

TALK OF NEW YORK

Gossip of People and Events Told in Interesting Manner.

Fair Estate Reported Settled Again



NEW YORK.—Mrs. Willie K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Mrs. Herman Oelrichs must be breathing easier than they have for some years if it is true, as reported, that their lawyers have at last settled with the last of the heirs of the late Mr. Charles Fair. The latter was the brother of the ladies mentioned and with them equal heirs of the estate of the late bonanza king and United States Senator J. G. Fair.

The sisters' lawyers made no less than three settlements with the only known relatives of Charles Fair, being forced to succeed and more favorable settlements owing to renewed reports that Mrs. Fair, as a matter of fact, killed her husband by half an hour. After the latest of these three settlements, which was for a relatively small sum, \$250,000 I have heard, the sisters divided Charles Fair's estate, probably not less than \$5,000,000, between them, and the matter was thought to be closed.

Then appeared a brother of Mrs. Fair, who was supposed to be dead, one Frank Preston Smith of Newark, who proved to be not only alive but kicking. He also demanded a settlement. What troubled the lawyers of Mrs. Vanderbilt and Mrs. Oelrichs was the fact that this troublesome last heir had been in France making independent investigation and claimed to have ample proof that his sister survived her husband not less than 40 minutes after both were dashed against a tree upon being thrown from an automobile.

No figures have been given out by lawyers on either side as to the amount the sisters were compelled to settle with the latest heir, but it is rumored that the sum was large.

Mystery of the "Man in Black" Solved



WHO is the Man in Black? That has been the mystery of the "Wall street boat" of the Sandy Hook Steamship line throughout the season. The Man in Black has out-Wilkie Collinzed "The Woman in White." He has set 300 brokers guessing and has kept them guessing every morning and every afternoon as they made the journey from the Jersey shore to the city and vice versa. Every attempt that has been made to fathom the identity of the stranger has met with failure. If the attendants on the boat have known they have kept the secret well—until now. Approached and spoken to the Man in Black, as he has come to be known, has mumbled inarticulately and has walked quickly away.

Who is the Man in Black? The question has been asked and unanswered fully a thousand times by the Wall street men this season. The search for knowledge of the man's identity has aroused as much interest—even among the holders of state-rooms—as have market discussions, races with passing yachts or Lawson's advertisements. Even more. He is about 50 years old, of stooped shoulders, slight build, mouse-like face, furtive walk and twitching hands.

The Value of Russell Sage's Estate



A partial list of Mr. Sage's loans in the six months previous to his death shows the amounts he loaned and the firms that came to borrow from him. No single loan is for more than \$950,000. The total amount of these loans, with the interest, which the executors called in and collected, was more than \$29,000,000.

Mr. Sage also owned large blocks of gilt-edged bonds and stocks, the total value of which, figured at the market price of the day of Mr. Sage's death, exceeded \$30,000,000. Most of these stocks and bonds are to-day quoted at lower figures than they would have brought if sold at market prices on the day that Mr. Sage passed away.

Summarizing the whole appraisal, the gross personality is valued at \$64,411,218 and the gross realty at \$1,945,500, a total of \$66,356,718. As told to-day, the state will receive \$667,538 from the legatees as transfer tax. The executors will come in for \$995,636 each, as against the \$25,000 each left by Mr. Sage to each of his 25 nephews and nieces. Mrs. Sage's share of the estate is \$63,778,800.

Wall Street Men on Full Feed Again



THE high-class restaurants in the Wall street district, which are patronized by brokers and bankers, report a decided improvement in business in the last month. In the panic and post-panic period there was a marked falling off in the number of customers who patronized the restaurants and cafes of the better class in the financial section, but with the return of prosperity trade picked up rapidly.

When business is good and commissions plentiful, the broker takes a

party of his best customers out to luncheon with him almost every day, and, of course, foots the bills. He patronizes naturally the best restaurants and his weekly bill for luncheons is considerable of an item.

In bad times, however, all this is changed. Where the broker's office was filled with customers in the boom days, it is now deserted and the few clients on hand are not usually in cheerful mood. The broker, who sees his daily office expenses eating heavily into his capital, is in no mood to incur additional outlay. Instead of the merry luncheon party, he slips out to the nearest restaurant and eats a frugal meal.

Now, however, cheerfulness has supplanted pessimism in Wall street and broker and office boy alike are feeling the effect of it. So is the restaurant keeper.

DECORATED BY JAPAN



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Dr. Anita N. McGee, the American nurse who has just been decorated by Japan for her work in the Russo-Japanese war, is probably the most prominent woman physician in the United States. During the war with Spain, Dr. McGee had charge of the army nurse corps which she organized; in 1904, by agreement with the Mikado's government, she took a party of nurses to Japan where they served gratuitously for six months. It was for this work that she has been decorated.

END OF SHIPWRECKS

SCIENTIST'S NEW METHOD TO PREVENT SEA DISASTERS.

Daily Forecasts on Steamers by Wireless Data Plan of German Guest of Secretary of Agriculture.

New York.—Shipwrecks at sea are unnecessary, according to Dr. Peter Polls, a German meteorologist, who arrived here the other day as a representative of the German government to consult with the American department of agriculture.

The German visitor, who was accompanied by his wife, has inaugurated a system of interchangeable wireless weather reports among trans-Atlantic ships whereby an official weather map is to be issued aboard every cross-sea liner every day, giving weather forecasts up to 36 hours, by means of which ships can be warned in time to prepare for any kind of a storm. In the case of smaller vessels coming over the Grand Banks, the forecast can be sent far enough ahead to permit them to take refuge at St. Johns or Halifax.

Dr. Polls, who is director of the Ocken meteorological observatory, was in communication every day during the trip across the ocean with both continents by wireless through ships that were passing between his vessel and either shore.

In this way he got the latest information as to the weather and was

able to give particulars to approaching craft. At all hours, day and night, he had a radius of 1,000 kilometers covered by the Kaiserin wireless in sending weather bulletins.

Dr. Polls will go to Washington to try to induce the weather bureau to use numerals instead of words in its wireless code system. All nations except America use numerals, the objection to the use of code words, particularly those ending in "ing," being that they are confusing and more difficult to decipher.

During his voyage the German weather expert, by kites flown from the deck, took features of the heavens daily, but on the third day the kite got away and was traveling Europe-ward at the rate of about 30 miles an hour when last seen.

The last direct shore-to-ship message which the German forecaster received was at a distance of about 3,000 kilometers.

Twice a day the temperature, barometer, force of wind and direction of the air were taken by Dr. Polls and recorded in a map which he displayed on the bulletin board of the ship.

His weather warnings were sent to the Arabic, Lusitania, La Savoie and several other vessels going and coming.

"Dangers of collision in fogs, the unheralded approach of a storm and consequent danger to life and property," said Dr. Polls, "will be eliminated on the ocean when my plan of daily weather reports is perfected."

SEES RIVER FOREST

BOTTOM OF MISSISSIPPI STREWN WITH LOGS AND LUMBER.

Professional Diver Declares Bed of River is Like a Dense Thicket—Firm Planning to Dredge for Wood.

Burlington, Ia.—The professional diver, Eugene Ferris, who has been searching the bottom of the river in front of Burlington for a missing propeller wheel, has encountered much difficulty in gaining a solid footing on the bed of the river. He states that the sand and mud forming the bottom is so thickly strewn with logs and lumber that it is almost like trying to tread a dense thicket to make his way about, and there is no solid ground to walk upon. He says the logs and lumber stick up in all directions and are wedged in among each other so tightly that it is impossible to push them aside.

The report of Diver Ferris corroborates that of other divers here and elsewhere that the bed of the Mississippi river is a forest of logs and lumber that have accumulated during the long years of lumber and log rafting on the upper river. It is stated that the Chippewa and other tributaries of the Mississippi in the north down which most of the lumber has been rafted, is densely sown with lost lumber, and the proposition has been made that companies be formed to recover the timber.

In the present day of falling of the lumber supply it is thought that now buried in the mud of the river bed is immensely valuable, and at least one firm is said to be contemplating a systematic dredging for it. It is well-

ing vessels. It will be one of the tasks of the government, when constructing the proposed six-foot channel in the upper Mississippi, to clear the river bed of this material. And it is possible when the work begins salvage companies will be formed to take over the planks and logs fished up by the dredgers.

GOLD FEVER LURES BOYS.

Parents Hunt for Three Newsies Walking to Nevada.

Philadelphia.—Attracted by the belief that gold may be had for the asking in Nevada, three boys left their homes in this city for the gold fields and are being looked for by the police. Lawrence Noifert, age 15, of 732 South Twentieth street; Maxwell Bienstock, age 16, of 231 North Ninth street, and Jacob Jelborn, 16 years old, of 1516 South Sixteenth street, are the youthful adventurers for news of whose whereabouts their parents have asked the police.

For some time the boys have been in the habit of visiting an old miner who lives in the southern part of the city, and from him they heard tales of the mines that excited their imaginations. Preparations for the trip were begun six months ago, when the boys started to save the money they earned by selling newspapers. They planned to walk the entire distance, stopping in several of the large cities on the way to replenish their funds by doing odd jobs.

The police have learned that they were seen in Norristown and are now supposed to be in Reading, where the authorities have been notified to apprehend them.

NO. 13 CUTS BIG FIGURE.

Unlucky Numeral Runs Clear Through Real Estate Deal.

Spokane, Wash.—One of the strangest coincidences in the history of real estate dealers in Spokane has just become a matter of record in the office of the auditor of Spokane county.

Thirteen is prominent throughout the transaction, but E. Frank Lathrop, who has 13 letters in his name, laughs superstition to scorn. He bought lot 13 in block 13 of Thirteenth avenue of Spark brothers, a real estate brokerage firm, with 13 letters in its incorporated name, for \$513, on the afternoon of August 13. The property is in an addition legally registered as Woodlawn place, also containing 13 letters.

Karl G. Malmgren of the firm of Cutter & Malmgren, architects, who uses 13 letters in signing his name, prepared the plans for a bungalow, now under construction, which will cost Mr. Lathrop \$1,200. Edwin C. Edwards of Spokane, candidate for lieutenant governor of Washington on the Democratic ticket, who also has 13 letters in his name, has received \$13 premium for an insurance policy on the house, which, according to contract, will be ready for occupancy September 13.

George MacLean, with 13 letters in his name, is the builder. Mr. Lathrop is employed as bill clerk by the Holley-Mason Co., also composed of 13 letters.

SEA SOLID WITH CRABS.

Hundreds of Thousands Encountered South of Cape Henry.

Philadelphia.—To sail through a sea of crabs is by no means an everyday occurrence, yet the record of such an experience is written upon the log book of the steamship Capt. Bennett, which arrived here from Jamaica.

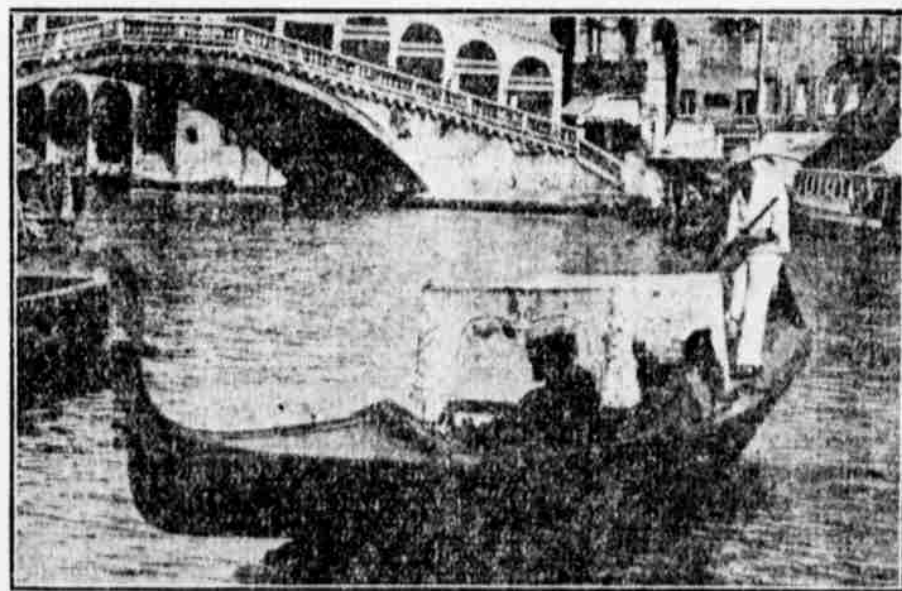
The Capt. Bennett was sailing just south of Cape Henry when she ran into the live sea. Hundreds of thousands of crabs, some floating singly, others collected in immense masses, swarmed around the ship. There was no trouble in scooping them up by bucketsful, the sailors say, and Capt. Olsen and his men had their fill of crabs, prepared by the ship's "doctor."

It is thought that the crabs were carried out to sea by recent storms from Chesapeake bay and were unable to return to their accustomed waters.

Heavy-Weight Can Walk.

York, Pa.—To win a new hat, Miss Marjorie Stubbins, assistant cook at the Elber cafe here, who weighs more than 200 pounds, accomplished the feat of walking 11 miles, from York to Wrightsville, in two hours and 45 minutes. In spite of the unusual exertion she experienced little fatigue.

THE GONDOLA OF VENICE



From stereograph, copyright by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.

The gondola is the ordinary passenger boat used in the canals of Venice. An ordinary gondola is 30 feet long and four or five feet wide, is flat-bottomed, making the draught light. In accordance with mediaeval regulation, gondolas are painted black. The gondolier stands erect, with his face toward the bow, and propels the boat with a forward stroke, making his way through the narrow and often crowded canals with amazing dexterity.

TEN YEARS OF BACKACHE.

Thousands of Women Suffer in the Same Way.

Mrs. Thos. Dunn, 153 Vine St., Columbus, Ohio, says: "For more than ten years I was in misery with backache. The simplest household completely exhausted me. I had no strength or ambition, was nervous and suffered headache and dizzy spells. After these years of pain I was despairing of ever being cured when Doan's Kidney Pills came to my notice and their use brought quick relief and a permanent cure. I am very grateful."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

BATHING AN INDIAN IDOL.

Curious Ceremony Attended by Thousands of Devout Pilgrims.

Thousands of pilgrims from the various outlying villages and other parts of the Hooghly district poured in from an early hour in the morning to the temple of Jagernath, says the Calcutta Statesman.

The image of the god is placed on a conspicuous part of the temple, so that it can be viewed at an advantage by the immense crowd of pilgrims, and there at a certain fixed hour the bathing ceremony commences.

The most curious part of the festival is that water is not poured on the image of the god until a certain small bird is found sitting on the topmost banner of the temple. There is a popular belief that the bird comes from Puri, the famous place of Hindu pilgrimage, to Maheeb on the day of this festival, and his very presence is an indication that the ceremony should commence. Immediately after the bath the bird disappears.

SOUNDS REASONABLE.



Karl—Papa, I suppose the soldiers have to learn to stand on one leg because they might have one foot shot off in war.

When the Minister Scored.

A country clergyman, while recently advocating the support of a charitable object, prefaced the circulation of the plate with the following address: "From the great sympathy I have witnessed in your countenances, there is only one thing I am afraid of—that some of you may feel inclined to give too much. Now, it is my duty to inform you that justice should always be a prime virtue to generosity; therefore, I wish to have it thoroughly understood that no person will think of putting anything on the plate who cannot pay his debts." The result was an overflowing collection.

The Sign of Power.

It is the greatest manifestation of power to be calm. It is easy to be active. Let the reins go, and the horses will drag you down. Anyone can do that; but he who can stop the plunging horses is the strong man. Which requires the greater strength—letting go, or restraining? The calm man is not the man who is dull. You must not mistake calmness for dullness or laziness. . . . Activity is the manifestation of the lower strength, calmness of the superior strength.—Swami Vivekananda.

"THE PALE GIRL."

Did Not Know Coffee Was the Cause.

In cold weather some people think a cup of hot coffee good to help keep warm. So it is—for a short time but the drug—caffeine—acts on the heart; to weaken the circulation and the reaction is to cause more chilliness.

There is a hot wholesome drink which a Dak girl found after a time, makes the blood warm and the heart strong.

She says: "Having lived for five years in N. Dak., I have used considerable coffee owing to the cold climate. As a result I had a dull headache regularly, suffered from indigestion, and had no 'life' in me.

"I was known as 'the pale girl,' and people thought I was just weakly. After a time I had heart trouble and became very nervous, never knew what it was to be real well. Took medicine but it never seemed to do any good.

"Since being married my husband and I both have thought coffee was harming us and we would quit, only to begin again, although we felt it was the same as poison to us.

"Then we got some Postum. Well, the effect was really wonderful. My complexion is clear now, headache gone, and I have a great deal of energy I had never known while drinking coffee.

"I haven't been troubled with indigestion since using Postum, am not nervous, and need no medicine. We have a little girl and boy who both love Postum and thrive on it and Grape-Nuts."

"There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.