

KERMIT ROOSEVELT



Son of the president who will accompany the latter on his hunting trip to Africa on the expiration of his term of office.

SECRECY OVER SHIP

BIG SEA FIGHTER TO BE BUILT AT NEW YORK NAVY YARD.

Order Forbids Men Telling Anything About New 20,000-Ton Vessel—Keel to Be Laid Within a Few Weeks.

New York.—In an order which is one of the most sweeping ever issued at the New York navy yard all officers and men employed in the construction of the new 20,000-ton battleship, whose keel will be laid within a few weeks, are forbidden to give out any information whatsoever to the newspapers or the public.

Rear Admiral Caspar F. Goodrich, commandant of the yard, in Washington, and it is believed that the order had its origin there. One officer did venture the information that the contents of the document would probably be made public within a few days.

William J. Baxter, naval constructor, who will have charge of the building of the ship, refused to talk about anything connected with his department.

"I am shut up tighter than a clam," he said. "Under this order we cannot give out any information. I cannot tell you when the keel of the new vessel is to be laid. The order won't let me say how many men are to be taken on or laid off."

All other officers connected with the department of construction and repair were as reticent as their chief. At the office of the labor board in the yard it was found that the order had produced an effect similar to that in the department of construction and repair.

While some of the officers and men are of the opinion that the desire of the navy department is to prevent foreign nations from learning of the improvements in the battleship, others see in it the result of the struggle that has been going on between the officers favoring the consolidation of the various departments of the yard and the anti-consolidationists.

The workmen at the yard are opposed to consolidation and many officers are in sympathy with them. For under the new order of things it will be practically impossible for a workman to obtain promotion except by a competitive examination.

ONCE WIVES, NOW CRADLES. Newspaper Advertising Changes Demanded in Wyoming Town.

Grey Bull, Wyo.—This town of 200 inhabitants, which won fame a year ago by advertising through the Grey Bull Commercial club for wives, is now claiming especial commendation from President Roosevelt.

Grey Bull a little over a year ago was an Erebus Eden, and the young men were dissatisfied. They were tired of man-made Sapphires and coffee the year round, and of horse blankets beds. They wanted wives. Advertisements in the big eastern newspapers brought something like 10,000 offers to the head of 180 husky young wachers. Soon there was not a bachelor within 100 miles of Grey Bull.

Now the town of Grey Bull again asks for recognition, for during the last year 60 babies have been born into 50 families. In 1910 Grey Bull expects to astonish the census takers.

Women Off the Streets. Stouchsburg, Pa.—Pally 200 of the 300 people of this town joined the other day in a street sprinkling crusade. Scores of women and children turned out with garden sprinklers, and these were used to sprinkle the streets with oil. By subscription seven barrels of oil were bought, and all of it was sprinkled on the streets to keep down the dust that has become so troublesome since automobiles are constantly passing through the town.

MEXICO'S INLAND WATERWAY.

Canal 104 Miles Long Between Tampico and Tuxpam Built by an American.

Tuxpam, Mex.—The Mexican government is building an inland waterway 104 miles long to connect the ports of Tampico and Tuxpam. It is now about one-half finished and will cost about \$5,000,000 Mexican money, which is equivalent to \$2,500,000 gold.

It is 75 feet wide and has a uniform depth of 10 1/2 feet. The first division of 66 miles is now practically finished and is open for traffic. It is expected that the waterway will be opened all the way through for small boats within two years.

This waterway runs within two to five miles of the gulf along its whole length. Its construction grew out of the fact that there are frequently days at a time when small boats engaged in coastwise trade are unable to weather the rough water of the gulf and that there is insufficient water over the bar at the mouth of the Tuxpam river at times to enable the boats to reach the harbor at Tuxpam.

Another great incentive that led to the building of the canal was that it would be the means of developing a broad agricultural region that has heretofore been badly lacking in transportation facilities for its various products.

The Tampico-Tuxpam canal follows the route of an inland waterway which has been in use for more than three-quarters of a century. Capt. Charles Shillaber of Chicago is constructing the canal for the Mexican government on a percentage basis. He had made a comfortable fortune, had just reached his sixtieth year and had planned to spend the remainder of his life in comfort and enjoyment. Changing to visit Mexico on a pleasure trip he conceived the possibilities of improving the old waterway, brought the matter to the attention of the government and undertook to do the work.

TOO MUCH MUD IN OMAHA. Citizens Imbued 11,315 Tons of Sediment in a Year.

Omaha, Neb.—Omaha people have been drinking 31 tons of mud every day, according to the testimony of the city chemist, given in a suit wherein the city is protesting the bills of the Omaha Water company because of the impure water furnished. During the year Omaha people drank 11,315 tons of sediment, the chemist said.

The Omaha water supply is taken from the Missouri river, the muddiest stream in the country. Although alum is used in settling the water, and five different settling basins are contained in the battery of reservoirs, yet the water as it comes from the mains is murky. The water commissioners are refusing payment of the water bills for the last four years.

WED BY SIGN LANGUAGE. Unique Marriage Ceremony is Performed in Iowa.

Fertile, Ia.—A unique wedding ceremony occurred here in the marriage of Miss Purdy Smith to Frank Thompson, O. J. Ojerlund officiating, which was solemnized by use of the deaf-mute language. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, prominent residents here, is a graduate of the deaf-mute school at Council Bluffs, and a most talented and charming young woman. The groom is a resident of Owatona, Minn., is a printer by trade, and secured his education at Faribault, Minn., in an institution for mutes of that state. The officiating clergyman is also a mute. The young people will reside in Owatona.

Cannon's Face in Clouds. Philadelphia.—A dark gray cloud in the southwestern sky at twilight the other evening was viewed by hundreds of persons along Lehigh avenue. It resembled in outline a colossal profile of a man, and was a striking likeness of "Uncle Joe" Cannon, even to his perpetual smile. It stood out boldly in the pink sky, but gradually faded.

DR. COOK IS ALIVE

WIFE OF LOST EXPLORER RECEIVES LETTER FROM HIM.

Brooklyn Man Expected to Make Dash for North Pole Overland with Sledges and Dogs in January, 1908.

New York.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn, an explorer, who is trying to reach the north pole by a new route through Nansen Strait and whose friends were fearful that he had met disaster in the frozen north, has been heard from.

A letter written last December by the explorer was received the other day by his wife, who is living in Brooklyn, stating that he hoped to start for the goal in January. No word had been received from Dr. Cook since last October, and his friends announced recently that an effort would be made to send a ship to find him. The letter received was written at Comanul, Woesenholme Sound.

Dr. Cook says: "I have this opportunity to send a letter to Upernavik by Rasmussen during this moon and I must hasten to report our progress to the present."

"I have a hundred dogs and as many more as I desire, with 15 of the best of the tribe assembled here for the attack over the new route across Ellesmere Land, out by way of Nansen Sound and back by Kennedy Channel, thus using to good advantage the drift and musk-oxen so abundant in Ellesmere Land. All of my equipment is ready and we hope to start for the goal late in January. With men and dogs well fed and under normal conditions, like my predecessors, I feel confident, as our equipment means perfection. When we return we will push southward at once to Cape York and Upernavik."

Dr. Cook, accompanied by John R. Bradley and several Eskimos, left North Sydney, Nova Scotia, early in July, 1907, on the American auxiliary schooner yacht John R. Bradley, which landed the party at Smith's Sound. The expedition was provisioned for two years, and was equipped with dogs and sledges.

The party wintered about 30 miles further north than Commander Robert E. Peary did two years ago.

MEN IN TRAP COSTS \$100.

Stark Bitter Neighborhood Feud in Grangeville County, Idaho.

Grangeville, Idaho.—One bustling, hungry hen, owned by H. D. White, which was caught in C. R. Lewis' steel trap last spring, has already cost Mr. Lewis over \$100, and a neighborhood row of such proportions has grown up that it is probable that further costs will pile up.

White had Lewis arrested last spring on a charge of stealing chickens, and the jury assessed Mr. Lewis one dollar and costs. Lewis retaliated recently and had White arrested on a complaint that White's chicken had damaged Lewis' garden at least eight dollars' worth. White responded with a cross-complaint claiming eight dollars damage for chickens which he alleges Lewis stole from him. The jury found a verdict in favor of White and assessed damages at 25 cents, but Lewis must pay the costs of the case, which, coupled with the costs of the former trial, bring the total up to \$100. The trial was bitterly fought and interesting testimony regarding the neighborhood feud was brought out by the attorneys. Whether both men are satisfied remains to be seen, but relations are so strained that it is probable that the chicken quarrel will remain a live one.

KILLS 500 RATS IN A DAY.

Army Transport Being Cleared of Rodents by a Professional.

Newport News, Va.—Wm. H. Heltler of New York has been employed by the federal government to exterminate the rats that infest the United States army transports Meade, Sumner and Lagalla, which are now anchored in this harbor. Heltler and his assistant arrived here and immediately began their work. The transports are not in commission, and since they have been moored at Finch's pier, in the James river, they have been overrun with rats and many thousands of dollars' worth of material and government supplies have been destroyed. Several efforts have been made by the officers to exterminate the rodents.

Heltler's first day's work has resulted in the extermination of more than 500 of the rodents. He is using specially prepared traps in connection with poisonous gases to drive the animals from their hiding places. The rats in these transports are not bubonic plague rats, nor have they been suspected of carrying diseases. They are the ordinary dock rats.

Woodchuck Brings Luck. Pontiac, Mich.—Chasing a woodchuck under a barn, a man on the farm of Judson Furman, near Wikom, brought to light \$100 worth of burglars' plunder, jewelry and other articles.

The plunder is about half of that taken from general stores in Wikom and Milford in May. The farm hand started to dig in the hay in a barn about half a mile back on the Furman place to uncover the woodchuck, when he brought a satchel to light. He at once called the county officers. The woodchuck got away.

WOULD SAVE MEN FROM WOMEN.

Georgia Legislator Has Bill to Safeguard Against Allurements.

Atlanta, Ga.—Woman's most cherished aids to self-beautification are threatened by a bill which has just been introduced in the state legislature by George Glenn, representative for Whitefield county, who seeks to throw around man all the safeguards possible against the allurements of women.

His bill, if passed, will prevent the disillusionment so common after marriage when the husband discovers that half of his wife's hair is a rat, her form made lovelier by the deft use of pads, and her complexion enriched by the use of paint and powder.

So long as a woman chooses to remain single she will, under the Glenn bill, have a right to use all the aids to beauty she desires and to exert her blandishments upon the more susceptible sex at will.

If she wants to get married, however, she must appear as she really is. For the measure provides that should a woman entrap a man into marriage through the use of paints, powder, cosmetics, artificial teeth, paddings, drop-stitched hose, high-heeled shoes, corsets, V-cut waists, lingerie or peek-a-boo waists, the marriage will be declared null and void.

The bill was referred by the speaker to the committee on ways and means, where it will receive careful consideration. It is understood that pressure is being brought to bear upon the members by their wives to amend the measure considerably.

SPENT INCOME IN A HURRY.

Then Woman Went to Bed Till the Next Payment Came.

Philadelphia.—Although Marian R. Dyott's eccentricities included staying in bed two weeks at a time and doing other singular things, Judge Martin decided in court that her mental condition did not warrant the appointment of a guardian of her estate at once, although he did not dismiss the petition of her brother, Charles G. Dyott.

Miss Dyott, who is 48 years old, has an income of \$4,000 a year, \$2,500 of which is derived from a trust in Baltimore and the rest from Philadelphia properties. Her brother asked the court for the appointment of a guardian because of her extravagance and the unpleasant notoriety it occasioned. He testified that she frequently squandered all her income in a few days after getting it, and then when she could not borrow, she would stay in bed till the next payment.

One of Miss Dyott's eccentricities was to run big milliners' bills. Mrs. Gould, her companion for five years, informed the court that she bought at one time 22 shirtwaists and distributed them among her friends. Another of her oddities was to buy a dozen theater tickets and invite strangers to join her in a theater party. Her milliner and a barber figured in one of these theater parties.

BABY BLOCKS CUPID.

Bridegroom is Robbed, Beaten and Misses Wedding.

Detroit, Mich.—While on the way to Rochester, N. Y., to marry, Charles St. Clair of Grand Rapids obligingly took a baby from a woman in a depot to hold for a few minutes. Then an accomplice of the woman ran away with his two grips, containing \$80 and his wedding clothes. St. Charles dropped the child, chased the robber down several dark streets, but lost the trail. He picked it up again at Ferry dock, tracked the thief to the Windsor depot, and caught up with him at Walkerville.

The bridegroom-to-be followed the robber into a blind alley, where three confederates and the pursued man attacked St. Charles, beat him, and stole all his clothes except his trousers and underwear.

The wedding was deferred, but St. Charles is not discouraged, and will try again as soon as his face is healed and he gets a new suit.

OWL GOUGES A MAN'S EYE.

But First It Tears at His Hair with Sharp Talons.

Pottstown, Pa.—David Bergery, a farmer near Parkersford, had a terrific battle the other night with a huge owl, that suddenly swooped down on his head while he was working in the orchard. It fastened its sharp talons in Bergery's hair, and, giving vent to its anger in weird hoots, plunged its beak into his clothes. Bergery tried to protect his face and pulled big chunks of feathers from the owl in his attempts to dislodge it. Loosening its hold on his head, the bird sank one of its talons in Bergery's eye and almost pulled it from its socket. It then flew off, while Bergery, in awful agony, summoned a physician, who has little hope of saving the sight of the lacerated eye.

See Hive in Locomotive.

Altoona, Pa.—Bees are swarming in the smokestacks of the idle locomotives and whippoorwill are nesting under the stored cars belonging to the Pennsylvania railroad near the Juniata shops. Thus the hard times are not without an odd feature now and then.

An immense swarm of bees took possession of a smokeless smokestack and got busy preparing for a long stay. When a workman discovered them he brought a hive and took them home.

FIND OUTLAW CACHE

DISCOVERY RECALLS BANDIT'S RAID TEN YEARS AGO.

Subsequent Attempt to Capture Robbers Resulted in Killing of Four Men—Loot Found in an Old Tree.

Breckenridge, Col.—Part of the loot obtained by the Bud Ryan band of outlaws in the daring robbery of the Denver hotel clubroom ten years ago has been strangely recovered. In the subsequent attempted capture of the raiders, two of the bandits and two of the pursuing officers met death.

The robbers' cache has just been found near the summit of Jaque Mountain, in the vicinity of Kokomo, by the children of John Carson. They were at play when they discovered a bird's nest in a hollow in an old rotten tree, and in removing this found two gold watches.

They reported their discovery to their father, who in turn notified the sheriff, and two of the men who were victims of the hold-up went to the scene. The other afternoon they returned to the city with a valuable diamond stud, which was included in the loot, and are now making preparations to make a thorough search of the mountain in an effort to recover the other stolen property.

Aside from the two timepieces and the diamond stud, which were found the other day, the bandits got a \$500 solid gold repeating watch and several hundred dollars in cash. It is believed this is hidden in the same vicinity.

The robbery of the hotel club room was the most daring in the history of Summit county. Four masked men entered the place shortly after dark and lined up the proprietor, employees and patrons against the wall, and while two kept their victims covered the other two went through their pockets and then took the contents of the cash drawer and safe.

They left, warning the occupants of the place not to attempt to follow them and walked slowly down the railroad tracks toward Kokomo. The men were heavily armed and were known to be desperate. For this reason no attempt was made to overtake them, although officers followed at a distance and saw them enter a cabin opposite the cemetery and a mile below Kokomo.

A guard was maintained all night, and the next morning Deputy Sheriff Ernest Conrad and Sumner Whitney dropped into the place, supposedly on a friendly visit. In the cabin were Bud Ryan, leader of the gang, and Dick Bryan and Dick Manley, confederates. They were well known to the officers and the officers did not suspect them of the crime at first, and talked of topics of general interest. Finally the conversation drifted to a blanket which lay in a heap in a corner of the room and which, as the deputies believed, covered the loot.

Conrad attempted to examine the blanket, but was pushed away in a joking way. At last he said: "Well, boys, we must see what is under that blanket."

Like a flash Ryan drew a revolver and, before the officers could get out their weapons, Conrad had been shot through the heart and killed. Whitney opened fire on the trio and for several minutes shots were exchanged. Bryan was the first to drop and then Whitney fell, mortally wounded. However, he continued to fire at Bryan and the latter returned the shots until he received a fatal wound.

Both of the wounded men lingered for several days, until death put an end to their sufferings. Each made an ante-mortem statement, that of Whitney resulting in the conviction of Bud Ryan to life imprisonment.

After killing Conrad, Ryan grabbed the lot and escaped. He was captured in Seattle, Wash., several years later and was sent to the Colorado penitentiary for 99 years. He refused to tell what he had done with the stolen property, and it was supposed by the local authorities that he took it with him and had long since turned it into cash.

It is thought that possibly other property may be hidden about the mountain which the bandits made their rendezvous, and it will be thoroughly scoured.

The Ryan gang was known throughout the state as made up of bad men, and it is charged, had records in every county in Colorado. Following the battle at Kokomo it was discovered that the gang had killed two men at Cripple Creek.

Find Two Interesting Relics.

Paris.—Two interesting scarabs were recently unearthed in Burastis, in lower Egypt, one of which is now lodged in a museum in Paris, the other in the Royal museum in Brussels. They are inscribed with the particulars of the voyage of an envoy of King Necho II. in 599 B. C., in exploration of the coasts of Africa. The envoy managed to effect a complete circle of the continent, arriving at the Red sea.

Roosevelt Hires Big Hunter.

London.—The Scotsman states that President Roosevelt has asked F. C. Selous, the greatest hunter of big game in the world, to make preliminary arrangements for a hunting trip in Africa and a fishing trip in British East Africa. The caravan will be organized at Mombasa. The trip probably will last eight months. Mr. Roosevelt is visiting England on his return.

SAVES REMARKABLE CAVE.

Extract Quoted from Report of Survey by Government.

Washington.—The president recently signed a proclamation creating Jewel Cave national monument, with the Black Hills national forest, South Dakota. This remarkable cave, miles west and south of Custer, in Custer county, in limestone formation, is believed by geologists to be an extinct geyser channel.

The national monument will embrace an area of 1,280 acres. The cave, which, says Science, was explored as late as 1900, has been found to consist of a series of chambers connected by narrow passages with numerous galleries, the walls of which are encrusted with a magnificent layer of calcite crystal. The opening of the cave is situated in Hell canyon the walls of which are high and precipitous.

The surface of the country in which the cave is located consists of a big rolling limestone plateau about 6.0 feet above sea level. The area is most covered by a forest of bull pine, a considerable portion of which is merchantable, while the remainder consists of a vigorous young growth.

The Jewel cave national monument will now be given permanent protection by virtue of the act of June 1906, which provides that objects of scientific interest may be declared national monuments if such action deemed necessary for their preservation and protection.

MOTEL WITH A HISTORY SOLD.

In It Was Laid the Foundation of Vanderbilt Millions.

New Brunswick.—At a bankrupt sale of the property of Capt. Jam Hughes, in this city, Judge T. Roosa sold at auction, among other properties, the old Bellonia hotel, 1 Burnet street. This is the hotel Commodore Vanderbilt laid the foundation for his wealth. The hotel was purchased by Thomas H. Hagerty, lawyer, for \$15. Against it stand tax of \$15.66, and Mrs. Hughes has a claim therein.

When New Brunswick was a town of boat and stage travel, the hotel was kept by Skipper Cornelius Vanderbril, later "commodore" and owner of the roads. His wife kept clean and the house, and attended to the boarders during the day, while her husband ran his "perryrauger"—a stooop with a bowsprit—to New York.

Vanderbilt yearned for a steamed and when an opportunity to buy it was presented, and he lacked the money, his wife, according to a story by Flak, a great friend of the Vanderbrils used to tell, surprised him with a considerable sum which she had known to him, saved by economy management of the hotel. With it and other funds, Vanderbril obtained control of the Union line to New York. With this ship line he laid the basis of his great fortune.

HAM AND EGGS FOR LIFE.

Michigan Farmer Leaves Queer Will Providing for Widow.

Detroit, Mich.—One of the most peculiar wills ever recorded in Wayne county was filed in the probate court in the last testament of Louis Schriber, because it leaves to a daughter and son-in-law, Rose and James G. Ten, a farm on certain unique conditions.

Each week the Gladders must deliver to Mrs. Schroeder two dozen eggs, no matter what the season, the disposition of the hens. Part and a "warm barn" for a cow is applied, and all the firewood Mrs. Schriber may need.

On the first day of December, each year a pig weighing not less than 150 pounds must be turned over to widow, and if the pig is held until member and found to be one-ounce of the required weight the Gladders are in danger of losing their farm.

Fifty dollars a year cash and "red flour" given to Mrs. Schroeder are conditions to give the Gladders possession of the farm.

URGES MUZZLES FOR CATS.

Cincinnati Councilman Introduces Draconic Ordinance Against Cats.

Cincinnati.—Councilman "B" O'Brien proposes to push through "anti-cat bill" which he has introduced in the city council.

The bill provides for a license of a cat, and requires that the person king out the license must give name, sex, breed, color and disposition of tabby, whether that disposition be gentle or vicious.

There is also a clause which all the mayor, at stated times, to issue a proclamation prohibiting cats from being at large unless muzzled or tacked to a chain and in charge of owner or some one authorized by owner to have the cat in the street. It is believed the bill will receive favorable action.

Sun-and-Sawdust Chick.

York, Pa.—Leander Bernhart, Yoe, this county, thinks he has found a substitute for the incubator, says he has evidence that the sun does the work.

While in his barnyard he was surprised to hear a peeping from pile of sawdust, and to see three chickens issue forth. He raked over pile and found three empty eggshells. He thinks that the eggs were a dantly covered over and that the sun of the last few weeks hatched them out.