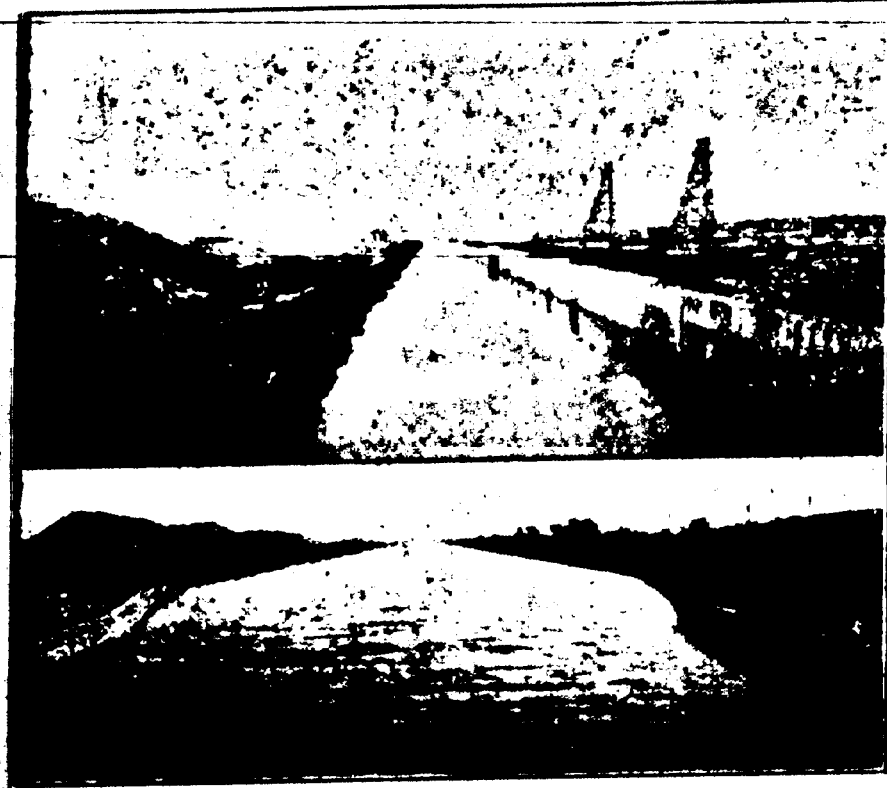


ALONG LAKES TO GULF WATERWAY



The above illustration shows two views of the Chicago Sanitary Canal, which would be utilized as the first section of the proposed lakes to gulf deep waterway project.

CHINA'S WIRE SYSTEM

TELEGRAPH LINES IMPROVED AND EARN LARGE PROFITS.

Taken Over by the Government from Private Concern—Now Approachable Degree of Completeness and Usefulness.

Washington—In view of the present day tendency of the Chinese to assume the management and control of the railroads and other important business enterprises, a resume of the annual report of the Imperial telegraph administration prepared by F. D. Cloud, student interpreter of the Shanghai consulate general, contains some interesting items.

Originally this system of telegraphs was a private concern organized by wealthy Chinese officials and gentry, but eight or nine years ago the central government took over control of the company, allowing certain merchants to retain their shares, increased the capital and secured a monopoly of the business throughout the empire.

Under government management the system is approaching a tolerable degree of completeness and usefulness. Of late years, also, it has been paying fairly good dividends, amounting to ten per cent in 1906, and this, too, in the face of rather large extensions of the system.

The total receipts of the system for the year were \$1,579,175 United States gold, made up of the following items: From commercial business, \$479,391; official business, \$98,058; and general business, \$619,124. The total expenditures for the same period were \$551,423, as follows: For the maintenance of the superintendent general's office, \$54,562; maintenance of general office, \$37,198; running expenses of the various stations, \$129,858; expenses in connection with official business, \$20,910; and all other expenses, \$129,391.

According to the showing, the gross profits of the year were \$647,527, and that, too, from a working capital of \$1,232,000. And after paying the government royalty of \$129,807 the administration was still able to pay the private shareholders a dividend of ten per cent, all of which goes to show that the telegraph, like the railways, has come to be regarded by the Chinese as a public necessity, and likewise the telegraph, like the railway, has a great future in China.

The telephone, also, while still in an undeveloped state, is destined to play an important part in the development of the new China. Wherever the telephone has been used by the Chinese it has made a lasting place for itself, and at the present writing there are many systems in various parts of the empire being talked of and organized, many of which are certain to be installed, and since the Chinese do not manufacture telephonic or telegraphic supplies, there should, in the near future, be an extensive market in China for this line of goods.

Set's Pig's Broken Bones.

Vinceland, N. Y.—Abraham Voorbees, a 67-year-old inmate of the Soldiers' home here, keeps open house in a tent in the grove, where he serves black coffee and army hard-tack to callers.

A little pig belonging to the institution suffered from the breaking of both its jaws and forelegs, its mother overturning a trough on it six weeks ago. Voorbees took the pig to the teeth back into place and began to nurse the little creature. Later, as the pig is called, took to Voorbees like a dog to a kind master. Now Laurie is well and follows the old man around, even through the streets of the borough.

At meal time the pig jumps into the owner's lap and takes nourishment from him like any other babe.

Foreign Timepieces.

What pleased me most, said the man who had been around, was the wonderful clock at Strasbourg. "Oh, how I should like to see it," replied the ignorant youth. "And if you see the watch on the Italian boat"

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE.

Railroad Brakeman Testifies as to the Finding of an Insane Man.

Tacoma, Wash.—Testimony of a novel nature was heard in the police court when Judge Arntson was looking into the case of the inmate of the Stellacom asylum who had been zathred in by the police. While it was evident to all that the man was insane, the court wished to know something of the circumstances connected with his apprehension. A railroad brakeman was able to give the great detail in regard to this, and in giving his testimony he spoke the vernacular of the rail.

"Judge," said he, to the amazement of both court and spectators, "I was riding the pilot on, and I seen this guy lyin' on the track. I throw the hoghead down and dynamited the train, and leans over and gets him and throws him off the rail. The first thing he says when he gets up is 'I have I any cigarettes, I'm there with the cigs, but he don't get any. Then there comes along a couple of fly cops and a harness bull and takes the guy away."

When translated this means that the brakeman was riding on the pilot of the engine, had seen the man on the track, and had signaled the engineer and put on the air at the same time. Then he had reached over, thrown the man from the track, and later seen him turned over to two detectives and a policeman in uniform. After this had been explained to the court the case proceeded, resulting ultimately in the commitment of the man to the asylum.

GIRL REARED AMONG INDIANS.

Lost for Twelve Years She is Found on Reservation and Restored.

La Crosse, Wis.—Anna Vassal of Milwaukee has just been restored to her parents after an absence of twelve years.

When Anna was a small child she was placed in an institution here, but had been there only a short time when she mysteriously disappeared from the place. Georgiana Vassal, her sister, heard that she had left the home and went to the officials of the institution, but they volunteered no information, and a search for the missing girl was begun.

It was learned that the girl had endured a nerve-racking experience, that she had been sent away from the institution, and had not left it as her parents and relatives had been led to believe. She was sent to a family on an Indian reservation near Duluth and for several years had been brought up among the Indians. She is now well acquainted with their ways and language, and it may take years to educate the girl. The reservation is in a backwoods part of Wisconsin and is known as Red Cliff.

The girl never was told her parents were seeking her, but was given to understand that if she attempted to escape she would be placed in the institution again. She consequently did not leave the reservation until the other day, when, through a friend in the vicinity, she learned of the search being made for her. She slipped away by night to Duluth with her friend, and was there met by her sister, Georgiana, who accompanied her to her home in Milwaukee.

Rats and Dogs Aid Burglar.

London, Eng.—Rats and dogs must now be included among the assistants of the expert burglar. The animals are used by the burglar to ascertain if the coast is clear, the mode of opening being somewhat as follows.

The cracksmen may have fixed upon certain premises where he expects the burglar forces open a small window and puts through two or three rats brought to the scene in a basket. Accompanying him also is a rattling rattle, and this animal he also puts through the window.

If there is a burglar alarm anywhere about the building of the dog, after the rats will set it in motion, and the burglar leaves the dog and rats in their fate. Should there be no ringing of bells he enters.

CAN PETRIFY ANIMALS

ITALIAN CLAIMS TO HAVE DISCOVERED SECRET PROCESS.

Comes to America to Show Scientific Men What He Can do—Stumbles on Mysterious Chemical by Accident.

New York.—Agostino Giuseppe Grosse, a chemist of Vercelli, Italy, now visiting here, declares he has found a way to turn organic substances into stone. Grosse wants to stay long enough to convince the scientific men of this country that his discovery is practical.

The chemist has brought with him several substances upon which he has tried his process, the basis of which he holds a profound secret. Grosse discovered it by the merest accident.

Instead of chipping an equestrian statue out of a block of marble in the future, all that will be necessary will be to get a horse, put a man on his back, apply the new process and there will be a statue true to life in every detail. The dog which has guarded the house during his lifetime can occupy the front lawn as a statue after his death, while the man who finds his affinity can be sure of keeping her always by applying the new process immediately. So far Mr. Grosse has confined his experiments to bugs, snakes and smaller animals, though there does not seem to be any demand for petrified reptiles.

The chemical by which these results are achieved remains a secret, but it is easy to see what a complete monopoly of the statue-making business Grosse may obtain.

Fourteen years ago, while he was in Peru, he had occasion to send a case of eggs to Ecuador. He had no way of refrigerating the consignment and began experimenting with preservatives. He bored tiny holes in the eggs and tried injecting various chemicals. None seemed to accomplish the work. In trying one powerful drug he injected a small quantity in several eggs and a few hours later found every one of them as hard as a rock. He tried to break the shells but could not make the slightest dent.

Grosse held the eggs before a strong light and was surprised to find that the yolk and white of each one were as perfect as before petrification. He continued his experiments on beef and vegetables. The result was the same with each trial. No matter how soft the original substance, it was converted into stone.

The chemist went back to Vercelli and before a gathering of doctors at the Hospital Marziano, gave a series of demonstrations. The body of a dog was petrified in standing position, and the animal was made to look as natural as life. Beetles, frogs, snakes and other things were put through the process, and after being petrified retained their lifelike appearance.

In each instance the chemist injected the specimen with a small quantity of the mysterious drug by means of a hypodermic syringe. Grosse was always careful that the spectators should not see the chemical. Whenever he used it he went behind a screen, then brought the specimen out and allowed the doctors to watch the process of petrification as it went on.

Grosse says it takes about three hours. He has among his specimens here a chicken that was petrified, wings and all. This, he says, was done three years ago. The chicken looks about as it would in the barnyard. Its eyes have their original luster and every detail is perfect.

"By my process," said Grosse, "I will be able to preserve animals exactly as they appear in life. It can be used to petrify any large bodies, such as those of horses or elephants. I do not think it would require more than five or six hours, at the most."

Piggy as a Life Saver.

Dover, N. J.—A pig probably saved the life of Mrs. Frank Flynn, who lives on the east slope of the Wauk-haw Mountain. While her husband was visiting a friend a terrific storm burst, Wauk-haw Brook overflowed its banks and threatened to carry the Flynn house away. Mrs. Flynn hurried with her children to the upper floor, and a crash told her the pig had been washed against the kitchen door. An occasional gust also told her that "piggy" was not drowned.

The storm quickly subsided and Mrs. Flynn went downstairs. There was the pig in her "best" room and she prepared to drive it out, when with a little squeal it pounced upon a big rattlesnake that had coiled and was about to spring at Mrs. Flynn. The pig grasped the reptile at the neck and its death was quickly accomplished. The snake had evidently gone to the house for safety from the storm.

Horse Leaps Over Woman.

Winsted, Conn.—Mrs. William L. Camp, widow of the late Mayor Camp and mother of Stuart B. Camp, of New York, formerly captain of the Yale baseball club, had an almost incredible escape from death or injury at "The Uplands" in Galesbrook, as she was reading in a hammock. A runaway horse leaped over her, clearing the hammock without hurting her.

FINDS PHANTOM BRIDE OF WILL.

Woman to Whom Aged Recluse Left \$75,000 is Known to Sister.

Providence, R. I.—The mystery of old William B. King's bequest of a small fortune to Louise B. Blankenburg, whom he designated in his will as his "intended bride," has been in part disclosed.

It was at first thought, for the reason that an eye in Johnston, where King lived, could recall such a person, that she was a myth, the mere figment of the disordered brain of a sick old man who was permitted to make a will on his deathbed that he might thus be kept quiet.

While all the residents of Johnston refuted the idea of the existence of the lost "bride" of the 77-year-old recluse, the fact has been ascertained that King's aged sister, Abbey A. King, who has shared his hermit-like existence, knows of the woman and can tell where in this city she may be found, but she won't talk on that point.

Miss King admitted today that she has known Miss Blankenburg since the latter was a little girl, and that twice her brother had called upon Louise, who, she says, is now 33 years of age, a dressmaker, and lives with a grandmother. She will not say just where the grandmother lives, for fear that that disclosure will add to the sensational stories which have already found publication, and for fear that greater trouble will be experienced when the will comes to be probated, as she intends to contest it.

ALFONSO, THE SNORER.

Spanish King to Have Operation for Mouth Breathing.

Paris.—Alfonso is coming to France for a little operation. It is known to the medical world as submucoid section of the nasal septum. The operation is not a severe one and the results to be hoped for are that it gives a freer passage to the air going to the lungs through the nasal orifices. At present Alfonso is what is called a "mouth-breather." The air entering the lungs is not warmed by the nasal passages, and so there is a greater liability for him to catch cold. But in addition to this it is more than probable that Alfonso snores at night, and no doubt the advice of his young and beautiful spouse had something to do with his decision to see a specialist.

Alfonso has evidently suffered in his youth, and probably does so now, from adenoids, that is an overgrowth of tonsil-like tissue, situated higher up in the throat and more to the back than the tonsils. It is that that has given to his face its long, awkward outline, his protruding lower jaw, his open mouth and his expression that hardly does justice to his intelligence. Historians tell us that he has the "Hapsburg mouth," but physicians know that his facial conformation is much more the result of an inherited weak constitution.

TRAIN CAN'T WAKE HIM.

But When a Doctor's Summons He Says "Wazzzer Mazzzer?"

Allentown, Pa.—Bringing his Roaring railway train to this city at ten o'clock at night, Engineer Thomas O'Neill rounded a curve to be shocked by the discovery of a man slinking on the track. O'Neill blew his whistle and reversed his engine, but while the cow-catcher into the air, and turned a somersault.

When finally the train was stopped the limp form was tenderly lifted into the engine cab and taken to Blanton, where men were sent post haste for a doctor.

While the little group at the station anxiously waited for signs of the flickering life they hoped might remain, the injured man awoke from his stupor, pulled himself together, yawned, then stretched and grunted as if with sheer disgust.

"Wazzzer mazzzer?" I can walk all right—walk a rail, if necessary." Whereas he arose and did walk out of the station, as if he thought that nothing had happened. Before he disappeared in the darkness they asked his name, and the laconic answer, comparatively sober now, came back: "Shally Burkes."

Digs His Own Grave.

Paris, France.—An unusual method of committing suicide has been adopted by an architect at Lyons. He had been missed from his office in the city for ten days, but it was supposed that he was spending a holiday at his place in the country near to Tour de Salvagny.

Here his body has just been discovered. He had apparently dug the pit where it was found, and settled himself down at the bottom, and had then blown out his brains. A note in the architect's handwriting was lying among the loose earth requesting that the body might be buried in the grave which he had dug.

Suspended by Finger Ring.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Mrs. Laura Scales of Long Beach was the victim of a peculiar misadventure. While standing on a chair placing a jar of fruit on a high shelf she lost her footing. As she fell a gold band ring on her finger caught on a projecting nail in the wall, and for several minutes her entire weight hung on the finger. It was nearly cut off by the encircling ring before she got free, and she still suffers intensely.

A jeweler had to be sent for to saw off the ring. The flesh was torn loose, and the tendons inside of her hand.

DEATHS IN THE ARMY

TUBERCULOSIS LEADING CAUSE WITH TYPHOID NEXT.

Facts Gleaned from Annual Report of Surgeon General O'Reilly—Effect of Abolition of the Can-teen.

Washington.—Interesting information regarding the health of the army last year is contained in the annual report of Surgeon General O'Reilly. The total number of admissions to sick registers was 72,071, equal to an admission rate of 1,278.83 compared with 1,205.07 for the previous year and 1,831.11 for the septennial period 1898 to 1904.

There were 358 deaths from all causes, equivalent to a rate of 6.11 per 1,000 of strength, compared with 6.28 and 14.92 per 1,000, the corresponding rates for the previous year and the period from 1898 to 1904, respectively. The death rate for disease, 3.25, is the lowest attained since, the occupation of tropical countries, and compares favorably with the rates prior to 1895.

For disability there were 1,523 men discharged, equal to a rate of 25 per 1,000 of strength, compared with 25 per 1,000 for the preceding year and 22.81 for the septennial period 1898 to 1904.

The constantly non-effective rate of 49.79 for the year was a slight increase compared with 48.01, the non-effective rate for the preceding year. As a cause of death tuberculosis again led, with a rate of 0.77 per 1,000, compared with 0.68, the corresponding rate for 1906. Typhoid fever was second, pneumonia, with a death rate of 0.24 showed a decided improvement. The mortality rate for diarrheal diseases was not quite half as great as for 1906.

There were 229 admissions for gunshot wounds, with 65 deaths, and 2,653 admissions for wounds other than gunshot, with 12 deaths. Twenty-one enlisted men were killed in action and 78 wounded, of whom 5 died as a result of their wounds, and 1 committed suicide. Of the killed 16 were by gunshot and 5 by bolo. There were 38 deaths from drowning, 106 per cent of the total deaths from all causes, a slight increase compared with the proportion of last year.

Thirty-nine suicides and 9 homicides were recorded during the year, compared with 31 and 29, respectively, the corresponding figures for 1906. There were 3 admissions for snake bite in the year 1906, with no fatal result.

Alaska as usual had the lowest admission and constantly non-effective rates, and next to Cuba, the lowest discharge and total loss rates. The discharge, death, total loss and next to Alaska, the constant non-effective rates were lower in Cuba than any other country where American troops were serving.

The United States proper had the highest discharge rate, but next to Cuba, the lowest death rate, and the lowest death rate for disease which has been heretofore recorded.

The Philippine islands had as usual the highest admission, death and constantly non-effective rates, and all the rates were a little higher than for 1906.

The rates for Hawaii were not as good as for last year. The admission rate was highest in the field artillery and lowest in the hospital corps, while the death rate was highest in the infantry and lowest in the engineers.

The high admission rate of 20.22 per 1,000 men recorded in 1905 for all soldiers was increased to 22.27 in 1906. Gen. O'Reilly says that his office concurs in the opinion expressed by most medical officers of the army, that the abolition of the sale of beer in post exchanges has as much to do with the increase of diarrheal diseases and alcoholism in the army as driving the soldiers to discountable resorts outside of the post and beyond the control of the post authorities.

As usual, all rates for colored troops, except the death rate, were considerably lower than those for white soldiers. All the rates for colored troops, except the non-effective figure, were much lower than those for the previous year.

Shocked to Death on Fence.

Groenoburg, Pa.—Two men were killed and two others seriously injured here as a result of a severe storm. The dead are Jesse Weaver and Louis W. Long, both of Arona, Pa. The men were on their way home from work and had occasion to cross a field and go through a barbed wire fence. Lightning struck a heavy feed wire of the West Pennsylvania Railway company, splitting the cable and causing one end of it to drop on the fence, giving the wire a high voltage. Weaver and Long were instantly killed when they touched the fence, and Richard Smith and Henry Long, who were in the rear, received terrible shocks.

A Girl Deputy Ties Knot.

Beaver, Pa.—Miss Edith Pierce, who serves as deputy for her father, Clerk of Courts George M. Pierce, Monday officiated at the marriage of Miss Sofie Herbert and Peter Mueller, both of Ambridge. Miss Pierce knew her father was busy with a murder case in criminal court, so when Mueller asked if they could be married she promptly replied: "Why, certainly," and proceeded to tie the knot, which she did without a tremor. The bride was aged 32 and the groom 24.

CARRY THEIR CALL BOXES.

Police of Ludlow, Mass., Have Small Change to Lost.

Ludlow, Mass.—The Ludlow town fathers have established a remarkable system of police call boxes, reversing the custom prevailing in large cities instead of going to a box and opening it with a key—the ordinary procedure—the patrolmen carry the boxes under their arms and visit a series of stations which consist of an iron pole to which a key is attached by a chain.

The boxes are opened with the key which registers on a small time clock within the box the hour at which the key was used. The boxes or time clocks are cumbersome, but the police men find the trouble to which they are subjected more galling than the personal discomfort involved.

Each station or pole must be visited once in two hours and the stations are so situated that the patrolmen find it wouled their entire time to make the connections with the key, which are necessary for the time clock impression.

The remarkable device, which was sanctioned at a recent town meeting, is said to have been designed by wily individuals solely to fit the case of Patrolman Hall E. Storer, who, by sides drawing a policeman's full salary as a tax collector, justice of the peace, sealer of weights and measures, deputy sheriff, surveyor of lumber, pound keeper, fish warden and fence viewer, and in addition modestly acknowledged holding a few other town offices of lesser importance.

Jealous critics of Mr. Storer have been unable to comprehend how he could earn so many salaries in a 24 hour day, and in the interest of efficiency, asked the town to make an appropriation for purchasing the necessary equipment.

Storer's game, and instead of resigning has bought himself an electric searchlight to assist in finding the key stations on dark nights.

IN PRAISE OF BASEBALL.

Pennsylvania Minister Compares It With Christian Life.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The Rev. Dr. S. Edward Young, pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, preached a base-ball sermon to a big congregation on Sunday evening recently. For several days the sermon had been advertised extensively by illustrations of a pitcher clutching a ball ready to curve it.

"St. Paul," he said, "watched the great Olympic games and wrote of them. He was enthralled with the games and were he alive would not only be a true roofer, but he could give points to the editors of the sporting pages of the papers to-day.

Our nearest approach to the old Olympic games is baseball. Baseball is the game of 50,000,000 Americans. It was played by the federal and confederate soldiers during the civil war and carried by them to every hamlet of the United States. It is played on a thousand fields and the game is admired by thousands of people.

Of all the sports baseball is freest from cowardness and gambling, from rowdiness and draftiness. Baseball gives you the true idea of life. Christian life is a contest. Opposition, cheerfulness, dash and victory thrill through it. Some are spiritual some lose heart and head man, but the rules and the spirit of the game of Christian living is good, tough work. A baseball man wins out not by the spectacular performance of one brilliant player or so much as by the combined standing and the sacrificing of one player to another."

Big Bears Halt Trains.

Allentown, Pa.—Major General Hays has been seen in the North Mountain section during the last month and his concern for the Lehigh Valley's Bloomsburg branch trains have had the pleasure of gazing at several of the animals. In each instance only the excessive footing of the engine which frightened them off the rail road tracks.

The other afternoon, while a passenger train was bound for Wilkes-Barre, Engineer Miller noticed a monstrous black bear on the track ahead of the engine. He blew the whistle and rang the bell, until finally the monster Bruin ambled slowly from the track, clambered up the steep bank and made his way into a nearby apple orchard. Engineer Miller claims that the bear was the largest he ever saw, and must have weighed about 500 pounds.

He's Very Much Alive.

Burlington, Vt.—"Dead" Jim the liveliest dead man you ever saw" said Merritt Firing, an ice cream dealer, when friends called to inquire of his family particulars of his reported death in the river. News spread rapidly that the young man had been found drowned by a party of fishermen and his body taken to the morgue. Relatives rushed there to claim it, while acquaintances hurried to his home to offer condolences to the supposedly stricken family. Firing believes the rumor was started by jokers with a poor sense of humor.

Wire Burns Mother and Girl.

Berwick, Pa.—Going down cellar at her home here, Miss Isaac Vought touched a fallen live electric light wire, screamed and fell to the floor, unconscious.

Her daughter, Florence, rushed down to her aid, and she, too, touched the wire and fell, but quickly recovered.

Then Mr. Vought ran down cellar and managed to release and revive his wife, who still clutched the wire and was shockingly burned.