

## SNOW PLOW IN THE ROCKIES



The problem of keeping open the trails across the mountains for winter travelers is one of the most perplexing with which railroads have to contend. Monster plows are used and pushed by powerful locomotives; they often literally burrow paths through the huge drifts that block traffic. The accompanying photograph shows a snow plow and locomotives ready to fight the snow.

## Many Aliens Leaving

### FEAR OF HARD WINTER DRIVES FOREIGNERS HOME.

Immigration Official Says Men Out of Work Can Live More Cheaply in Europe Than in the United States.

Washington.—Analysis of the causes of the recent marked exodus of aliens from the United States is contained in an interview given by T. V. Powderly, chief of the division of immigration. Mr. Powderly, who was formerly a prominent labor leader, is the official who is trying to divert immigration to those parts of the United States where it will do most good, and on this account he has given careful study to

the economic tendencies of the foreigners who come to the United States at the rate of 1,000,000 annually.

"Several causes combine to bring about the eastward march of the aliens now leaving us," he said. "Every year great numbers of aliens return to their homes for the winter. The railroads, principally in the north, east and west, lay off men engaged in outdoor work and following this others are thrown out of employment.

"These men find it desirable to return to their old homes for the winter; they have the opportunity to visit their friends and relatives and can live much cheaper there during the winter than here, for food and lodging are cheaper and the climate is not so severe.

"In other years the exodus began the latter part of October and continued up to Christmas, but this year the rush was accentuated by the financial flurry. And right here I pause to remark that those who imagine that our aliens do not read are somewhat in error, for those who cannot read have others to read to them, and they keep a sharp eye on the trend of events in this country, so that when the papers announced under scare headlines that things were going wrong, these men, not trained to analyze the statements, took alarm, and quite a number more went away than would have gone in other years.

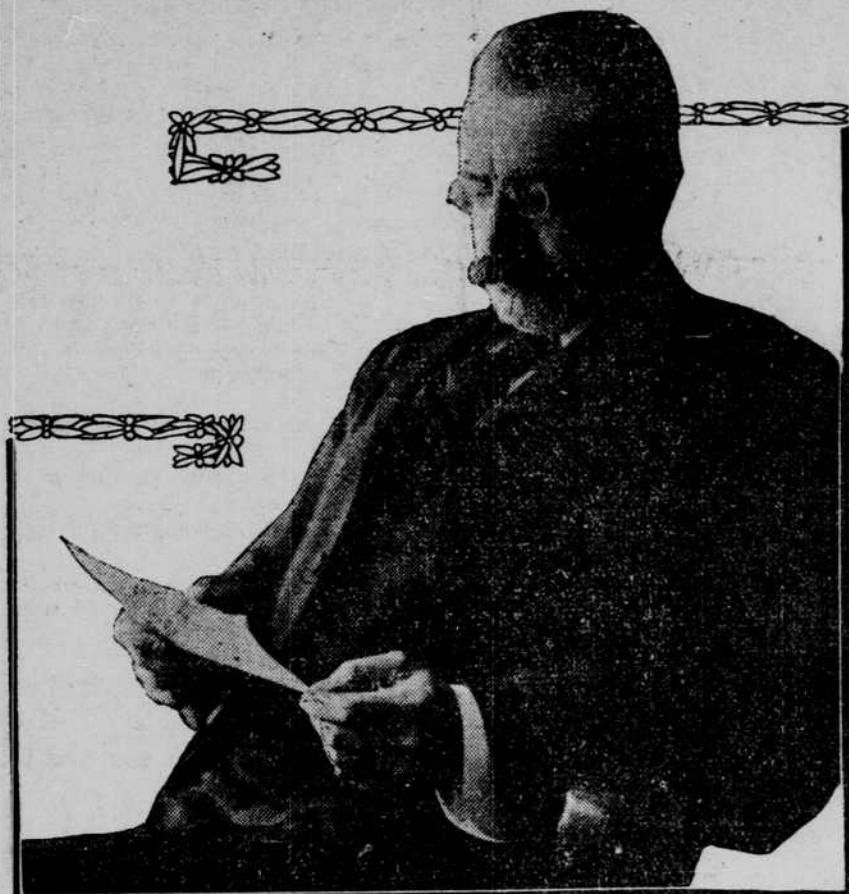
"Another cause is to be found in the fact that every four years preceding the presidential election there is a tendency eastward on the part of the aliens. They hear so much said about the uncertainty of the presidential year that they prefer to take no chances and go home for that year.

"There is still another cause for the return of Italians to their native land. The railroads of Italy are owned by the government. Up to this year they were managed by private corporations to whom they were leased by the government. It was found that they were not paying. The rolling stock was not kept in order and the maintenance of the schedules was not deemed important. A consequence of all this was that traffic fell off, no one traveled unless he had to and the railroad service became demoralized.

"Now the government has taken the railroads out of the hands of these corporations and is engaged in the work of reconstructing the entire railroad system of the country. It is estimated that about \$100,000,000 will be expended in the kingdom in bringing the railways up to a proper standard of efficiency, and Italy is calling her sons who have learned how to make good railroads in this country back to their old homes.

"So you see that no alarm need be felt because of the ebb in the tide. There is more work to do in this country than ever before. There is a necessity for more men and women to do it, and the first months of next year will see a return of aliens, who will be able to find remunerative employment in this country."

## SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY



As a result of the recent financial crisis, the name of George B. Cortelyou, secretary of the treasury, has become quite prominent before the public; his handling of the situation has brought him nothing but praise from all quarters. Cortelyou first came before the public notice as stenographer to President McKinley in 1895; since then his rise has been rapid. He was the first secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, recently established, and before assuming his present office he held the post of Postmaster General.

## MANY KILLED IN MINES.

Over Two Thousand Men Gave Up Their Lives in 1906.

Philadelphia.—The total number of men killed while mining coal in the United States during 1906, according to statistics gathered by the geological survey, was 2,061. The number of workmen receiving injuries in this industry more or less serious, but not fatal, was 4,798 during the same period.

The death rate per thousand of workmen was 3.4 or, in other words, of every 1,000 coal miners over three were killed and more than six seriously injured in accidents at the coal mines. This is a heavy toll when it is considered that England's death rate per 1,000 coal miners during last year was only one. Every 190,353 tons of coal mined in this country last year cost one life.

The principal causes of death were falls of roof and coal, and explosions. The deaths due to the former numbered 1,008; gas and dust explosions, 228; powder explosions, 80; miscellaneous, 732.

The number of men killed in Pennsylvania mines during 1906 was: Anthracite, 557; bituminous, 447; total, 1,034, or more than half of the number killed in the 20 states and territories in which coal was mined. But Pennsylvania produced more coal than all the other states and the territories combined.

During the same period the number of persons injured in accidents in Pennsylvania mines was: Anthracite, 1,212; bituminous, 1,160; total, 2,372. Of those killed in Pennsylvania mines, 583 left widows and 1,294 children were made fatherless. Pennsylvania's death rate per 1,000 miners was: Anthracite, 3.43; bituminous, 3.14.

The state which made the lowest record in the death rate per 1,000 for 1906 was Maryland, with 1.09. Colorado had the highest death rate, 7.74 per 1,000; West Virginia, second, with 5.65.

### DROPS AFTER LONG FLIGHT.

Carrier Pigeon from South Carolina Falls Exhausted in New York.

New York.—A bedraggled carrier pigeon beat its way wearily across the upper bay in the driving rainstorm at noon the other day, hovering over the Battery sea wall a moment, and then dropped to the coping of the Aquarium, where it fluttered to the ground. A passerby picked up the bird, which made no attempt to escape, and carried it inside the building.

Attached to the brass ring encircling the pigeon's leg was a strip of thin wax paper, bearing the following inscription:

"Introducing 'Beauty,' a record-breaker. Left Charleston, S. C., December 9, bound for Cooper square. If I am in trouble give me a square meal and pass me along."

Beauty got a square meal—for which he seemed very grateful—and after a rest and a thorough drying out, he was taken outside again and tossed into the air. After circling a few times to take his bearings, the pigeon headed north on the last lap of its 700-mile journey, and was quickly lost to view.

### CHANGES IN LATIN QUARTER.

Old Structures Being Removed to Enlarge the Lycee Saint Louis.

Paris.—Rapid progress is being made in the enlargement of space occupied by the Lycee Saint Louis, one of the largest schools for boys in France.

As a preliminary to the enlargement old water tanks which some years ago caused epidemics of typhoid and had to be abandoned are being torn down. These tanks faced the Rue Racine, which is one side of a large triangle which the Lycee eventually will occupy, the other two sides being the Boulevard St. Michel, or which is the present building and the Rue Monsieur le Prince.

The plan is to pull down all the buildings on this triangle in order that the whole space may be devoted to the institution's interesting changes. A feature of this change is the necessary demolition of an old wall back of Rue Monsieur le Prince. This wall is on the site of the most southerly fortification of the wall of Paris in the time of Philippe Auguste, who reigned from 1180 to 1225, and is built of the same stones.

Although the modernizing of this part of the historic Latin quarter is said to be definitely decided upon, plans have not reached a point where the occupants of the buildings receive a notice.

### TO ABOLISH THE LOCKSTEP.

Reform Is Established at Blackwell's Island Penitentiary.

New York.—Blackwell's Island penitentiary, where minor offenders of New York city's laws serve their sentences, will know the striped suit and the lockstep no more.

John V. Coggey, commissioner of correction, announced the other day that he has decided to put an end to stripes and lockstep in the penitentiary, as he believed that they did much to kill any smoldering spark of decency that may remain in the prisoner when he is brought to the city prison. Commissioner Coggey said:

"I find that most of the progressive penal institutions throughout the country have abolished the stripes and the lockstep. I agree thoroughly with the argument in favor of this action, that it saves the prisoner from humiliation which he never can forget.

## BIRDS SHOW EMOTION

### A SCIENTIST SAYS SPARROWS' FACES MIRROR THEIR FEELING.

Clinton G. Abbott Proves Assertion by Photographs—Mother Cat Bird Expresses Her Fear of Stuffed Owl.

Philadelphia.—I'm no nature faker, but I am convinced that such emotions as anticipation, supplication, satisfaction, surprise and attention not only live in the breasts of the feathered tribe but that the outward expression of these emotions is mirrored in the tiny faces of the birds."

This declaration by Clinton G. Abbott, a well-known scientist of New York, caused a stir among members of the twenty-fifth annual congress of American ornithologists at the Academy of Natural Sciences the other day.

With this declaration as the keynote of one of the most notable addresses ever delivered on the subject, Dr. Abbott flashed upon the scene a photograph showing two small sparrows with the mother bird upon the limb of a tree.

"While I was at Long Island I arranged, early one morning, my camera so that it would face a limb of a tree in which I knew the sparrows shown in this picture made their home," said Dr. Abbott. "I attached a long string to the press bulb, and then, with this in hand, hid myself in some distant shrubbery. The two younger birds appeared and shortly after the mother, pluming her wings as if for flight. A moment afterward she flew into the woods and I got a photograph of the little ones awaiting her return. Their bills were open, as you see them in the picture, and there is no one who will not agree with me that anticipation is clearly evident in the posture and in their bills and tiny faces."

There was an outburst of applause after the audience had taken in the details of the picture.

"Later," Dr. Abbott continued, "I got a picture of the birds after the feeding. The mother had returned with food for one in her bill. On the face of the unfed one was an expression of disappointment."

This picture was flashed on the screen.

"There," he continued, "you can see the little one still crying for food. The mother left again and returned with food for the other. In another picture I have the two satisfied youngsters on the limb and the mother as satisfied on the nest."

This picture was shown, and in the pause there was another enthusiastic demonstration from the audience.

"All the emotions I specified," said Dr. Abbott, "are shown on the faces of the birds. I placed a stuffed owl in a tree near the nest of a catbird, and then waited until morning to see the expression on the bird's face at the sight of the stranger. In the morning the catbird came out, looked quizzically at the owl, completely surprised at the presence of a possible enemy. He then made all kinds of noise with his wings and mouth to scare the owl away. After each effort at scaring there was a look of attention on the face of the catbird.

## BARON STERNBURG



Recent photograph of the German ambassador to the United States in full court costume. Baron Sternburg and President Roosevelt are on most intimate terms, both being excellent horsemen, and may often be seen together on their favorite steeds in the outskirts of Washington. The baron is a veteran of the Franco-German war; he also served as secretary of the German embassy at Washington in 1898. His wife is a former Kentucky belle.

And that look is photographed before you.

"Next day," Dr. Abbott continued, "I took the owl away, then I discovered that the catbird had two young ones in a nest. They were permitted to come out on the limb of the tree, and I got in another picture the look of self-satisfaction upon that catbird's face."

### Sneezes and Hears Again.

Ithaca, N. Y.—William Shepard, of Horseheads, who is visiting in this city, and who has been deaf some ten years, had his hearing restored while attending service in Zion A. M. E. church. The cure was not the result of any miraculous manifestation, but was produced by a vigorous sneeze.

## BIG INCREASE IN CRIME

New York Insurance Companies Contemplate Raising Rates.

New York.—More burglaries, larcenies and thefts of all kinds have been committed in this city in the last 60 days than at any similar period in its history.

A canvass of the managers of the burglary insurance business revealed an interesting condition of affairs. Several of these openly declared that so frequent had robberies in this city become that it was a case of either abandoning business altogether or of a large increase in rates.

Few persons realize the magnitude of the annual loss to New Yorkers by burglary and theft. To illustrate how serious this loss is the burglary insurance interests call attention to the fact that while the loss for 8,424 fires in this city in a single year has reached the total of \$9,816,000, there were in the same period 35,289 robberies, with \$15,875,000 as the total value of the property stolen. The

property recovered in these cases, or "salvage," as the insurance men call it, was a negligible quantity, ranging in some companies from less than one per cent. to not more than five in the most fortunate.

### Makes Weather to Order.

Akron, O.—Pointing to spring flowers blooming in a field behind his laboratory as proof that he can produce any variety of weather he desires, John C. Bedient, an electrical genius of this city, is about to apply for a patent and to form a company to manufacture an apparatus, the model of which he is concealing in his workshop.

He says electricity is the basis of his machine and that it will produce warm weather, with imitation sunshine, rain, and the growth of flowers, plants, and grains, and snow or ice, if applied near still or running water.

He stands guard each night, relieved by his wife and son, to prevent fliching of his possession.

### HEALING POWERS CLAIMED FOR CALIFORNIA WATER.

Pool Is Located in Indian Reservation in Mountain Valley and Has Long Been Known to Mission Tribe of Red Men.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Down in the California desert, 150 miles from Los Angeles and around the spur of a mountain, is a little valley owned by a canny Scotchman, Dr. Murray. The doctor has brought the water from the mountains near by and has created an "oasis in the desert." He has about ten acres in oranges and alfalfa, and nothing could be more pleasant to the eye, after ranging over a sandy waste, than this charming valley.

An Indian reservation adjoins the doctor's ranch, and from them he leases for \$100 per annum a rare spring. The pool formed by this spring is about as large as a good sized room and is covered by a rude shack. The uniform temperature of the water is 100 degrees, and it is said to have many healing properties.

When a person first enters this pool his feet strike a soft, sandy bottom, and he is apparently in water about 18 inches deep. All at once a ripple goes over the surface, much as if a stone had been thrown in, and near him he notices the sand has opened, disclosing a hole as large as the cir-

cumference of the body, but how deep one is afraid to think.

But the doctor calls there is no danger and he takes his life in his hands and plunges in. Down he goes up to his neck, and, fearing a quicksand, he calls out to the doctor, but he, smiling imperturbably, bids him keep quiet and wait results.

Presently he feels a soft impact upon the soles of his feet, and slowly but irresistibly he feels himself being forced to the surface. Within the space of three minutes he is again standing in 18 inches of water, and the hole has disappeared, only to appear a few feet further on. He hastens to it, plunges in, and again he sinks to his neck as before. Only one hole is formed at a time, and between the closing of one and the appearing of another there is an interval of about five minutes.

In this wonderful bath one does not require any brush or soap, but when he comes out his skin is smooth and spotless, here and there appearing upon his body minute scales of silica. After dashing a bucket of cold water over himself he feels wonderfully invigorated and refreshed. People come hundreds of miles to bathe in this healing water, and if the doctor could only move this spring to Los Angeles he could make his fortune in a few years. The Indians (the Mission tribe) attach great value to the water and use the overflow of the pool for bathing and drinking purposes.

### HAULS MASTER TO SCHOOL.

Faithful Dog Is Devoted to Crippled Boy.

Marion, O.—Remarkable devotion is shown his young master by a large St. Bernard dog, which, after having watched at the sick bed of 14-year-old Emmet Shoats for months, now hauls him to and from the district school-house, half a mile away. Young Shoats is a cripple and unable to walk. Any morning about eight o'clock the big dog can be seen wending his way down the pike drawing his little master behind in a small wagon. The faithful dog "hangs" around the school-house until evening and is always there at the dismissal of school.

The dog and the boy have been playmates since childhood. Until two years ago they romped together through the woods and pastures. One day in their play young Shoats hurt his leg. Since then he has been practically an invalid. During the time that the boy was in a local hospital the dog seemed broken-hearted and would scarcely eat. He fell away until he was, figuratively speaking, nothing but skin and bones. Now he is full of health and vigor. The old St. Bernard cannot be bought at any price.

### BUG IN EAR FOR MONTHS.

Caused Boy's Headaches and Came Near Taking Life.

Atlantic City, N. J.—Surgical experts who opened the ear of nine-year-old Somers Braddock, of Bakersville, to discover the cause of headaches, which had been worrying the child for months, found a dead beetle in the inner ear. Removal of the bug was followed by immediate departure of the pain, and the lad's hearing will not even be affected by the insect's long residence in his ear tube.

The lad was sitting on the porch of his home one night last summer when he screamed out that a bug had crawled in his ear. His parents made an examination, but failed to discover the bug, and no more was thought of the incident until the child began to suffer from pains in his head.

Surgeons who performed the operation declare, that, had the bug gone a fraction of an inch farther into the child's ear, it would have killed him.

### ONE ON THE PRESIDENT.

W. F. Cody Tells a Story of Roosevelt's Quest of Bear Dogs.

Denver, Col.—"Buffalo Bill" Cody, while a guest here, told this joke on President Roosevelt:

When the president was in Colorado hunting, the expedition was hard up for bear dogs. On the third or fourth day out Chief Guide Goff said: "Mr. President, I know a man who has good bear dogs. I will see if I can get them."

"All right," said the president, "do it." But the man turned down the guide.

"I will go over and see him myself," said the president, and he did.

"Nothing doing," said the owner of the dogs.

"Do you know who I am?" demanded the president, "I am the president of the United States."

"Well," replied the dog owner, "I don't care a — if you are, and wouldn't care a — if you were Booker T. Washington, you couldn't have my dogs."

And the president, concluding that the dog owner knew his own business best, went back to camp and told the story with much glee.

### COULD BARK LIKE A DOG.

Poet Rostand, Dupe for a Time, Becomes Shrewd Detective.

Paris.—M. Edmond Rostand, the poet and dramatist, took a villa near Bayonne recently and was kept awake every night by a dog which bayed the moon and roused all the other dogs within earshot. A man named Fallietout, said he could stop the barking, and actually succeeded in doing so.

A week later, however, the barking started again, and M. Rostand recognized the dismal tones of the leader of the chorus. He summoned Fallietout and questioned him as to his alleged power over the animals. Fallietout was flattered, and discoursed at large.

"And can you bark like a dog?" asked M. Rostand, in innocent admiration. Fallietout demonstrated. "Ah, I recognize that bark," said M. Rostand, "don't let me hear it again at night." Fallietout departed crestfallen, and no dog has barked beneath M. Rostand's windows since.