

City Items in Terse Form

Metropolitan News of Interest to All Readers

Faithful Dog Avenges a Policeman



NEW YORK.—Patrolman Lawrence Cummins of the East One Hundred and Fourth street police station, on whose post the car barn gang has its headquarters, was beaten savagely by members of that band and was in the hospital for several weeks.

The first request Cummins made to Capt. Corcoran when he reported again for duty was to be assigned to his old post. He said he wanted to show the toughs that he was not afraid of them and that they could not drive a policeman from his place of duty. Capt. Corcoran took the same view and sent Cummins back.

From the moment he resumed his work the gang annoyed Cummins, but it was not until the other night that the roughs got a chance to "do him up" again. He found about a dozen of them on the street insulting women who passed.

"Move on," commanded Cummins. But a truck driver, 19 years old, hurried insults at the policeman. Cummins arrested him. The rest of the gang disappeared. Cummins started for the police station with his prisoner, but as they went along there was a

call from a roof. The prisoner broke from Cummins and ran into a house. The gang had gone to a roof, torn away the chimney and waited for the policeman and his prisoner. When the signal was given and the prisoner had fled from the firing zone his friends hurled the chimney bricks down at Cummins. After three had struck him on the head he fell unconscious. Men who saw the attack ran to the station. Sergt. Higgins and eight bluecoats raced to the rescue of their comrade.

Twice a week a Dalmatian dog, Bessie, who belongs to truck company No. 26 on One Hundred and Fourteenth street, visits the East One Hundred and Fourth street station, and has a supper at the expense of John Ritter. That night she was there and she went with the rescue squad.

When the men entered the house from which the bricks had been hurled on Cummins the dog went with them. But while the sergeant and his men went to the roof Bessie stopped at the second floor.

Back in a dark corner of the tenement hallway she had caught sight of a man, and, instead of going further, she leaped for him. She got a good on his trousers and he could not beat her off. Five minutes afterward the policemen on their way back to the street after a fruitless search, heard a scuffle. They found Bessie still holding on to the man. He was the escaped prisoner.

Law Can't Suppress Babies' Howls



BROOKLYN.—Anxiously awaiting the outcome of the important case of Tucker against Coch, tried in the Flatbush court, Brooklyn, Flatbush mothers learned with great relief that they would not be forced to the expense of equipping their teething babies with Maxim silencers, Coch lost and the babies of Flatbush were triumphant.

Passing, Solomon-like, on the great issue, Magistrate Naumer ruled that even a Flatbush infant must have teeth to go through the world with. Should one be expected to worry through life with gums innocent of molars and incisors, missing the joys of sinking them into surlin at 30 cents a pound? To be sure not. Was Mr. Coch a toothless baby? Of course he wasn't. Didn't he cry when the soothing syrup failed to soothe? He did. Well, then, why should the Tucker baby be denied that world-old privilege of infancy? Mr. Coch could adduce nothing to overthrow this argument.

So it was ruled by the learned court

that it was well within the old Roman, the English common, the revised or unrevised statutes, the city ordinances, Magna Charta, or even the plain or common variety of law for any Flatbush baby to howl and yowl and rip up the palpitating silence of the Flatbush night and turn it inside out while his "toofens" are pushing themselves out as a protest against a milk diet. This applies to both boy and girl babies not only in Flatbush, but all over Brooklyn.

Summer Tucker and Arnold Coch live in adjoining cottages, or villas, as they obtain in Flatbush, in Martense street. All was well between them until the Tucker baby arrived. They had borrowed and loaned lawn mowers, exchanged garden seeds and talked radish, lettuce and other garden crops. But with the coming of the Tucker heir a gulf opened.

Like most infants of its age, the Tucker one is busily engaged in bringing in teeth. Now, Mr. Coch has no objection to teeth. He owns a lot himself. But the day and night vocal demonstrations with which the Tucker baby accompanied their efforts to push through made Coch peevish. He suggested a motor boat muffler or something like that to Mr. Tucker and the latter was irritated. He had his neighbor summoned to court, saying he had abused him.

Mississippi Catfish Are Thirsty



ST. LOUIS.—It is only within the memory of the oldest of river men that the rivers forming the great Mississippi system have been so low in the summer as they have this year. The old-timers say the lowest stages this year can be compared only with those of 1864, when the catfish had to climb out into the fields to molaten their parched throats with the dew.

North of St. Louis steamboat traffic is almost at a standstill on account of the low water in the Upper Mississippi. The Diamond Jo line has been forced to take off its through boats to St. Paul and has great difficulty in getting its local packets through to Burlington, Ia. Many excursion boats are tied up. Several of the boats have been damaged in an effort to navigate.

But while the steamboat interests are suffering the pearl button factories and the pearl hunters are reaping a harvest. Hundreds of men, women and children can be seen along the water front of every town hunting clams. The shells are sold to the button factories after being searched for pearls. Many fine pearls have been found. One found by a Dubuque man was sold for \$400.

If it were not for the water that comes out of the Missouri, steamboat traffic would be suspended between here and Cairo. While the Missouri has not risen this year to within 15 feet of the flood stage, it has maintained a steady flow of water, enough to keep the steamboats going on the Mississippi and enough for the boats running on that stream. Still, unless there are rains soon in the north the Missouri is likely to go very low this fall, although not as low as it has been in some years. It has been many years since the Missouri has fallen below the zero stage. It is now eight feet above that stage, which is about the usual flow in the fall.

King Hog Makes Lucky Farmer Glad



KANSAS CITY.—The greatest monomaker on the farm during the past year has been the hog. The farmer with a carload of hogs was assured of an automobile, a trip to Europe, or more farm land. Never in modern history have hogs been sold at such high prices, on a strictly gold basis, of course, as during the past several months.

Early in the present year there were reports of a "hog shortage" from many hog-raising districts. And market receipts bore out the reports. From January 1, 1910, to July 1, 1910, receipts at the five leading western markets—Chicago, Kansas City, Oma-

ha, St. Louis and St. Joseph—were, in round numbers, two and one-fourth million head less than during the corresponding six months of 1909. Arrivals at the five big points in the first half of 1909 numbered 9,280,000. In the first half of 1910 receipts at the previously mentioned markets were 2,890,000. In other words, a growing population was fed on 75 per cent. of the hogs that were consumed in the first six months of 1909. The direct effect of the decrease in hog receipts, while the population was unquestionably increasing, was a sharp advance in market value of swine.

At the Kansas City stockyards the average cost of hogs for the first six months of 1909 was \$6.64 per hundredweight. In the first half of 1910 the average cost at the same market was \$9.31, showing a gain of \$2.67 per hundredweight, or about 40 per cent. At all the other markets the advance in prices was practically equal to that at Kansas City.

VEILS FOR SUMMER



By JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

The veil for summer is the aristocrat of creations, falling about the brim of hats and over faces and floating free to the summer winds. Dots, set on, have been shown less favor than lace patterns on a net ground or large meshed nets with figures woven in.

Those veils which are not of the floating kind are of the latter variety and are worn with wide-brimmed hats and drawn to the back and under the collar. It requires some care to pin and adjust them correctly, and getting under them is a matter that consumes time. They are very neat in appearance, however, and very becoming. Hence their wearers are willing to put in the necessary time to adjust and readjust them.

The lace veils show light pattern having a scroll border and butterflies, birds or even tiny chanticleers woven in. The heavy figures proved too un-

becoming to meet with anything like general favor. They were, in fact, disfiguring. Black chantilly and white wash nets with scroll borders are the most popular of floating veils, and fancy large-meshed nets hold first place in the others.

The net veils just described have been adopted for mourning wear as cooler than the usual mourning fabrics, for those people who must be out a great deal. They are bordered with bands of crape or with silk grenadine or other mourning fabric. Rows of grosgrain ribbon, graduated in width or otherwise, are also used as a border finish. Veils of this kind hang straight from the hat brim and reach below the bust line.

A wide-brimmed sailor for general wear, trimmed with a band and adorned with a white net-veil is about as satisfactory as any hat can be.

PARISIAN MODEL



This model is of batiste made with tucks and finished in front with a band of embroidery and a plaited frill of the batiste.

The epaulettes and deep cuffs are also tucked and the rather full sleeves are encircled with bands of the embroidery.

Needlework for Gifts.

Pretty work to keep on hand for summer and to get ready for the next gift occasion is the shirtwaist frill of sheer handkerchief linen and its buttons made to match.

The scalloped edge of a graduated strip for the frill is done in china-blue embroidery cotton and a set of six buttons for the front box plait of the shirtwaist completes the gift.

Cover button molds with china-blue linen worked with white cotton. These two, mounted upon tissue paper (after the frill is pressed into plait) and boxed, make a most attractive little gift and represent hours well spent.

Red Leather Belts.

A pretty and odd finish is given to the belt of many a Russian blouse by a touch of red leather. Sometimes it is just an oblong piece of leather sewed on the belt, at the back where the blouse is fastened to coat. Sometimes patches of leather are sewed on the front where the belt fastens. While these may be used on a coat of any color with which red may be combined, it is particularly effective on blouses of black and white shepherd's checks.

BLOUSES THAT ARE POPULAR

Very Attractive and Becoming Designs Are Being Introduced This Season.

Overblouse effects are extremely popular this summer, and some very attractive and becoming designs of this order are being introduced. The waist may, of course, be worn with any preferred skirt of harmonizing design, either attached in semi-princess style or adjusted separately.

A French lining forms the basis of many of the waists, serving as a foundation for the underbody, which will prove the most effective if made of allover lace, net or tucking, the standing color being of the same material. The waist proper is tucked from both shoulder seams in front and back, the front tucks terminating either at bust depth or at the waistline as preferred. At the neck edge it is cut in circular fashion, with a deeply pointed opening at the center front.

The sleeve caps may be made with or without an opening to correspond. Two sleeve models are given for the underbody. The one-seam fitted sleeves may be made in full or shorter length while the puff sleeves are in elbow length only.

The present season is very prolific in pretty fabrics that would be entirely appropriate for the purpose. Silk, cashmere, albatross, messaline, shantung, foulard and chiffon pongee are advantageously used.

Hats for Young Girls.

Many founced hats are being worn by young girls, the materials being lace or plaited chiffon over lace. The forms these hats take are extremely diversified, some of them being tall, inverted pot shapes, with seven or eight inch lace founces draped from the top of the high crown and falling an inch or more below the brim all round. Festoons of baby rosebuds not larger in diameter than half an inch are used around the tops of the crowns of such lace hats; or a single tinted gardenia with foliage is placed at the left side of the front.—Harper's Bazar.

Tip on Scalp Massage.

A skillful doctor of the scalp says she gets best results for the hair by working freely on the muscles that run down the neck at each side just under the ears. These connect closely with the blood vessels in the scalp and blood is forced up into healthy life.

When electricity is used women who can stand little of it on the head can have it applied through tips of fingers on these neck muscles.

DOINGS AT THE CAPITAL

Secretary Wilson Now the Bug Man



WASHINGTON.—Added to his already ready manifold duties, James Wilson, the secretary of agriculture, is now made by congress the chief bug inspector of the United States. It came about with the passage of a law identical with the pure food and drug act, but covering all insecticides and fungicides. The enforcement of the law, as in the pure food law, is vested in a commission consisting of the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of commerce and labor and the secretary of agriculture. But the two cabinet officers first named are sort of commissioners emeritus. The real work comes down to the secretary of agriculture.

The bug commission has appointed the legal officers of the three departments, R. E. Cabell, commissioner of Internal Revenue; Charles Early, solicitor of the department of commerce and labor, and George P. McCabe, solicitor of the department of agriculture, as a subcommittee to look after the legal enforcement of the law. This subcommittee is up against a hard problem already. The law defines an insecticide as a compound for "repelling, destroying, mitigating or

preventing" any insect. The law of officers, after due consultation, admitted that while they understood how an insect might be repelled or destroyed, they did not see how they could prevent an insect or mitigate him.

The law is specific in declaring against misbranding insecticides. If a well-meaning citizen of the United States puts up a compound that he says will rid a house of, say, bugs, within a specified length of time, there seems no way to determine whether the compound is misbranded, unless the secretary of agriculture goes to the premises and holds a stop-watch on the roaches, to see whether they mitigate or vacate within the time limit.

The biological survey has issued an informal statement already, saying that the law is remiss in that it does not include rats among the insects to be prevented. An effort is being made to see whether the law officers are willing to consider rats as insects.

Dr. Henshaw of the biological survey and Prof. Crittenden of the bureau of entomology are going to call to their aid the legal advice of Judge Pugh of the police court. Judge Pugh, while assistant district attorney some years ago, established a reputation in the police court by arguing that, legally, a lop-eared rabbit was a chicken within the meaning of the act. If anybody can prove a sewer rat to be a centipede Judge Pugh is the man, it is believed.

How Old Mother Earth Hides Her Age



OLD MOTHER EARTH, like femininity through all time, but with her far greater success than most of her sex, has defied man to learn her age. Scientists still admit their defeat. Their latest estimate credits her with "not above 70,000,000 years, or below 55,000,000 years." This estimate, given official sanction through publication by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, is the result of studies by Frank Wigglesworth Clarke and George F. Becker of the United States geological survey, who have followed the subject with considerable interest.

Prof. Clarke, in a paper entitled "A Preliminary Study of Chemical Denudation," presents a review of all the available data not only for the United States, but for the world of the proposition from a chemical point of view. Mr. Becker, on the other hand, discusses the question in a paper on "The

Age of the Earth" from a more philosophical point of view.

The age of the earth always has been a subject for discussion among men of science and largely without any definite agreement among the representatives of the different branches of studies on account of the different points of attack.

Briefly, the more recent discussions as to the earth's age have placed the time as follows:

Lord Kelvin, in 1862, estimated the earth's age at 20,000,000 to 40,000,000 and perhaps 98,000,000 years.

Clarence King and Carl Barus, in 1833, placed the age at 24,000,000 years.

Lord Kelvin in 1897 revised his figures from 20,000,000 to 40,000,000 years.

De Lapparent, in 1890, said it was 67,000,000 to 90,000,000 years.

Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in 1893, placed the maximum age at 70,000,000 years.

J. Joly, in 1899, estimated the age of the ocean at 80,000,000 to 90,000,000 years.

W. J. Sollas, in 1909, placed the age of the ocean at 80,000,000 to 150,000,000 years.

Vast Sum Which We Spend on Peanuts



THE person who buys a nickel's worth of peanuts to munch at the ball game, to feed the squirrels in the park or to gladden the hearts of children at home, scarcely realizes that he has contributed to an industry that last year formed a million-dollar crop, and which placed on the market in various forms, reached the enormous sum of \$36,000,000. But it is a fact, according to Washington statisticians.

This little seductive nut—a resolution to "eat just one" is soon forgotten—whose birthplace is America, was, until comparatively recently, unappreciated either as to the "money in them" or as a really nutritious product. Today the peanut plays an important part in pleasure, from the swell dinner party to the ever-present democracy of the circus, ball game or picnic. After all, what is a ball game, picnic or a circus without the peanut accompaniment?

By far the largest part of the crop is consumed from the peanut stand, the little whistle sign of the roaster being the signal for the average youngster to suggest to dad or ma that some of them would be very acceptable, and the paternal or maternal parent's willingness—nine times out of ten—to invest. Yet there are millions of bushels that go to the fattening of hogs throughout the south, the feeding of poultry, while the vines, often cured as hay, feed thousands of head of cattle, and even old Mother Earth is nourished by the roots of the plant, which furnishes nitrogen to it from the air.

The farming of peanuts during the past five years—not longer than this—has become an established industry of this country. At present about five-sixths of the crop comes from Virginia and most of the balance from Tennessee, Georgia, West Virginia and the Carolinas, although most of the southern states contribute some. As the peanut industry has increased so has the use of all nuts grown mightily as an article of food during the last decade, and the entire family now forms a most important part of the diet of the physical culturist and vegetarian.

General Wood May Stir Up the Army



THE army is on the anxious seat. With a new boss on the job it is expected Major Gen. Leonard Wood, chief of staff, will make things hum until his own ideas are put into operation. Although he was appointed to succeed Major Gen. Franklin J. Bell last October, since that time he has been on a trip to Argentina to represent the United States at the centennial celebration, and has only lately returned to Washington.

In the meantime many important questions have been piling up awaiting his decision. Just what effect the personality of the new chief of staff will have on the army is a matter of much moment to the officers who know something of his strenuous ca-

reer. It is expected he will undertake most actively a number of reforms which might not meet with the approval of the army at large.

One of the questions which will be taken up by General Wood is the physical test of officers. Since President Roosevelt inaugurated this system, many officers have been hoping that it would be modified. General Wood is one of the foremost of physical culture enthusiasts.

Instead of being made milder, it is not unlikely that the tests will be made harder than ever. The detail of troops to the Philippines is another matter that will be disposed of by General Wood very soon. He has also a number of ideas regarding cooperation between the regular army and the militia which he will probably attempt to put into practice.

General Carter, who has been acting chief of staff, will take his place as assistant chief. General Bliss, whom he succeeds, will go to San Francisco to relieve General Barry, who takes command of West Point.