

NEW MISTRESS OF THE WHITE HOUSE



Mrs. William H. Taft, wife of the president-elect of the United States.

FINDS COSTLY GEM

OMAHA MAN \$40,000 AHEAD AS RESULT OF CHILD'S PLAY.

Stone Discovered in Gravel Pit is Chipped by Youngsters and is Analysis Proves to Be a Valuable Diamond.

Omaha, Neb.—Carrying a diamond valued at \$40,000 loosely in his overcoat pocket together with his pipe, tobacco, gloves and a few other things which are apt to find their way into a outside pocket, W. Ahern, formerly of Sioux City, Ia., later of Denver, Col., but now living in Omaha, has found that he is a rich man and that the pebble which he had "come with in an ace" of throwing to a dog is worth a small fortune.

And the best part of the story is that Mr. Ahern stumbled into the diamond, which was in the rough, in a gravel pit and that his little daughter was the first to cause the suspicion that the stone had value.

Mr. Ahern found the diamond in a gravel pit near Denver, Col., six weeks ago. He did not know at that time that it was a diamond, never even thought that it was worth the picking up, but because the stone, having the appearance of melted glass, looked different from the others around it, he picked it up and thrust it in his pocket. He carried it there for some days and one day placed it among the children's marbles.

It was not as round as a marble, and the little girl thought to break off the rough edges and make it more cylindrical. There was a flaw in the stone and a few taps with a tack hammer broke off a silver. The child was startled at the brilliancy of the freshly broken stone and when her father returned his attention was called to it. The children played no more with the stone after that and in a few days the family moved to Omaha. When they arrived here Mr. Ahern sent the stone to Chicago for examination. And from Chicago comes the information that the stone which Mr. Ahern found in a gravel pit is worth all of \$40,000. The large stone will be sold to some monarch of Europe for a crown jewel. Mr. Ahern says, but the chip which his little daughter split off will be cut and set into three rings, one for Mr. Ahern, one for the little girl and one for the mayor of Omaha.

Tack Made This Hog Sick. Greensburg, Pa.—An investigation by Veterinary Surgeon S. E. Bruner proved that the anxiety of the people residing at Grapeville over the supposed discovery of an outcropping of the new foot and mouth disease of cattle is unfounded.

It was found that the hog owned by E. J. Bricker, which died, had swallowed a tack, nail or other sharp, hard substance, which tore the throat and caused a hemorrhage.

Undress and Dress in Race. New York—Company F, Twenty-second regiment, has originated a new foot race. It is called the "Salome," and was given first at an athletic meet in the regiment's armory. The contestants stopped at a designated point and removed their hats, then continued and later at intervals took off their coats, shoes and leggings, then returned, dressing themselves and crossing the finish mark fully attired.

EGGS PRESERVED IN WAX.

Novel Process by Which They Keep All Their Original Freshness.

London.—By a novel process of preserving eggs six months old are made to retain their "new laid" freshness. The process has been adopted by a firm of Hull importers acting on the theory that an egg decomposes owing to the entrance of bacteria through the shell.

The shells by the new process are first disinfected and then immersed in a vessel of hot paraffin wax in a vacuum. The air in the shell is extracted by the vacuum, and atmospheric pressure is then allowed to enter the vessel, when the hot wax is forced into the pores, of the shell, which thus hermetically seals it.

Evaporation of the contents of the egg, which has a harmful effect, is thereby prevented, and the egg is practically sterile.

Some "new laid" eggs treated in this manner six months ago have been submitted to chemical and microscopic examination and have been found equal to new laid eggs in every respect.

The inside of the shell showed under careful examination that the wax penetrates through the "pores," the contents being thus quite immune from external influences.

The advantage of the process is that the eggs will fetch \$12 for 1,400 more than those preserved in lime water or by water glass, and \$8 more than those kept in cold storage. Thousands of tons of eggs are preserved every year in this country by various processes, but the quality of the six months old "new laid" eggs is such that the present amount may be greatly increased.

PASTOR TELLS GIRLS TO PAINT.

Clergyman Advocates Powder, Etc., for Those Lacking in Beauty.

St. Louis.—Young women of the First Methodist Episcopal church may now use the powder puff, likewise the paint brush and the brow pencil, without any compunctions of conscience. Their pastor, Rev. Philip C. Fletcher, says it is all right.

Lecturing on "Love, Courtship and Marriage," he told them the other night that beauty was a duty and that if they had not been born that way it was incumbent on them to powder and paint and pencil themselves beautiful.

"If I were a young woman I would try to be winsome," he said. "Beauty is a duty. Young women ought to strive to appear to the very best advantage, mentally, physically and morally. If by the use of the powder puff, the paint brush and the brow pencil you can make yourself more winsome, you have my consent to use them freely.

It is all right to supplement the works of God. To be ugly in an age like this is but little short of a sin against God and self."

Would Raise Taft's Pay.

Washington.—Senator Bourne would like to see President Taft draw a salary from the fourth of March to the close of his administration. The senator has introduced a bill providing for an increase in the salary of the president of the United States from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and the salary of the vice-president from \$12,000 to \$25,000. The bill is intended to take effect at the beginning of the next administration.

MACHINES TO KNEAD BREAD.

In Common Use in France—1,000 Pounds Kneaded at a Time.

Washington.—The American consul at Lyons, France, reports that during September there was an exhibition of mechanical bread kneaders in that city at which 35 mechanical devices were exhibited for kneading bread by power.

Three were German inventions; all the others were French. The prices varied from 500 francs (\$96.60) to 4,000 francs (\$772). Most of them are by steam or electricity, but all may be worked by hand or gas or petroleum engines.

These machines will knead from 300 to 1,000 pounds of bread in an hour or less time, and they will knead from one pound of bread up to 500 pounds. They are used in nearly every bakery in France, and the old style of kneading by hand is nearly out of use.

The troughs in which the dough is kneaded in these machines are generally about four feet in diameter. When the work of kneading is in progress the trough turns round slowly, and the dough is turned over by a system of metallic claws which lift it up, throw it over and give it a thorough turning as completely as could be done by hand. By this system every part of the dough is thoroughly kneaded.

It is said that the bread made by this system is better than the article made by the old method. A mechanical bread kneader employed in France some twenty-five years ago became very unpopular, but upon investigation the cause of the unpopularity was found to be in the poor quality of flour used. It is now considered beyond dispute that the mechanical bread kneader produces better bread; that it is healthier than the bread made by the old methods.

WILL CARE FOR LEPERS.

Philadelphia Nun Leaves Hospital for Heroic Task.

Philadelphia.—Fulfilling a desire which has long occupied her mind, Sister Marcella, for many years head nurse in the accident department of St. Joseph's hospital, has left that institution to devote the rest of her life to the unfortunate lepers, who have been gathered together at New Orleans.

Sister Marcella goes first to the mother nurse of the Sisters of Charity at Emmitsburg, Md. Under their auspices a leper colony has been established at New Orleans, and Sister Marcella, volunteering for a vacancy caused by the death of one of the sisters, was selected for the heroic work by Mother Margaret, superior of the order of the order at Emmitsburg. There are 36 lepers in the home, attended by six Sisters of Charity, headed by the Rev. A. V. Keenana as chaplain. Five years ago Sister Marcella volunteered her services for the leper home, a state institution of Louisiana, but at that time her superiors decided to assign her to hospital work in this city. She has been in the service for 15 years, but is still a young looking woman.

The lepers in the New Orleans colony live in separate tents and are dressed and fed by the sisters, who occupy a separate community house by themselves. The work is dangerous in the highest degree, and means constant contact with the pitiful, outcast creatures. Living with them nearly always terminates in infection and death.

DOG CUSTODIAN OF JEWELS.

Boston Bull Takes Gems to Mistress Every Night.

New York.—Persons at the Plaza were surprised the other day to see a Boston bulldog leave the office in that hotel with a Russian leather jewel case held between his teeth, and followed by a maid, walk on an elevator and enter it. They were more surprised when they learned that the jewel case contained gems worth several thousand dollars, the property of Mrs. Benjamin B. Kirkland of Philadelphia who, with her husband, is staying in the hotel.

Mrs. Kirkland has found that Captain the bulldog, is a faithful messenger, and has entrusted to him each evening the task of going to the office to get the jewels she is to wear at dinner.

Captain came to the Plaza with Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland from the Hotel Ritz, Paris. A Russian leather jewel case is the only article he will carry in his mouth, and while he is the custodian of the jewels he makes no stops on his journey. The maid who accompanies him as a measure of protection seems to be superfluous, because the dog goes directly to the office safe, and having received the case, goes immediately to Mrs. Kirkland's apartment with it.

Dog's Party Talk of Town.

Orange, N. J.—One of the oddest social affairs ever held in the Oranges was given in the Park hotel by Miss Eudora S. Sinclair for her two-year-old Boston terrier, Abraham Lincoln. The party is the talk of the town. A dainty little cake with a single candle was displayed, while the owners of several canines brought gifts of various sorts for the "guest of honor."

The affair was attended from three to five in the afternoon by dogs of every description, among them many bench show winners and others of high degree, all accompanied by their mistresses. The animals frolicked at will about a parlor set aside for their use, while their owners amused themselves in various ways.

"ENERGY MACHINE"

WONDERFUL INVENTION WILL AID WAR ON DISEASE.

Accurately Registers All Forms of Energy in the Human Body—Amount of Food Needed Also Determined.

Boston.—So marvelous have been the results of a wonderful series of experiments which are being carried on in the Carnegie nutrition laboratory on Villa street, Roxbury, to determine mathematically and scientifically the exact amount of energy in any human being, that to-day the entire world of medicine is ready to hail this savant as one of the greatest benefactors of suffering humanity.

The experimenter-in-chief is Prof. Francis Gano Benedict, who, when instructor at Wesleyan university, assisted the late Prof. W. O. Atwater in the construction of his calorimeter and since has elaborated it to a wonderful degree until he has evolved an "energy machine," by means of which, it is claimed, hundreds of diseases hitherto regarded as incurable can be easily prevented.

These marvels of mechanical science register to a degree never before attained not only the human pulse beats, respirations and temperature, but also all forms of energy that are active within the body, whether the patient be awake or asleep.

With one of these machines all guesswork and inaccuracies of diagnosis, to-day deemed inevitable even among the most skilled physicians, is done away with forever. The amount of energy furnished to the human system by a pound of beefsteak, an egg, or vegetable soup can be determined to an absolute figure.

It also is declared that another of the world's problems, that of reducing the cost of human nutrition to the minimum degree, likewise will be solved by these marvelous machines.

In the near future, it is said, it will be possible to give in figures the amount of human energy required to perform any kind of work, the amount and quality of food necessary to sustain the subject's strength during its performance, the possibilities of any person for mental and physical labor, the limitation in the figures of a person's heart, lung or kidney action, and a hundred and one numerical details which hitherto have been possible only in general terms.

Living men are placed in the machines, and there isolated as completely as if they were on another planet; then the manifold, devious chemical processes going on within their bodies are precisely observed and recorded.

By recent experiments with patients taken from different hospitals of the city Prof. Benedict furnished physicians with facts which never before had been known to medical science.

By means of figures obtained from the study of several patients suffering from diabetes, who, it is said, were transferred from the Deaconess hospital in Brookline to the Carnegie nutrition laboratory, it was predicted that the present day treatment of this hitherto considered fatal disease would be likely to undergo a radical change.

Patients afflicted with typhoid soon are to be made subject to experiments with the energy machines, and Boston physicians are eagerly awaiting the results of these observations, expecting them to shed a new light upon this disease.

One of the most interesting machines is the "work" machine. Inside this the subject may carry on his daily work while the energy used in the operation is recorded. Another form not yet completed is devised to hold an entire family—husband, wife and children. In this meter the food consumed by each member of the family and the resulting energy will be noted the experiments being recorded for each individual and for the family as a whole. Usually the man upon whom the experiments are made remains in the chamber at least four days and nights.

Sad Happenings in New Home.

Terre Haute, Ind.—Tragedy is imbedded in the walls of the residence just completed on an Edgar county (Ill.) farm.

Joseph H. Smith began the structure to replace an old one in which he had lived for 20 years. Two weeks ago a carpenter fell from the gable and broke his neck. A week later, just when the building was completed, Smith, worn out with worry over the construction, committed suicide. The next day his widow became insane and fled from the new domicile in the dead of night to the churchyard, where her husband's body is buried. She never regained her reason, was adjudged insane and now is in the Kankakee asylum.

The house, one of the finest in the county, is now without tenants.

Living on Diet of Carrots.

London.—Living on carrots is the latest medical experiment in dietary. For a week the doctors, nursing staff and some of the patients at a hospital at Bromley, Kent, have been eating carrots only, and have thrived on the queer diet. The menu included carrot soup, salted carrots, stuffed carrots and gravy, carrot pudding and custard, roasted carrots, savory carrot jelly, carrot jam, carrot cake, carrots stuffed with spinach, carrot salad and sweet carrot jelly.

LIQUID AIR FOR MINERS.

Austrian Engineer's Device Enables Them to Carry It in Reservoirs.

Washington.—A new method of using liquid air for the safety of miners is described by Joseph I. Brittain, the American consul at Prague. He says:

"At a recent meeting of the Austrian Miners' association an interesting lecture was delivered concerning an invention by Engineer Otto Suss to carry liquid air into the mines. The invention is called 'aerolith,' and is said to supersede all previously existing systems in use. The aerolith is based upon the utilization of liquid air. Until recently liquid air, which could only be produced by expensive and complicated machinery, can now be produced at a moderate cost by machines of small horse power.

"The Suss machine consists of a reservoir in the shape of a knapsack, which is carried on the miner's back. This reservoir is filled with liquid air, three to four quarts being sufficient for two hours. The apparatus is connected by two tubes to a respiratory mask fixed in front of the mouth of the miner, so he may readily inhale the liquid air. The reservoir containing the liquid air has an alarm clock attached to it, which warns the miner when the two hours have elapsed. It is claimed that the invention has produced very good results, and at some of the mines laboratories for the manufacture of liquid air are being erected, in order that the management may always be prepared.

STOCKINGS AT \$210 A PAIR.

A Year's Work for One Man—Price is Not Exorbitant.

Paris.—Stockings that cost \$210 a pair are not an unknown luxury. The price is not exorbitant when the worth of the fabric is taken into consideration, says an authority on dress.

One pair represents the labor of one man for one whole year, and there are few men who know how to produce, by means of the hand loom, a pair of stockings so fine, so accurately woven, and so exquisitely shaped as those for which the sum of \$210 is charged. A hand loom weaver near Paris is the maker of stockings such as these, and more exquisite specimens the world has never seen.

The way in which the \$210 stockings are decorated is by means of a panel of hand-made lace inset from within an inch and a half of the toes to a distance of from 10 to 12 inches above the ankle. Almost the whole of the front of the stockings is, therefore, a field of lace. Every thread of the lace is hand wrought, and the two kinds used for delicate daintiness of this type are needle-point and Chantilly.

The lace is patterned in various devices. One exquisite pair shows a flight of butterflies raised from the background and yet not detached from it, with a billowing of various stitches, all executed by the needle. But some of the most valuable stockings are not even inset with lace. Their merit lies in the fineness of their weaving.

TO BURY TETRAZZINI'S VOICE.

Phonographic Record Will Be Preserved with Others in Paris Vault.

Paris.—A strange ceremony will be enacted in a few weeks in an underground passage of the opera house. Then Mme. Tetrazzini's beautiful voice will be strictly accurate, a phonographic record of it will be buried solemnly to remain undisturbed for 100 years. After three generations have passed to their tombs the record will be taken from their resting place and the voice which has delighted two hemispheres, will sound again for people who, perhaps, may have forgotten even the name of Tetrazzini.

To Alfred Clark, a wealthy American, living in Paris, belongs the credit of this preserving those dulcet notes. Mr. Clark has given to the French government other phonographic records, which were gratefully accepted by the minister of fine arts and the opera house officials. The government has decorated him in token of its appreciation.

Just a year ago Mr. Clark gave phonographic records of the voices of Mmes. Patti, Melba, Schumann-Helfik, Calve and other songstresses; of Caruso, Scotti and Plancon; of Jan Kubelk's violin playing.

Found Fortune in Trunk.

Newark, N. J.—Covered with the cobwebs of many years in a forgotten corner of the garret of the East Orange home of the late John W. Russell has been found a trunk filled with bonds, representing a large fortune. "I found the bonds in the trunk," declared Mary Calvin, executrix of the will. "I had forgotten all about that old trunk."

This fact was brought out in the orphan's court when an application to sell land to satisfy judgments secured by creditors was made. Decision was reserved. The real estate is valued at \$100,000.

Got Letter from the Dead.

New York.—Mrs. Frank Coble of Asbury Park, N. J., received a letter literally from the dead. She got word of the death of her brother, Clayton Stauffer, at Dasey, N. D. The letter that came the day after his death strangely enough closed with a fond farewell, while former letters closed in the usual way.

Her brother had evidently been interrupted while writing, for he said: "I had better finish this now, for he may be the last time you will ever hear from me." The cause of his bleeding to death is unknown.

STUDY POLAR SEAS

PROBLEMS OF ARCTIC REGION TO BE PROBED.

Knowledge of Far North and Its Mysteries to Be Increased if Possible by Dr. Amundsen's Expedition.

Christiania.—Dr. Fritof Nansen, in his lecture before the Geological Society in London, pointed out that the principal problems of geographical exploration in northern Arctic regions consist in the scientific examination of the extent, depth and general character of the polar basin. This task could to an important extent be fulfilled, he intimated, if a future expedition would let itself drift over the polar basin, as did the Fram expedition of 1893, but with its route laid further to the north.

These words contain the nucleus of Capt. Amundsen's scheme, which was explained in a lecture before the Geographical society at Christiania. Dr. Amundsen said:

"We have apparatus now by which it is possible to obtain samples not only of the surface of the bottom itself but also of the underlying strata at a depth of two meters or more. Perhaps of even greater importance, however, is the examination of the temperature of the water at different depths of the sea. We are now able to measure it with exactness at any depth. We know of three different water bulks in the polar basin; they represent at the least three different current systems which are not yet sufficiently examined. We will be able to do this through the Nansen pendulum current measure apparatus and Dr. Ekborn's propeller current measure apparatus, both invented within the last four or five years.

"Another problem which has not been sufficiently examined is the existence of tidal waves and tidal currents in the polar basin, a question of great importance—not only to science, but to navigation as well. Influence of the winds on the currents of the sea and their importance in organic life, the role of light in different depths below the ice and the physiology of the sea.

"We have no ambition to establish a record in the race to reach the geographical north pole. The object of my expedition is the scientific examination of the polar basin, its bottom and configuration, and the different oceanographic problems in connection with it. The manner in which I hope to accomplish my scheme is not an original one. The scheme of my expedition is as follows:

"On the Fram, with a selected equipment and provision for seven years, I will leave Norway in the beginning of 1910. We start for San Francisco, going around Cape Horn. In San Francisco coal and provisions will be taken. From there we set out for Point Barrow, where I hope to arrive in July or August, and from whence the last news will go home. From Point Barrow I will start with the smallest possible crew. The course for the drift ice is north-northwest. We will try to enter the compact ice at the most favorable point to commence our drift, calculated to last four or five years, over the polar basin. During all this time we will make oceanographic and other observations, through which I hope to solve some of the yet unexplained problems of the polar regions."

SEEKS ENGINE IN HIS FEVER.

White Robed Railroad Plays Ghost to Lure of Whistle.

Wilmington, Del.—Attired only in night shirt, William M. Rogers, a locomotive engineer, was found at two o'clock the other morning, wandering about the railroad tracks. It was raining hard and he was drenched, but he did not appear to mind his condition. Rogers is a typhoid fever patient in a private hospital. When he partly regained consciousness, he said he thought he heard the whistle of an engine, and, thinking in his delirium that it was his train, he jumped from a window of the hospital and made his way to the railroad. The beating of the rain upon his thinly clad body partly brought him to his senses and he started toward the French street station.

A negro saw the white robed figure coming along the tracks and almost fainted from fright. He managed to get to the police patrol station and notified the patrol driver who captured Rogers and sent him to the police station. Later he was returned to the hospital.

Town Digs for Cash.

Caddoag, Ark.—The citizens of this town are in a state of excitement over the contents of Mrs. Beattie Reynolds' will, filed in probate court, which states that "\$10,000 was left to the public buried in the ground."

Proceeding on the grounds that finders are keepers, the whole community turned out but less than \$500 in gold was found near the old homestead. Currency in amounts of \$200 was unearthed in the garden.

Indians Trap Turtles.

Winona, Minn.—The Indians around here have taken to trapping mud turtles this winter. The turtles, according to the Indians, find a ready market in the east, and good prices are paid for them. The trapping of muskrats, beaver and other fur bearing animals is not so good as in some previous years, and the Indians are glad to add to their income through the sale of the turtles.