

RELICS IN MUSEUM

How Great Collection Grew During the Year 1910.

Number of Visitors Last Year Was 739,837, According to Report of Librarian—Progress on Extension Building.

London. The annual report of the director and principal librarian of the British Museum for the last year shows that the number of visitors was 739,837, which was not quite equal to that of 1908, the year the Franco-British exhibition, when the aggregate was the highest recorded.

Last year 670,104 visited the museum on week days, the highest figure since 1905, while the Sunday total of 69,733 is the highest on record with the exception of 1908, when so many foreigners were in London.

Great progress has been made on the extension building, the main external structure having been almost completed, while plans for the internal furniture and fittings were prepared, says the London Athenaeum. As many as 574,782 separate objects of all kinds have been incorporated in the collections of the several departments during the year, and in that of the printed books alone 52,172 catalogue titles have been written.

In the reading room 1,472,278 volumes have been supplied to readers, and it is noteworthy that a certain proportion of the accession to the general library has been made by international exchange. The principal purchases in the department of printed books have been incunabula, as many as 59 books printed in the fifteenth century having been added; they include a copy of the valuable Zinna Psalter printed at the expense of the Emperor Frederick III, and Maximilian I, in 1495. A notable addition among later books is the only work of Milton which was not in the library. The copy of the "Catalogue of Paintings and Drawings in Buckingham Palace" that has been presented by the lord chamberlain would have been a more suitable and useful accession to the national art library at South Kensington, which does not meet with the patronage and public support that it deserves.

We read of such widely divergent acquisitions by the British museum in a single year as the autograph memorandum by Nelson of October 9, 1805, explaining for the instruction of his captains his plan for attacking the French at Trafalgar, the Diaries of Romney, 150 fragments of the Coptic papyrus, a remarkably fine and very long papyrus roll of "The Book of the Dead" in hieratic characters, written about 880 B. C.; a large foundation deposit brick of Ramesses II, from Bubastis; several examples of vases, inscribed tablets and pottery; and 95 coins, some of great rarity and dating from the middle of the second century, from a hoard found in Hampshire. It might escape public notice that the manuscript bibliography of summatematics has been continued and brought up to date, while the series of forgeries of Greek coins has been expanded.

The department of prints and drawings has been exceptionally fortunate in the generosity of George Salting, who bequeathed 227 drawings, as well as 208 engravings, many of them being of the highest importance and value. Nor must the ancient Chinese paintings from the Wegener collection, the collection of etchings of the late Sir Francis Seymour Haden, the Robert Low collection of drawings or the engraved portraits presented by Lady Layard be overlooked.

Among other benefactions the national art collections fund secured for the museum six fine designs by Alfred Stevens, whose fame in generations to come will be very considerably greater than that accorded by either private collections or the general public today. It seems, however, that such designs as those for covered vases, cups and plates would have been of greater utility in the department of engraving, illustration and design at the Victoria and Albert museum than in the print room at Bloomsbury.

CAUSE OF GREAT FIRE LOSS

Ex-Fire Chief Coker of New York Tells of Faulty Construction of Fireproof Buildings.

Chicago.—E. F. Coker, former fire chief of New York city, delivered an address before the Irish Fellowship club here the other afternoon on the fire losses in the United States.

"The loss from fire in the United States is 233 per cent. against 31 per cent. in Europe," declared the former Gotham fire chief. "This great difference in loss is due to the great difference in building construction here and in Europe. Across the water the buildings are put up to withstand fires. The men who build them think about fires before they finish their work. In the United States the structures are slapped together too quickly.

"The best way to eliminate the heavy loss from fire in the United States is to see that absolutely incombustible material is used in the construction of buildings.

"If pains were taken to guard against inflammable material in buildings of all types in the course of a few years there would not be enough wood in our buildings here to make a lead pencil out of. It is just as easy to put in steel parts in lieu of plaster parts."

NO BATH IN TWENTY YEARS

Colorado Woman, 106 Years Old, Declares She Does Not Mean to Begin Killing Herself Now.

Denver, Colo.—"The first person whom I shall visit this morning," said the visiting nurse, "is a woman who is 106 years old. She's really a living curiosity, she's so old, and yet so alive. Her son, who is her only child, and who takes entire care of her, sent for me the other day to come and see her.

"Would you like to have a nurse come and care for you every day?" I asked.

"Don't care," she replied in a broad brogue. "Only she must not be high-falutin'. That I can't abide."

"Well, wouldn't you like a nice bath?"

"Go on wid yese, gurrl. I've had no bath in these twenty years, and I'm not meaning to kill meself now."

"The old lady is quite well, despite her burden of years, and is suffering from no worse complaint than old age.

"There's another old woman whose little granddaughter died last week. I wasn't called in until the child was nearly gone. I saw at once that it was merely a case of malnutrition, but it was too late to do anything. When I asked the woman why she hadn't fed the child properly she drew a long face and looked at me reproachfully.

"Shure, and how is a busy woman to be always thinking of the child?" she demanded. "Isn't it myself that has a garden to care for and a cow to feed, not to mention chickens and ducks to look after? Shure, I'm so hard worked that me arms is only skin and bones."

"The people that I'm most interested in, though, are two poor whites from down in Kentucky. The man used to be a cow-puncher in Idaho, and after he had made a good start he went back home for his bride, who was an old playmate. Everything promised well until he was suddenly taken with asthma, and now he has been laid up for several years. His little wife makes a living by doing laundry work at one dollar a day, but they have a mighty hard time of it. He is trying to teach himself to read the Bible, which is the only book they own."

BANE OF THE CLAIM AGENTS

Many Accidents Which Happen to Women Travelers Caused by Fashionable Gowns.

Chicago.—The woman in the high heels and the hobble skirt is the greatest problem which faces the present-day railway claim agent.

The male dressmaker designs the gowns and the male claim agent pays the bills, according to the way it has been figured out in the offices of the men who have to pay for the discomforts of those of the feminine patrons of their roads who affect the extreme in the length and height of heels and the opposite limit in the width of skirt.

It is apparent that the only reason that street railway companies have ever thought of putting a mirror up on their cars is for the purpose of enticing their women patrons to turn the safe way in alighting.

Stairways in railway stations are built with the special purpose of accommodating the woman with the high heels and three stilet cases, but in spite of all these precautions many travelers trip and slide down the marble stairways upon their completion.

Here are a few of the complaints received by the claim agent of a railroad with headquarters in this city, which are said to be typical:

"High heel caught while getting on car; knees and nose skinned."

"Tripped walking down entrance stairs; wore hobble skirt."

"Fell, whirling about to say 'good-by'; high heel caught in skirt."

As one railroad man expressed it: "We are not supposed to design their gowns, but we are held responsible afterwards."

URGE LASH FOR MEN FLIRTS

Indignant Baltimore Mother Asks Police to Take Dramatic Action Against Those Who Wink at Girls.

Baltimore, Md.—Let those men who give a girl a wink or nod in the streets beware! Marshal Farnan is thinking of getting on their trail. His attention having been called to a crusade in the western cities against flirting, and particularly by a letter he received from a mother declaring that married men who flirt with girls should be jailed, the marshal expressed his disapproval of flirtations on the part of married men.

The writer of the letter not only recommends that flirting married men be arrested and jailed, but suggests that the whipping post would be good for them. The marshal declares that it is not only the young "Johnnies" who flirt, but many married men in their forties.

"Some old men are as bad as the young ones," commented the marshal. The writer of the letter says that she is sure that Marshal Farnan is too good a man to deceive his wife and flirt—and the marshal agrees with her.

Yale Athlete Is Coalman.

New Haven, Conn.—Bernard S. Tommers, Yale baseball pitcher, graduate and all-round athlete, is driving a coal team today, making deliveries as an employe. He wishes to learn the coal business "from the bottom up."

FORGOTTEN IN JAIL

Ignorant Hungarian Serves Two Years Before Discovered.

Divorced by Wife While Abroad on Visit Unfortunate Foreigner Failed to Pay Alimony and Was Sentenced for Contempt.

Chicago.—Forgotten like by family, friends and lawyers, Pavel Macca, a Hungarian, spent two years in the Cook county jail on a simple charge of contempt of court.

Attorney John A. Mahoney, who obtained Macca's release on a writ of habeas corpus, declared the case of Macca to be one of the most remarkable in the history of this or any other country.

"Here is a poor, uneducated foreigner," he said, "who has been made to serve over two years for contempt and kept in jail without means or friends to go to his aid."

Four years ago Macca and his wife lived on the west side, where they owned some property. They had \$565 in bank. He had \$500 in his name and she had the remaining \$65 in her name. The account was arranged so that one could draw from the other. One day while Macca was at work he says his wife went to the bank and drew out all the money.

Macca says his wife made good the amount later by signing over her share of the property on the west side, and he in turn signed it over to a friend, who sold it for \$3,700. There was a mortgage for \$1,800, and with the remainder of the money Macca said he journeyed to his home in Hungary to visit relatives. Then Mrs. Macca obtained a divorce, charging desertion.

Mrs. Macca represented before Judge Arthur H. Chetlain, then on the bench, that her husband was well to do and the court ordered that Macca pay her \$1,200 alimony. Macca said he spent all of his money while abroad and that he was penniless when he returned to Chicago.

On September 22, 1909, he was cited for contempt of court. He said he had no money, but his former wife insisted that he had either given it to relatives or deposited it in Hungary. He was sentenced to serve three months in the county jail.

In January, 1910, he was again cited and sentenced to serve another six months. On July 12, 1910, he was sent back to the jail and has been there ever since, working in the laundry.

"I didn't have a penny," Macca said, "and there was no way in which I could give my wife \$1,200. They must have thought I had hidden it. My attorney was Joseph Sabath. All I know is that one day he came to me and said I was a single man—that my wife had gotten a divorce.

"I have no idea of the whereabouts of my former wife and our two children."

Assistant Jailor Jacobus said Macca has been a model prisoner.

"He worked hard every day, and there never was a complaint from him," said Mr. Jacobus.

TEACH CHILDREN FARM WORK

Instructors Tell New York Public School Pupils About Crops Raised in Jefferson Park.

New York.—The back to the farm movement was helped on the upper east side the other day when 1,500 school children, an advance guard of more than 30,000 slated for instruction, obtained preliminary lessons in agriculture at the Children's farm, in Thomas Jefferson park, One Hundred and Fourteenth street and East river.

Dr. William H. Maxwell, superintendent of schools, expressed delight with the splendid farming of the children of the neighborhood. Boys and girls, with their teachers, marched into the park and surveyed the "glories of a bucolic life with an Indian summer setting.

A vast number gathered in and around the park to watch proceedings. The school farm work was started at 9:30 o'clock in the morning under the guidance of Mrs. Henry Parsons, director of the school farms. The children arrived at the farm in four groups. The first consisted of about 400 pupils. They were received by instructors, who subdivided them into four classes of 100 each. To each class was shown a stalk of corn, which was described in every particular. The instructors were Miss Ella Olsey, Miss Hannah McAffrey, Hugh P. Brady and Robert Hatch.

The instruction of the 30,000 children of three school districts will take three weeks. At the close of the instruction the pupils will be able to qualify for work in rudimentary agriculture.

Warden's Singing Powerful.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Friends of Warden Edward Lewis of the Allegheny county jail, say he is a great singer, and he does not deny it himself, but the other afternoon a prisoner threw a fit while the warden was caroling a gospel hymn at the weekly religious service in the jail, and now Lewis is in a troubled frame of mind.

The warden had finished the first stanza and his resonant voice had started the opening words of the second, when John Rampola, a short-term man, enthralled by the appealing sentiment of the song and its feeling rendition, went into convulsions. He may recover. Lewis did not finish the hymn.

"STRADON" MADE IN A FACTORY

Germany Turns Out "Priceless" Violins by the Thousand; Quality, Economy, Genuine Oldie Found.

London. Every row and again there appears in the new papers a paragraph announcing the discovery of a new work by an old master. Occasionally the inquirer ascertains that the find is indeed a genuine one, but this is probably not more than once in a thousand cases. In some way or other, however, the picture generally leaves the possession of its "discoverer" with great profit to the latter, while the purchaser proudly boasts the belief that he has acquired a masterpiece.

It is not only in the matter of pictures that this very remunerative industry of faking is carried on, but spurious antique furniture, old silver and Cremona violins are made the basis of various ingenious schemes. It appears that a Sunderland mining village has within recent years been the scene of the disposal of hundreds of so-called Stradivarius violins, the chief victims being the colliers of the neighborhood, who paid gold for instruments that had been sold in bulk by the dealer, though in many cases the "Strads" were sent further afield and brought in much higher prices.

A violin expert interviewed on the subject said:

"I know several violin factories, two or three in Germany and one near Brussels. Planks of the requisite thickness are steamed for hours, cut up, and stamped into shape. There is no time for the loving use of tool that marked the old artists of Cremona. Inside is pasted the imitation parchment label of the alleged maker, and then all the parts are clamped and pinned and glued together. I must say they use the very best glue. It pays them. There follows a necessary period of drying; but the sun, being a slow and uncertain old fellow, gives way to the modern oven. Very clever is the varnishing stage. We have lost the secret of the varnish of the old Italian makers, have we? These people have rediscovered and improved upon it. Instead of having to wait for years of resonance with the bow to shake down the oil into the cells, leaving that soft surface color which sends connoisseurs into raptures, the modern makers turn out masterpieces by the hundred per day, and the places where the chin and the hands have worn the surface bare are plain proofs of authentic old age."

HOLDS CUCUMBER IS A FRUIT

New York Magistrate's Decision May Revolutionize Menus in Hotels and Restaurants.

New York.—As a result of a novel decision just rendered here by one of the city's magistrates, epicures and chefs have been thrown into a panic, while the keepers of hotels and restaurants are confronted with the possibility of having to rearrange their menus and bills of fare along lines which according to present methods would be simply idiotic. The decision would cause all this excitement is to the effect that the cucumber is a fruit within the meaning of the law.

In reaching this opinion the learned judge apparently disregarded the well-known Mr. Webster's dictionary, the fame of which notes that the ancients promoted of indigestion has been cultivated as a vegetable "since the days of Moses.

Magistrate Kemper, however, reasons from the analogy of the watermelon and others of its class that anything growing on a vine is a fruit. His decision, therefore, elevates the pumpkin, squash, tomato, egg plant and even the leeky glass from the vegetable to the fruit class.

The question came up in the interpretation of the law requiring sellers of fruits and other articles to have a license from the city.

If the decision is to be generally accepted it will involve a rearrangement of hotel menus so that pumpkin and egg plant may be placed along with catfish among the pre-breakfast delicacies on the bill of fare.

It is pointed out that some other judge is likely to be called upon to wrestle with the problem of whether peanuts and potatoes are fruits, since these also grow on vines, though not above the surface.

Wins Battle With Python.

Dallas, Tex.—E. W. Copley saved himself from death in the folds of a python by breaking the snake's "neck."

The snake was sixteen feet long, weighing 250 pounds and was angry. Copley had had the snake on exhibition in a museum and took it to his home to give it fresh air.

The owner and an assistant started to carry the reptile away on a blanket. The assistant stumbled. The snake was aroused, wrapped itself around Copley's legs and was preparing to throw its coils around the man's body when Copley seized the snake's head above the jaws, snapped it suddenly backward and broke its "neck."

To Sleep in Cold Air. Columbia, Mo.—An \$18,000 chapter house without a closed bedroom has been completed by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity in this city. The 15 Missouri university members of that fraternity have decided to try cold fresh air as a healthful sleep producer and restorer for tired brain cells. Instead of bedrooms a large open air sleeping chamber has been constructed on the third floor. No heat will be allowed in this room even in coldest weather.

MILLIONAIRE TO BE FARMER

George Westinghouse, Jr., Buys Small Place Not Far From Father's Estate in Berkshires.

Lenox, Mass.—Heir to \$50,000,000 and an estate in the Berkshires scarcely rivaled by any country home in the land, George Westinghouse, Jr., son of the air brake inventor, is now preparing to move, with his bride, to a small farm, to enjoy the pleasures of the simple life as embodied in "scientific farming."

Already he has bought an estate that overlooks the golf links of the Golf club of Lenox, just south of Lenox, where his father's country home is located, and with the departure of the present occupant, the date of whose moving is expected to be the first of next month, it is believed that he and his English bride, who was Miss Violet Evelyn Brocklebank, daughter of Sir Thomas and Lady Brocklebank, will move from the estate of from 500 to 600 acres, named Eskins Park, to the far humbler place some ten miles away in the Berkshires, and take up what will mean for him a simple life.

Already he is supposed, however, to have laid plans to emulate on the few acres of his new estate the gorgeous gardens, the elaborate fruit and vegetable growths that have featured the parental estate, but on a smaller scale, and without the wonderful fountains, the great palace of a house and the other evidences of luxury of which he has been accustomed.

The farm which Mr. Westinghouse has purchased is a small one and has been occupied this summer by residents of New York. It is a typical "summer resident" farm, beautifully laid out, far enough from town to be a real farm, and yet relying on the "summer visitor income" more than on its crops. It stands some 50 yards back from the highway, shaded by elm and maple trees, and is more a bungalow than either a farmhouse or a mansion. A shady orchard screens most of the house from view, while the orchards and fields that comprise the rest of the estate are scarcely discernible.

DEFEATS A MOUNTAIN LION

Man Thinks He Owes Victory to the Fact That the Beast Had Just Dined on Carcass of Deer.

San Bernardino, Cal.—Arthur Himes, while tramping along from Big Meadows to Bear Valley, met face to face a huge mountain lion, the first sighted in a year in the San Bernardino mountains.

The beast was devouring the carcass of a deer near the trail, when Himes suddenly came upon it as he rounded a turn in the path. The animal had heard the approach of the man, and it was crouched ready to spring when Himes first saw it. Armed only with a .32-caliber revolver, he decided that safety lay only in flight, and he fled for his life with the beast following behind him. Although the lion kept close in the rear it made no attempt to leap upon the man.

Himes believes that had not the lion made a meal on the deer he would have been killed to satisfy the hunger of the beast.

The animal followed him for a mile before it dropped behind him and disappeared in the undergrowth.

It is believed that the lion is the same sighted by Mrs. Kate Harvey in Mill Creek canyon a few weeks ago. For a month calves and chickens have disappeared from the mountain ranches, and it is believed the lion is the beast that is ravaging the region.

KILL SQUIRRELS IN DROVES

Woods in Four Kentucky Counties Fairly Alive With Little Animals—Prove They Migrate.

Glasgow, Ky.—"Squirrel on toast" is the menu being enjoyed by people in this section who are willing to arise early and make a trip to some nearby woodland.

For the first time in a dozen years the residents of Barren, Cumberland, Metcalf and Monroe counties are enjoying squirrel in abundance; and, by the way, this settles the question of squirrels migrating.

A few weeks ago it was next to impossible to find a squirrel in any of the counties mentioned, and now they are so plentiful that an amateur can kill several in a short time.

The woods seem alive with them. At early morning and at late evening they can be seen perched on corn-stalks, taking a meal at the expense of the farmer, or running along the fence on their way to and from the cornfield.

Where they came from, how long they will stay and where they will go is a question that does not seem to bother the average person. "How many can I get?" seems to be more absorbing just now.

Clothes for Nude Man.

Saratoga, N. Y.—The home of the wonderful fish and game may be Winsted, Conn., but Saratoga has a hen, that wears clothes. Her name is Jennie, and she lives on the Williams farm. Jennie was born without the sign of a feather, and as she grew to henhood not a vestige of covering appeared. Recently the hired man noticed Jennie shivering in a corner. He had an idea. The hen was measured for a suit, and now she wears a navy gray uniform with buttons down the front and holes for her wings. Once the laughing stock of the flock, she is now the envy of all the barnyard population.

FIND MEASLES VIRUS

Two Government Physicians Report on Experiments.

Monkeys Were Inoculated With Blood From Patients Suffering With Diseases and Animals Found Susceptible.

New York.—The cause of measles has been discovered as a result of a series of experiments lasting a year. The physicians who made the tests are: Dr. John F. Anderson, director of the hygienic laboratory, Washington, D. C., and Passed Assistant Surgeon Joseph Golberger. The disease is caused by a virus which is to be found in the blood of those suffering from it.

The experiments were carried out with monkeys. These were inoculated with blood from measles patients, and it was found that the animals were susceptible to the disease.

"These observers state," says the Medical Record, "that their first experiment was performed on June 8, 1910 with some blood obtained from a case of measles at the Willard Parker hospital, New York. Two monkeys were inoculated; in each a slight rise in temperature was noted on the eleventh day, the significance of which was not appreciated at the time. A second attempt was made with similar results.

"On April 28 of this year a third attempt was made, three rhesus monkeys being inoculated. Once more, as regards temperature reaction, results were obtained essentially like those of former experiments in the case of one monkey an eruption and other symptoms resembling those of measles occurred.

"On May 16 last a fourth attempt was made; two monkeys were inoculated, and at the same time the monkey which had exhibited symptoms on the former occasion was reinoculated with a view of testing his immunity and obtaining light on the previous reaction.

"Ten days after inoculation this animal developed a well marked eruption, which in two days became generalized. In seven days this had died out. Desquamation was noticed only on the scalp and temple. The monkey which had been reinoculated showed no reaction whatever.

"Blood aspirated from the heart of the two animals which showed reaction was used for the inoculation of four fresh rhesus monkeys. All showed reaction to a greater or less extent. Anderson and Golberger believe that they are justified in concluding that they have demonstrated the susceptibility of the rhesus monkey to inoculation with the blood of human measles drawn from the general circulation early in the eruptive stages."

The physicians continued their experiments and discovered that there is a period of infectivity of the blood beginning at least just before and continuing for about twenty-four hours after the first appearance of the eruption. After this period, the infectivity of the blood is greatly reduced, and progressively diminishes. Not satisfied entirely with the results of these experiments, the investigators sought to determine the exact nature of the virus of measles.

They published the results of the latter series of experiments last Saturday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

First, they sought to discover whether or not the virus would pass through a filter. In this case they diluted blood-serum from a measles patient with three times its volume of salt solution. The whole was passed through a Berkefeld filter. They were able to inoculate a monkey with the resulting solution, hence they conclude that the virus is capable of passing through a Berkefeld filter.

The next experiment was undertaken to determine whether or not the virus could be dried. They found that it resisted desiccation for twenty-four hours or more.

Next they made experiments to discover whether or not heat would destroy the virus. It lost its infectivity after being subjected to a temperature of 55 centigrade for fifteen minutes.

The virus lost none of its virulence after being kept at a freezing temperature for twenty-five hours. They determined also that it probably retained four hours of its infectivity after twenty-four hours at 15 centigrade.

Skips Rope at 81.

Ithaca, N. Y.—To celebrate her eighty-first birthday, Miss Sue Vorhees, an inmate of the Old Ladies' home in this city, skipped the rope 21 times and was not fatigued when she finished.

Miss Vorhees is remarkably spry and athletic for her years. She told her friends to come on the lawn in front of the home and, picking up an ordinary girl's jumping rope, lightly skipped it 21 times. Last year her friends say she jumped it 40 times.

Miss Vorhees has been in the home 13 years. She is a great pedestrian.

Can't Get Legacy Till 50.

New Haven, Conn.—Under the will of Ernest Finis, filed for probate, Henry George Finis, a youthful son, must wait until he is 50 years old, before receiving any portion of the \$14,000 left him. The property is to be held in trust. The unusual provision does not apply to similar bequests to four other children.

L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

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