

IN THE CITIES

Detroit Devises Economic Diet for His Horse

DETROIT.—With the thermometer registering near zero mark and nothing but a coal pile in the open as a sheltering and hiding place, Albert Lee Scott, special officer for the Highland Park Humane society, waited for five hours in the dark to trap a man who wanted to make his horse a "vegetarian."

"I had been watching the man and his starved-looking critter for several weeks," said Officer Scott, "but I could not understand why the animal was in such poor shape. At last one of the man's neighbors told me that he did not believe the horse was being fed, as never had he seen hay or oats enter the barn door."

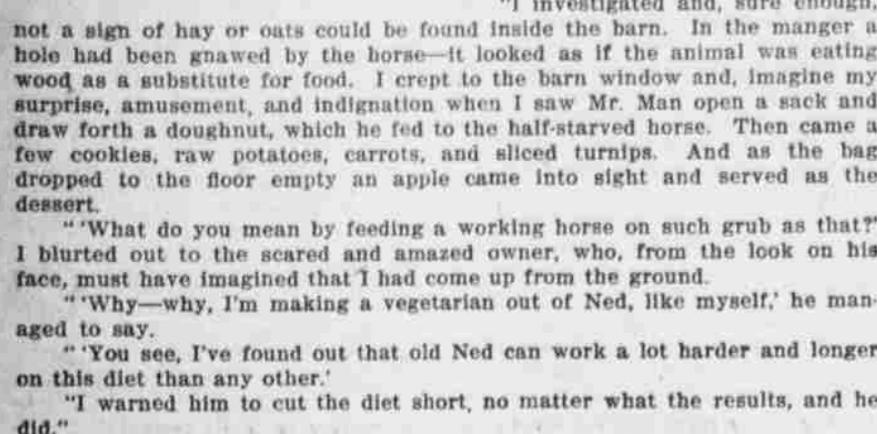
"I investigated and, sure enough, not a sign of hay or oats could be found inside the barn. In the manger a hole had been gnawed by the horse—it looked as if the animal was eating wood as a substitute for food. I crept to the barn window and, imagine my surprise, amusement, and indignation when I saw Mr. Man open a sack and draw forth a doughnut, which he fed to the half-starved horse. Then came a few cookies, raw potatoes, carrots, and sliced turnips. And as the bag dropped to the floor empty an apple came into sight and served as the dessert."

"What do you mean by feeding a working horse on such grub as that?" I blurted out to the scared and amazed owner, who, from the look on his face, must have imagined that I had come up from the ground.

"Why—why, I'm making a vegetarian out of Ned, like myself," he managed to say.

"You see, I've found out that old Ned can work a lot harder and longer on this diet than any other."

"I warned him to cut the diet short, no matter what the results, and he did."



Little Chicago Boy Wins a Pet Dog by Petition

CHICAGO.—Francis Stifler has a dog, a little fox terrier. But it took a long, persistent campaign of advertising and "follow-up" letter writing to break down the prejudice and opposition of two persons—his father and mother.

Rev. James Madison Stifler, pastor of the First Baptist church of Evanston, a suburb, had put his foot down and uttered an emphatic "no," which he believed ended the argument. Mrs. Stifler explained that her house would never be tidy and neat with a "pup" running loose in it, pulling the cloth off the table and sliding the rugs into a corner. But Francis, a precocious youth of eleven years, wanted a dog and went after it in true American boy style. Letters began to appear in all parts of the house and many unexpected places. The first letter, placed in the family Bible, read: "Which would you rather have—a sad boy and a clean floor or a happy boy and a floor with a few specks on it?"

Mrs. Stifler smiled and showed the communication to her husband, but he said nothing. Still the letters came until one day the minister had a birthday.

"What do you want for your birthday?" Francis asked his father.

"One day of rest," was the reply.

No letters came that day, but instead a bar of music without notes, but one long "rest." The letters began again the next day.

Then one day Francis bounded into the house bearing a petition signed by many neighbors and several members of Dr. Stifler's congregation, asking that the lad be permitted to have a dog. The obturate father capitulated and the dog arrived very soon.



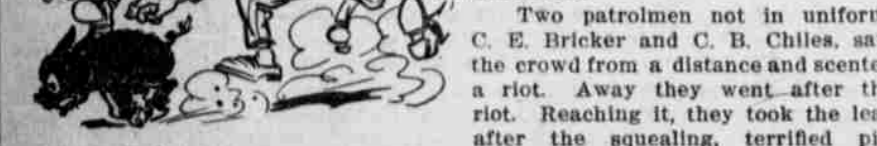
Piggy Visited a Basket Ball Game and a Church

KANSAS CITY.—The pig, with its tail curled up tight and scared to death in its own pigghy way, cropped out first in the midst of basket ball game on the court of the Linwood school at Woodland avenue on a recent afternoon. It got in the way of the ball, and after tumbling around a bit it picked itself up and dashed away. Away after it went the basket ball game, everything except the ball and the baskets. Following after went the spectators.

Two patrolmen not in uniform, C. E. Bricker and C. B. Chiles, saw the crowd from a distance and scented a riot. Away they went after the riot. Reaching it, they took the lead after the squealing, terrified pig, greased with his own perspiration, slid out of Bricker's hands, leaving the patrolman in the dust.

Three blocks east on Linwood, in and out of yards, dodging behind apartments, through alleys went Piggy. After him went the crowd. Finally he doubled back and landed squarely in front of the Linwood Presbyterian church, almost where he had started. The church door seemed open, and in went the collection of ham, bacon, lard and feet. It was a treacherous refuge. The vestibule proved a blind alley. The patrolmen closed in and captured their prey after a good tussle, with Piggy's squeals raising the echoes.

Then a patrol wagon came and took Piggy and patrolmen to the Woodland avenue station, where he was placed in a cell. He weighs fifty pounds and has a white right leg. It is believed he escaped from some passing wagon carrying him and his relatives to slaughter.



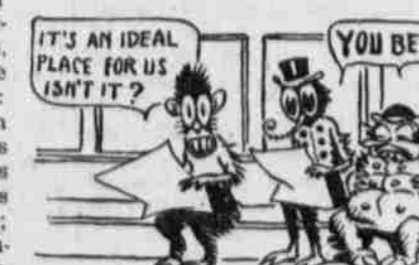
Many Germs Ride in the New York Subway Trains

NEW YORK.—The health department has issued a warning to the public that a series of tests by four inspectors shows that subway air is heavily germ laden, and travelers are in greater danger of infection than of death or injury through short circuits, fires or explosives.

Dr. William H. Park, director of the research laboratories, found the following germs on the slides submitted by the inspectors: Haemolytic streptococcus, which poisons the blood; staphylococcus pyogenes aureus, which causes boils and skin eruptions; streptococcus pyogenes, a similar micrococcus; pneumococcus lanceolatus, the pneumonia germ; micrococcus catarrhalis, which inflames the eyes, and bacillus subtilis, which seems to have no particular mission. The method followed by the inspectors would not have shown tubercle bacilli if they existed, but the department is satisfied that since other organisms, several of which are spread by coughing, were present "it was clearly indicated that tubercle bacilli would be transmitted in crowded trains."

The investigation began at the Atlantic avenue station in Brooklyn, where the inspectors exposed to the air in an express train glass dishes containing a jellylike substance which attracts germs. After a sufficient interval the dishes were covered and the germs allowed to reproduce and multiply, forming cultures or colonies.

These colonies number millions after the dishes are kept at body heat for a day, and can be seen easily with the microscope. On one plate exposed in a crowded downtown express train in Manhattan at 8:40 a. m., 68 colonies were counted, including pneumonia germs. There were 113 colonies on a plate uncovered at 5 p. m.



Popularity. In the lowest and most common sense, is not worth having. Do your duty to the best of your power, win the approbation of your own conscience, and popularity, in its best and highest sense, is sure to follow.—Sir John Parkington.

All the Doctor's Fault. Doctor—"You have nervous dyspepsia, same as Brown had. His was caused by worrying over his butcher's bill. I directed him to stop worrying." Stranger—"Yes, and now he's cured, and I've got it. I'm his butcher."

GEORGE STALLINGS FEARFUL OF NUMBER 13



Manager George Stallings of Boston Braves.

George T. Stallings, Boston's miracle man and leader of the Braves, is one of the few major league managers who take nothing for granted. In the general opinion the acquisition of Sherwood Magee by the world's champions spells repeated success in 1915. The big chief might reasonably share the popular belief were it not for his ingrown superstition.

"I think," says Stallings, "that I have the best club in the league and that it should win again with an even break of luck. Magee is bound to bolster the outfield, which showed the only weakness last year, and I have a number of very promising young pitchers to share the honors with my big three—Rudolph, James and Tyler.

But, do you know, I have won just an even dozen pennants, and I naturally regard with some apprehension the approaching obstacle to a thirteenth victory.

"My chances, of course, at present appear more glowing than a year ago, for the aggregation has been molded into a competent fighting unit.

"I do not believe such a heart-breaking finish will be necessary this year. Yet McGraw, a real wizard, cannot be counted out until the flag falls. Hans Lobert will help his club greatly, and if his pitching is as good as it should be the Giants will be mighty hard to stop. I expect New York, as usual, to furnish the liveliest opposition."

WHITNEY RETURNS TO POLO

Former Captain of "Big Four" Decides to Again Take Up Game—Has Many Fine Ponies.

Admirers of polo will be glad to learn that Harry Payne Whitney, probably the greatest polo captain that ever guided a team to victory on the field, will take more personal interest in polo this year than he did last. In 1913 he was unable to play because he had injured a shoulder while hunting. He is now recovered and will take part in several games this season.

Mr. Whitney's return to the saddle does not necessarily mean that he will again be a member of the American team which will go to England after the cup. Even though he had not met with the accident early last year, he would not have played on the Big Four.



Harry Payne Whitney.

team. Previous to the mishap he had declared that he would not be one of the members of the team that would defend the cup.

The reason he advanced was that the training necessary to perfect his physical condition for the international polo series was too severe, and he did not care to undergo the ordeal. But with Mr. Whitney in the saddle again this year, he may round into form gradually and thus lead up to the possibility of his being one of the American four who may challenge for the cup in 1916. The date of the challenge will depend on the continuation of the war.

Mr. Whitney now has 26 polo ponies in his training quarters. This is the biggest individually owned string in the country. Mr. Whitney is keeping these fine mounts so that he will have plenty of material to call upon when he starts to play next summer.

Fed Salaries Total \$600,000.

It is freely admitted by the Federals that players who have signed with them since last season will receive big increases in salary. Dalton, Fischer and Allen of the Brooklyn team have taken the leap; also Magee and Ferritt of the Cardinals, Ed Konetchy of the Pirates, Charley Deal and Leslie Mann of the Braves, Berghammer of the Reds, Marshall of the Phillies, Bender and Plank of the Athletics, Hagerman of the Indians, and Bedient and Yerkes of the Red Sox. The total salaries in the Federal league this year will exceed \$600,000, it is said. This means 2,400, or 25-cent admissions—an average of \$600,000 for each club at home.

RIGLER'S PRIDE HURT

Umpire in Big Demand as Speaker at Baseball Banquets.

Fans Cheered Wildly for Theodore Roosevelt as New Umpire Strutted Across Field—Was Fearful of Having Eyes Tested.

Charley Rigler, National league umpire, who lives in Cleveland, is chock full of good baseball stories and is in great demand as a speaker at baseball banquets. Charley knows how to tell a story, too. Here are two samples:

"The first year I broke into the National league I was assigned to umpire a game between the Army and Navy teams. The two major leagues alternated each year in supplying an umpire for this game.

"I was quite proud of my assignment, and a few minutes before game time I walked out of the dressing room to the home plate. I had to walk the full length of the field and, to my great surprise and pleasure, every step I took was marked by the loudest cheering I ever heard. My chest swelled to twice its normal size until I found Teddy Roosevelt had entered the field just as I had emerged from the dressing-room, and that all the cheering was for him.

"About five years ago the National league decreed that all its umpires must have their eyes tested. Like most of the umps, I worried a bit about this because I didn't know what kind of a test it would be.

"I borrowed one of the charts used by opticians, and learned every line of letters on it so that I could recite each, letter for letter, either backward or forward.

"One day I was passing through the Colonial arcade in Cleveland with Umpire Filly Evans. I called his attention to a chart in an optician's win-



Umpire Rigler.

dow as we passed. When we had walked on about ninety feet, I asked Bill if he could read the letters on the chart. Bill said he couldn't—that he could hardly see the chart.

"When I told him I could, he offered to buy the dinner that evening if I made good. I recited my little piece perfectly, and when Bill examined the chart and found I was correct, he felt pretty shaky about his eyesight. But his spirits rose again when I took him to the optician's place, turned my back to the chart and spoke my little piece again."

GOLF IS GAINING CONVERTS

Sport Now Reaches Into All Types and Ages of Men for Its Followers—John McGraw Is Latest.

Without a doubt the game of golf is gaining converts, perhaps more rapidly than any other sport. Once looked upon as distinctly the sport of the men of some age and avocation, it reaches now into all ages and types of men for its followers.

Wide press agenting, one golf expert declares, is responsible for the advance in golfing. Word that sturdy athletes like Christy Mathewson and other great ballplayers had turned to chasing the little white ball across the green brought many followers to the game. They even report that John J. McGraw of the Giants is about to take up the pastime of John D. Rockefeller and other notables.

The report, however, seems to be based on nothing more tangible than the fact that "Jaw" was presented with a fine assortment of golf sticks.

The army of fanatics who play the game in this country was increased last year by more than 50,000, according to representatives of golf supply houses.

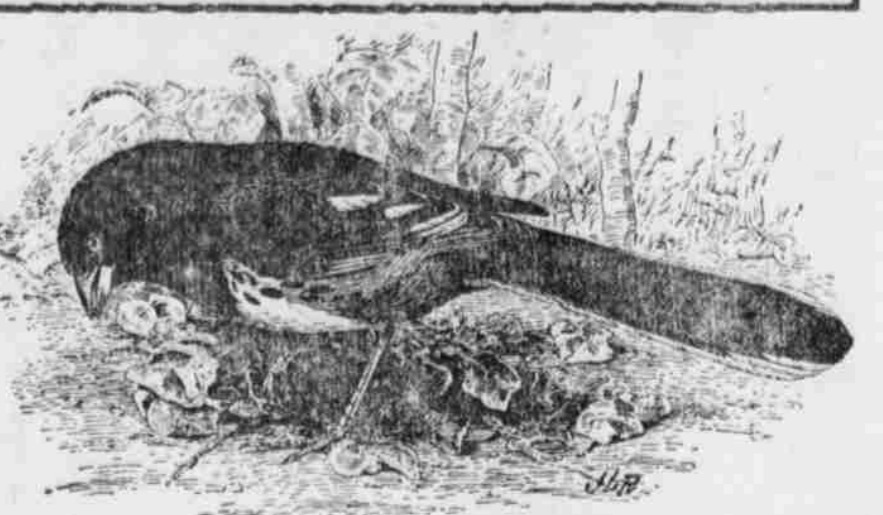
Harvard Bars the Tango.

There will be no modern dancing for Harvard's track athletes if Coaches Donovan and Powers know of it. The Crimson coaches have no place on their teams for tango dancers, although both admit that the dances are all right in their place. Athletes, however, get enough exercise as it is in training. They hold the chances for sprains in dancing are many, and overindulgence in exercise might bring on a breakdown, the coaches aver.

Will Bid for Golf Title.

England will bid actively for just one athletic title this year, according to the best word relayed here from London. Participation in practically all sport branches is knocked out by the war, but Harry Vardon will try to grab the national open golf championship, and only Francis Ouimet and Chick Evans are conceded chances of beating the Englishman. If Vardon carries off the honors, he will give England a batting average of 1,000 in the international contest series. There will be no international polo and no rowing contests this year, and it is to be expected that tennis enthusiasts will see competition for the Davis cup.

TOWHEE KILLS BEETLES IN EARLY SPRING



"Towhee"—The Upper Part of Body Is Black; the Under White and the Sides Chestnut.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

After snow has disappeared in the early spring an investigation among the leaves near a fence or in a thicket will often disclose the little bird known as the towhee, chewink, or ground robin, scratching for his dinner like a hen. This dinner will consist of beetles and larvae of insects harmful to crops, which have been spending the winter under old leaves.

The good which the towhee does in this way can hardly be overestimated, since the death of a single insect at this time, before it has had an opportunity to deposit its eggs, is equivalent to the destruction of a host later in the year. The towhee has also been credited with visiting potato fields and feeding upon the potato beetle. Its vegetable food consists of seeds and small wild fruits, but no complaint on this score is known to have been made. So far as observation goes, the bird never touches either cultivated fruit or grain; in fact, it is too shy and retiring even to stay about gardens for any length of time.

The towhee breeds from the middle states northward and winters in the southern half of the country. Naturally associated with catbird and brown thrasher, it lives in much the same places, though it is more given to haunting hedgerows along roads and fences.

"Some Common Birds Useful to the Farmer" is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 639 of the United States Department of Agriculture, which describes other useful birds. The pamphlet may be had by applying to the department.

COMFORT FOR YOUNG CHICKS

Essential Requirements Are Normal Heat, Clean Quarters, Fresh Air and Proper Exercise.

The care of the young chick, from the time it is hatched until it is sold, is bound up in the one word "comfort." The normal amount of heat, clean quarters, good, fresh air with plenty of room and exercise—these are the essential requirements, and they must be supplied. Good breeding has more to do with healthy chicks and normal growth than good incubation. Many persons can hatch large numbers of chicks, but comparatively few can raise them successfully. The experienced breeder begins long before the hatching season to prepare for the management of his growing stock, by the careful selection of breeders.

Labor and feed will avail little or nothing if the chicks do not inherit a strong, vigorous constitution. This quality is entirely dependent upon the age and condition of the breeding stock. Discouragement and failure are sure to follow where immature pullets, diseased hens, or hens of low vitality are used as breeders. Only strong, vigorous hens which have passed their first year as layers should go into the breeding pens. The eggs from such hens which have been mated to large, healthy cockerels, should be gathered carefully and kept in a temperature of not more than 60 degrees, and 50 will not do any harm. The sooner the eggs are incubated after being laid the better.

CLOVER UPON WINTER WHEAT

Practice Found to Have Number of Advantages—Firm, Compact Seed Bed Is Required.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)

Many farmers make a practice of sowing their clover seed upon the winter wheat early in the spring, depending upon the alternate freezing and thawing of the ground to work the seed down into the crevices.

I have made it a practice to sow my clover seed on winter wheat in the spring for a number of years and find that it has a number of advantages. Grass and clover seed require a firm, compact seed bed.

In my own practice I prefer to delay the sowing of the clover seed until the ground is dry enough to harrow and apply the seed with a wheelbarrow seeder and give the wheat a harrowing with a light smoothing harrow with the teeth set well apart. This covers the clover seeds and proves very beneficial to the wheat crop, especially during the dry seasons. Either method is preferable to sowing seed with spring grain crops.

SUPERIOR RATIONS FOR COW

Combinations Worked Out by Nebraska Agricultural College—Alfalfa Forms Big Part.

The best rations for the dairy cow, according to the most recent investigations of the Nebraska College of Agriculture, are as follows for a 1,200-pound dairy cow of the proper sort and producing 30 pounds of milk daily:

Ration No. 1—Twelve pounds of alfalfa, 36 pounds of corn silage, 4 pounds of ground corn and 3 pounds of bran.

Ration No. 2—Where silage is not available. Fifteen pounds of alfalfa, 6 pounds of ground corn, 8 pounds of corn stover and 2 pounds of gluten meal.

Ration No. 3—Where neither silage nor alfalfa are available. Twelve pounds of millet, 12 pounds of sorghum hay, 2 pounds of ground corn and 3 pounds of oil meal.

SEED AN IMPORTANT MATTER

Article of Highest Quality Means Several Dollars More to the Acre in Net Returns.

(By LE ROY CARY, Associate Horticulturist, Minnesota Experiment Station.)

Good seed is an important matter to the gardener as well as the farmer. It never pays to buy cheap seed. Experiments were carried on a year or two ago by the Pennsylvania experiment station with some ten or more strains of cabbage seed of the same varieties from different farms.

They found variations of yield from 5 to 10 or 15 tons an acre, according to the strain of seed.

The seed of the highest quality meant several dollars more to the acre in net returns, even if it did cost a few cents more a pound.

Wasted Energy. It takes a lot of the hen's energy to warm up ice-cold feed.