in the shape of a heart, is painted maroon and black with gold trimmings, the lines arranged to form hearts everywhere possible.

The lamps, which have electric lights inside, are each surrounded by a cupid, with his bow and arrow, clad in the happiest smiles. The coach is upholstered in cream-colored velvet and old gold trimming, with two sets of watered silk curtains overhead and a cluster of calla lilies in the hearts of which are concealed red, white and blue electric lights.

INDIAN WINS WHITE HEIRESS.

Finance Pleased to Hear Lover Is Elected Chief of Tribe.

Denver, Col.—Miss Cora Arnold, a wealthy young woman of this city, who is engaged to marry Albino Chavarria, a Pueblo Indian, has received word that her lover has been elected chief of the tribe at Espanola, N. M. She expressed pleasure and said that though opposition still existed to her engagement she hoped for the best. She and her sister own much real estate here.

Ere many moons have sped into eternity the Denver heiress may join her dusky lover and bring to a happy stage a romance from real life that finds not its counterpart in the tales of the poets and novelists who depicted the aborigine in song and story. Gov. Albino Chavarria it is now. The course of true love has not run smoothly for the Indian chief and his Denver innamorata. They first met when Chavarria was brought here with his tribe as a carnival attraction. Added to a magnificent physique, the Santa Clara brave has enjoyed unusual educational advantages. He is a cultured redskin, and affects the white man's dress when in the white man's company.

TO REVIVE SACRED DANCES.

French Danseuse Hopes to Buy Church for New Use.

Paris.—Some Paris flatterer artists put in Loie Fuller's head the idea of buying one of the churches vacated under the separation law and using it as an appropriate theater in which to revive the sacred dances of all countries, ages and creeds.

Her sculptor and painter friends have been delighted with her recent inventions shown at the Hippodrome, where she has come triumphantly out from the cloud which had enveloped her, since her astonishing success in the exposition year when she familiarized all France and the visiting world with her electric dances. She now uses the magic lantern and ingenious technical devices which enable her to produce upon a screen the effect of real stage scenery, with the added advantages of instantaneously changing the pictures and having infinitely varied light and color. Several of her dance themes are founded on religious rites.

TO RAISE SPIDERS BIG AS CATS.

Insects Will Weave Rope and Eggs Can Be Sold for Marbles.

Danville, Ky.—Assessor R. D. Bruce has set on foot a plan to replace the hemp industry by the use of giant African spiders. He is now in the south completing arrangements for a spider hatchery. According to Mr. Bruce, the dark continent produces a spider which, at maturity, is the size of a Maltese cat, and weaves a web of strands as large as broom twine. These spiders, he declares, are easily domesticated, and are fairly intelligent. The natives have utilized the webs for fishing seines. A letter from an African scientist says that the spiders can be raised as locusts.

A stock company is to be formed to carry on the industry, and an option has been obtained on a 5,000-acre farm, where the spiders will be housed upon their arrival. As a by-product the eggs of the elephantine insects will be sold for marbles. The females lay from 100 to 225 eggs a week, and they are as hard as flint and perfect spheres. The shells are beautifully colored, resembling the best 20-cent "shooters" used by boys in "taw."

LOCATE IOWA METEOR

LONG LOST ROCK FINALLY FOUND IN VIENNA.

Fell Near Esterville in 1875 and Has Been Sought by George Barber for Years—Brought High Price from Purchasers.

Esterville, Ia.—After a lapse of 32 years, the famous "Barber" meteor, for which George Barber, of this place, had searched for years, has been found in a Vienna museum, carefully labeled that all visitors may know that it is one of Iowa's products and fell near Esterville in June, 1875.

Fearing the Barber brothers, who dug up the great meteor, would be able to recover the largest piece of the precious rock, it was quickly passed from one person to another, as soon as it was shipped east, until its whereabouts soon became a matter of mystery. Inspired with a desire to secure the meteor for the Iowa Historical society or for the state university, many have attempted to locate the missing rock, but search for it has been fruitless. George Barber has followed the meteor almost around the world, and Iowans have searched the museums of England and of Rome, expecting to see it among the spoils of time, but it has been left to Thomas R. Wallace, a former Iowan, to discover the rock which put Esterville on the map in one of the great museums of Vienna.

Thomas R. Wallace, who has notified George Barber of finding the meteor in Vienna, is one of the men who saw it fall, on the farm of the Seven Lee farm, two miles north of here, about one o'clock in the afternoon of June 28, 1875. Charles and George Barber dug it out of the ground some 14 feet deep. The largest piece, which is now in Vienna, weighed 132 pounds. The smaller pieces weighed together 400 pounds, making a total weight of 532 pounds.

At the time of the great phenomenon the land on which the rock fell had been sold to a Mr. Lee, and only a small amount paid down. The Barber boys were given permission by him to dig out the meteor, but the former owners brought suit against the Barbers and the Emmet county clerk refused to accept signers to a \$500 bond offered by the Barber boys under revivian proceedings, after the land owners had secured possession of the rock.

While the boys were trying to regain possession of the meteor, the parties loaded it into a wagon and hauled it overland to Keokuk, where it was sold to eastern parties, and resold to other parties for \$58,000. It was sold a year or two later to an English company for \$100,000. Small pieces which the Barber boys secured have been sold for \$500 each, but Iowans have always wanted to secure possession of the big piece, which now rests among the marble and bronze statues of Vienna.

Within a short time the scientific world learned of the meteor. The Barber brothers were offered \$50,000 for the big piece, and, believing that it could be secured, efforts have been made from time to time to get it back on Hawkeye soil. The Barbers lost \$10,000 because the county clerk refused to accept a man worth \$25,000 on a bond for \$500.

INVENTS STUDYING MACHINE.

Northwestern University Student Finds Solution in Phonograph.

Chicago.—Edward Jacobson, a Northwestern university student, has invented a studying machine which not only abolishes the ravages on the body caused by all-night sessions, with towel-encircled brows, over books of small print, but also saves, he says, the eyes and the mind.

Young Jacobson's device is of a phonographic nature, for which he has prepared records on which are concentrated the essential points of the entire course. He unstraps his case of records, selects Course No. 1, turns out the light, lays himself down on bed or couch and, pulling a cord which is attached to the machine, prepares himself to absorb learning by the roll.

The machine is provided with an attachment on the order of the works of an eight-day clock, which will run an indefinite period, far longer than any listener will survive. Even if the student drops asleep, the constant and monotonous repetition of the record has the effect of impressing itself on the seemingly dormant brain, for in the morning the student has the course at his tongue's end and goes to his examination, in campus vernacular, prepared "to knock the professor's eye out."

Intricate formulas of calculus, involved problems of algebra and geometry taught to men who think of taking up engineering and other deep forms of mathematical lore can all be caught by the machine without skip or miss, and formations so formidable that the eye will not grasp them become easy to the comprehension when drummed into the brain through the ear by repeating the record.

The importance of the invention is such from the student standpoint that "canned" lessons promise to become common on the Evanston campus. To Chloroform Bachelors. Boston.—Unmarried women of Wakefield, Mass., have petitioned the legislature asking for a law taxing all bachelors up to 40 years old an application of chloroform after that age.

GREAT SOLAR SPOT FOUND.

Prof. Brashear Announces Discovery Which Portends Storms.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Professor John A. Brashear of the Allegheny observatory has announced a discovery of one of the greatest sun spots ever called to the attention of astronomers. He says electrical disturbances will be experienced throughout the country soon. These disturbances, he further declares, may take the form of a display of the aurora borealis or telegraph and telephone communication may be seriously affected.

The present spot is so large that it can be seen through smoked glass and the scientist says it is one of the most active of solar spots. In his statement of the discovery Professor Brashear says: "A very large and beautiful sun spot or solar disturbance is now crossing the face of the sun and is approaching the central meridian. This is the largest spot that has been seen for several years. Its approximate length is 118,000 miles and it is 30,000 miles wide, covering an area of about 3,500,000 square miles. There is considerable activity in the spot and there may be some electrical disturbances on the earth soon, but this is rather difficult to predict on account of the position of the disturbance in relation to the earth."

Besides this great group of spots, there are three other groups to the west of it, and a fourth is just leaving the sun on the eastern side. This great spot can be readily seen by the naked eye with a piece of smoked glass. Indeed, my attention was called to it by a gentleman who saw it through the morning fog. We have been observing the spot with great interest, measuring it and estimating its size. It is a great spot, stretching an eighth of the way across the sun. It comes at a time when it is not usual to expect sun spots and is of greater interest for that reason. Why it now appears is not explained."

FARM LABORERS IN DEMAND.

Plan Adopted by Empire State to Supply Needed Help.

New York.—The bureau of information and statistics of the New York state department of agriculture estimates that fully 50,000 laborers will be required on the farms of the state this spring, and through its office in this city is putting into execution a novel plan, which, in a small way, proved highly successful in supplying the demand last year.

The department has advertised extensively both in New York and in Europe for agricultural laborers, and as a consequence is in daily receipt of many applications from men, both single and married, who are anxious to work on the farms of the state. Many applications have been received from Holland and other European countries, where whole families are willing to emigrate if assured of farm employment here.

Many immigrants reaching New York are at once engaged by the bureau of farm employment. Last year the bureau placed 4,171 farm laborers, and hopes this year to increase the number to the 50,000 which will give the farmers of the state a chance to sleep nights. But an investigator who a day or two listened to 28 appeals for assistance in two hours spent on two blocks on Fourteenth street, all of them from men "out of work," and then recalled the many appeals of philanthropic and charitable organizations for funds with which to assist New York's army of unemployed, wonders why it should be necessary to advertise in Europe for laborers to relieve a situation within ten miles of Broadway which is little better than that of Kansas at the time of the wheat harvest.

HUNTERS KILL LARGE LYNX.

Animal with Tassels on Its Ears Makes Attack on Men.

Memphis, Tenn.—An animal weighing 60 pounds, with tassels on its ears, yellowish striped fur and a stubby tail, was shot the other day near Port Jarvis, Sullivan county. The old inhabitants say that the beast is a lynx, and the oldest of them avers that he has not seen a lynx in this section since he was a boy, 78 years ago. Since then, he says, with a chuckle, they have been "missing lynx."

James Cooley and Andrew Van Dyke were hunting for foxes which they supposed had robbed their henneries. They came across queer tracks on the snow, then the lynx came across them. The beast jumped from a tall stump, and landed on Van Dyke's back. It ripped the heavy clothing from his back and lacerated his flesh. Afraid of shooting his comrade, Cooley kicked the lynx in the head with his heavy boots. The beast turned on Cooley, fastening its teeth and claws in his thigh. Van Dyke jumped up and, placing the muzzle of his gun to its head, blew its brains out.

Reflection from Ore Deposits.

German observers recorded as long ago as 1747 that a luminous emanation of variable shape will appear in the dark at points on the surface of the earth below which there are extensive ore deposits. Immediately before or during a thunderstorm these phenomena are said to be especially striking. Similar observations have more recently been made in North America in the neighborhood of ore deposits. The electric emanation given off from the surface of the earth has been repeatedly ascertained photographically

CITY LONG IN PAWN

SWEDEN, NOT REDEEMING WISMAR, IT BECOMES GERMAN.

Pledged by King Gustavus IV. for Loan of a Million Dollars—Considered Finest Harbor Site on Baltic Coast.

London.—Wismar, a port of 18,000 people on the Baltic, situated in the German duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, but belonging legally to Sweden, has recently become a German city. It was pledged by King Gustavus IV. for a loan of \$1,000,000, and the king of Sweden having failed to redeem it within the century it has passed to the duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, from whose ancestors the money was borrowed.

In the early part of the eighteenth century the most powerful enemy of Sweden, after the destruction of the Hanseatic league, a kind of trade union established by certain German cities for safety and commercial purposes, captured Wismar and razed the fortifications. Afterward peace was declared and the city reverted to Sweden, but with the provision that she should not rebuild the fortifications. The place thus lost its strength and importance and became instead an element of weakness to the Swedes. Its great sea trade was ruined and its inland trade lost.

Under these circumstances it was not surprising that the Swedes tired at last of their white elephant. So in the reign of the incompetent and extravagant Gustavus IV., with territory lost to the French in one war, with Finland lost to Russia, with defeat in a war against Norway, the Swedes seized an opportunity to relieve themselves of the burden of possession.

The direct opportunity was given by the cancellation by Gustavus of his engagement to the daughter of Duke Frederick Franz I. That person not unattractively resented the insult and threatened dire things. Finally his threats crystallized into a demand for an enormous indemnity. The money had to be raised at once. The duchy of Mecklenburg advanced 1,250,000 rixdaler and took Wismar, Neukloster and the Island of Poel as security.

Under the conditions of the loan the city of Wismar and the two governments were to remain in pledge for 100 years. At the end of that time Sweden might claim and obtain the pledged city and land by paying back the original loan, with three per cent, compound interest.

A further provision, however, of the loan was that should Sweden fail to take any notice whatever of the expiration of the time the contract would be thereby renewed for another 100 years. The sum which Sweden would have had to pay if she wanted to claim Wismar and the two government districts is figured as amounting to \$27,000,000, and this alone, quite apart from considerations of policy, operated, doubtless, as a bar against the assertion of her rights.

It will be seen that while the immediate business transaction dates back but about 100 years, any diplomatic squabbles over the city now would have to revert to the surrenders and armistices of the Thirty Years' war—1618-48. And the fact that heretofore Wismar has been Swedish territory explains why Germany has not fortified the port, which is considered the finest harbor site of the entire Baltic coast. Under the Swedish-Danish treaty fortifications were not to be built and when the duchy of Mecklenburg took over the place the stipulation was renewed.

AMERICANS EAT LOTS OF SUGAR.

Each Citizen Consumed Half His Own Weight Last Year, Say Statistics.

Washington.—"The average citizen of the United States seems to have consumed one-half his own weight in sugar in the year just ended," says a statement issued by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. The average consumption per head was 76 pounds. The amount of sugar consumed was 5,500,000,000 pounds, at a cost of over \$300,000,000.

Of this enormous consumption one-fifth was produced in this country, another one-fifth was imported from our island possessions, and the remaining three-fifths, or 3,864,665,661 pounds, from foreign countries.

Of the production of sugar in the United States last year a little less than one-half was from cane and a little more than one-half from beets. The quantity of beet sugar entering into American consumption was 672,000,000 pounds, showing a remarkable increase, and for the first time exceeding the production of the product from cane. There was an increase of 260 per cent in the production of beet over cane sugar from 1900 to 1906.

Prefers Prison for Life.

Columbus, O.—Judge Alread of Drake county the other day urged Gov. Harris to pardon William Welch, a tramp who was sentenced to life imprisonment for breaking into an inhabited dwelling. Welch himself does not seek pardon, but prefers to remain in prison. It is claimed that he belongs to a well-to-do family in Indiana and became a tramp by choice. Under the Ohio law a life sentence for breaking into an inhabited house is mandatory unless mercy is recommended by a jury. Gov. Harris took the matter of a pardon under advisement.

HOW FRISCO IS REBUILDING.

Structures Costing Over \$40,000,000 Erected Since Earthquake.

San Francisco, Cal.—The sum of \$40,128,753 represents the aggregate of building in San Francisco for which permits have been applied since the middle of last May, when the building inspection bureau resumed its operations.

Of this 21 new office and other buildings represent \$3,050,000; reinforced concrete and other class B construction contribute \$2,194,100; brick buildings in general contribute \$14,198,549; frame structures, \$19,387,902, and the alterations of buildings gutted by fire add \$4,298,202.

The report showing the above totals has been presented to the board of public works by Building Inspector Horgan. The number of buildings taken up each month and their cost is segregated, and the rapid rebound in building operations is shown by the monthly totals.

For May permits were issued for all classes of buildings to the amount of \$795,619. June showed a great gain, \$1,689,288. The subsequent increases by months were as follows: July, \$2,389,501; August, \$4,548,551; September, \$6,309,013. October showed a slight decrease over the previous month, \$6,046,369. November made a decided gain, \$7,233,765. The rates of the past two months show in the final totals, for December, \$9,915,290, and January, \$5,201,557.

ROCKEFELLER GIVES: OIL IS UP.

New Profits of \$40,000,000 May Offset \$32,000,000 Benefaction.

Philadelphia.—With the announcement of the proposed gift by John D. Rockefeller of \$32,000,000 to the General Education Board comes notice to the oil dealers and consumers all over the country of an advance in the price of oil which will be the Standard Oil company about \$40,000,000 additional in a single year.

It is estimated from the figures at hand that fully \$12,400,000 of the additional annual tax must come from the homes of the working class where oil is used for light and fuel.

Notice of the advance in the price of Standard Oil products was received by dealers Thursday, the same day the announcement of the great gift was made. Although the advance quoted to wholesalers is one-half cent a gallon on all for domestic use, the public will pay one cent additional, as the retail dealers have raised the price to consumers from 10 to 11 cents per gallon.

The yearly consumption of oil for domestic purposes in Philadelphia is about 15,500,000 gallons. So this city alone will pay an additional sum of \$155,000 annually for the cheap grade of oil used for light and heat.

TO ADOPT WAR BALLOONS.

Government Will Make Tests to Discover Best Kind.

Washington.—The United States government is about to commence an extensive system of experiments with balloons to ascertain what kind of air craft is most suitable for use in the army. Some system will then be adopted and put into use.

Gen. Allen, chief signal officer of the army, has been making preparations for the experiments for some weeks, but is now about to launch the actual work of making the tests of various balloons and airships.

It is the intention to conduct the experiments just outside of Omaha, Neb., and for this purpose \$50,000 of money already appropriated has been allotted for fitting up the fort with all the necessary appliances, including gas tanks and repair shops.

Gen. Allen declared his belief that this country was far ahead of any other in the matter of flying machines. Already, he said, there had been developed some which would furnish a few surprises.

LONDON NOW LIKES AUTOBUS.

Popularity of Vehicle Shown by Falling Off in "Tube" Passengers.

London.—After all the abuse that was heaped on the noisy, evil smelling and nerve destroying autobus a few months ago, it is now interesting to note the effect the autobus has had on the underground railways and what it means to London.

The "two penny tube" which, only the other day, was regarded as almost the last word of locomotion, has lost 1,000,000 passengers during the year and the responsibility is laid on the autobus.

This is not an isolated instance, for the same story has been told at almost every railway meeting here during the last few weeks. It is wonderfully eloquent of the hold which the huge and unwieldy but fast moving vehicle has gained here, and the agitation which only a few months ago, was raised against the motor seems ludicrous in the face of such a figure as that mentioned at the meeting of the "tube" company the other day.

Slowest Woman on Earth.

Washington.—Representative Paggott of Tennessee has found the slowest woman in the world. Her name is Anna Hudson and she hails from Hickman's county in Me. Paggott's district. She wants a pension on account of her husband, who served in the Blackhawk war, and has been dead 50 years. She just learned that she was entitled to government aid. She is 99 years of age.