

### SOME INTERESTING INSECTS.

Except among the select few, generally enthusiastic boys who keep fresh water aquariums and replenish them from ponds and brooks, few people either see or know much about water insects; yet "The Naturalist on the Thames" says that many of these little creatures are perhaps better equipped for encountering all the chances of existence than any others. They can swim, dive and run below water, live on dry land or fly in the air, and many are so hardy as to be almost proof against any degree of cold.

The activity of many of the water insects is astonishing. Besides keeping to almost incessant motion, those which spend most of their time below water have generally to come up constantly to breathe. Such are the water bugs, water scorpions, and stink insects, which, although slender as rushes and with limbs like hairs, can catch and kill the fry of the smaller fishes. Most of these are like human divers, who have to provide themselves with air to breathe, and work at double speed in addition.

If a group of whirling beetles is disturbed, the whole party will dive like dab chicks, rising to the surface again when they feel the need for breathing air again.

The divingbell spiders gather air to use just as a soldier might draw water and dispose it about his person in water-bellies. The tail of the spider is covered with black velvety hairs. Putting its tail out of the water it collects much air in the interstices of the velvet. It then descends, when all this air, drawn beneath the surface, collects into a single bubble, covering its tail and breathing holes like a coat of quacksilver. This supply the spider uses up when at work below, until it dwindles to a single speck, when it once more ascends and collects a fresh store.

The writer has seen one of these spiders spin so many webs across the stems of water plants in a limited space that not only the small water shrimps and larvae, but even a young fish were entangled. The other and more artistic means of gathering air employed by the spider is to catch a bubble on the surface and swim below with it. The bubble is then released into a bell woven under some plant, into which many other bubbles have been drawn. In this divingbell, the eggs are laid and the young hatched under the constant watch of the old spider.

#### Domestic Tragedy.

The younger man had been complaining that he could not get his wife to mend his clothes. "I asked her to sew a button on this vest last night, and she hasn't touched it," he said. At this, says the New York Press, the older man assumed the air of a patriarch.

"Never ask a woman to mend anything," he said.

"What would you have me do?" asked the other.

"Simply do as I do," was the assured reply. "You haven't been married very long, and I think I can give you some servicable suggestions. When I want a shirt mended I take it to my wife flourish it round a little and say 'Where's that rag bag?'"

"What do you want of the rag bag?" asks my wife. Her suspicions are roused at once.

"I want to throw this shirt away if it's worn out," I say, with a few more flourishes.

"Let me see that shirt," my wife says then. "Now, John, hand it to me at once."

"Of course I pass it over, and she examines it. "Why, John Taylor, she is sure to say, 'I never knew such extravagance! This is a perfectly good shirt. All it needs is—' And then she mends it."

#### Human Nature.

The occupants of a motor car were riding through a sparsely settled country when they became very thirsty. Noticing a little farmhouse, they stopped and were pleasantly received and given all the cold spring water they wanted. The farmer was very polite to the strangers, and asked them if they would like to look about his little estate, and, according to the Chicago Record-Herald, they were pleased to do so.

Among other interesting things he showed them a tremendous potato patch. Over this field he shook his head gravely. He said that all the potatoes had been ruined by a parasite. One of the party sympathized with the old farmer, and said:

"I am sorry to see such a fine field of potatoes spoiled."

"Yes," said the farmer, "I have only one comfort."

"What is that?" inquired the visitor.

"Well, Thompson's field, east there and Shannon's on the south, are a bad as, if not worse than, mine."

#### Taking It Out on the Family.

Mrs. Ferguson—George, what part of falling of yours did the preacher touch on in his sermon this morning?

Mr. Ferguson—What do you ask in that question for?

Mrs. Ferguson—Because you have been as cross as a bear ever since you came home from church.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

#### Also Matches for the Servants.

"Yes, ma'am," said the obsequious grocery clerk to Mrs. Briley, who was ordering her first bill of supplies. "I've put down parlor matches; what next?"

"Well—er—I suppose I ought to have some kitchen matches, too, oughtn't I?"—Detroit Free Press.

## JAPAN URGED ON TO WAR

### SENTIMENT IN JAPAN STRONGLY FOR A FIGHT.

Wish Anxious to Remain Neutral, But Expects to Be Drawn Into the Trouble.—St. Petersburg Not Worrying.

TOKIO, Jan. 3.—War with Russia is regarded here as unavoidable, and the press is urging the immediate opening of hostilities.

All of the banks are withholding funds and it is believed this is the result of official instructions.

The government has completed and perfected arrangements for the transportation of troops and supplies and the people calmly await developments.

The continued dissemination of optimistic views from Berlin causes genuine surprise and regret here.

PEKING, Jan. 3.—In the various foreign legations here the opinion is prevalent that war between Japan and Russia is inevitable. This opinion is based on the latest dispatches from Tokio and on the conviction that it is not a question of detail, which separates Russia and Japan, but the vital principle as to whether Japan possesses the right to voice in the settlement of questions connected with the Russian occupation of Manchuria.

Russia all along has denied this right, and unless her reply shows that she has receded from this position, which is not expected to be the case, it probably will provoke an ultimatum from Japan, whose determination to resort to arms in support of her claim is unquestioned.

Advices from Manchuria represent the Russian officials there as being surprised at Japan's readiness to fight. They expected that she would submit at the last moment, as she did in 1895, when she surrendered Port Arthur at the bidding of the European coalition. The Russian officials rely for support on the same powers which aided the Russian government on that occasion. Moreover, the Russians have confidence in their ability to win in the event of war. Among the junior officers this feeling takes the form of despising the enemy.

General Yuan Shai Kai, commander in chief of the Chinese army and navy, has memorialized the throne, praying to be relieved of all his minor offices that he may devote all his energies to the organization of the army.

While the government is determined to remain neutral as long as possible, it is fully recognizing the possibilities of becoming involved in the event of war.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 3.—Diplomatic circles confidently expect that the Russian answer to the Japanese proposals will be handed to the Japanese foreign office by Baron de Rosen, Russian ambassador to Japan, within a very few days, and do not expect grave results.

#### Case Will Open Monday.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 4.—Monday morning the trial of United States Senator Charles H. Dietrich will begin in the federal court. Senator Dietrich has been indicted on three different counts, for the alleged violation of section 1871 of the revised statutes; alleged conspiracy with Postmaster Fisher of Hastings to violate section 1871, and for the alleged illegal leasing of buildings and receiving benefits therefrom while a member of the United States congress.

The two former indictments are named as the ones to come to trial first, and indications point to a legal battle as to which of the two will first be tried. Senator Dietrich's counsel, General Cowley, has already stated to the court that he will attack the validity and sufficiency of the conspiracy count and this motion, when presented, no doubt, will receive extraordinary attention.

#### Revolution in Uruguay.

BUNEOS AYERS, Jan. 3.—A dispatch from Montevideo says that a revolution has broken out in the department of Maldonado, and that a state of siege has been proclaimed throughout the entire republic of Uruguay.

An associated press dispatch from Montevideo January 2, said that Uruguay was much disturbed and that a combined movement of the Blanco party was feared. The dispatch further stated that a revolution had broken out in the department of Florida, and that the government was sending forces and ammunition to the disturbed district.

#### Caught in Revolving Shaft.

Deadwood, S. D., Jan. 4.—Andrew H. Swanson met a violent death at the Hidden Fortune mill by getting caught in the rapidly revolving main shaft. He was whirled against the timbers, his brains dashed out, his right leg and arm torn off, nearly every bone broken, and the body eviscerated. It was some minutes before the accident was discovered, no one being near at the time. Swanson was a Norwegian and unmarried.

## NEBRASKA NOTES

The women's fair at the Auditorium at Beatrice has closed after a successful week.

The bank of Germantown at Germantown has been purchased by Ed. Hall of Elkhorn.

Nearly all the merchants of Nebraska City have signed an agreement to close at 6:30 p. m.

Marie Josephine Dietsch and Dan Rupert Fletcher of Omaha were married at Plattsmouth.

Seyer Seyerson and Miss Tracey Laug were married at the bride's home near Calaway.

Mrs. Emma Hill of Nebraska City, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Nicholson, is dead.

E. W. Shaw, an old resident of Hastings, dropped dead of apoplexy while repairing a sidewalk.

Miller McClintock of Newman's Grove fell twenty feet from a telephone pole and broke both arms.

Milford Keene, a 15-year-old boy of Hastings has been sent to the reform school for stealing a pair of trousers.

A mad dog bit several head of hogs for farmers two weeks ago. One hog exhibited symptoms of the rabies and was killed.

Charles M. Anderson of Lincoln and Miss Daisy Froese of Nebraska City were married at the residence of the latter's parents.

A large number of implement dealers are attending the meeting of the South Platte Implement Dealers' association at Lincoln.

The funeral of David McWilliams of Nebraska City, who came to this state in 1852, was held at his home in Delaware precinct.

Miss Stella Leigh, of Beatrice is in a precarious condition, suffering from a concussion of the brain caused by falling on the ice while skating.

J. L. Wheeler has been appointed county commissioner at Pender to fill out the unexpired term of Commissioner Hensley.

Hezekiah Horney, aged 77 years, died at the residence of his son, M. M. Horney, at Beatrice. A wife and a family of grown children survive him.

Thieves entered the saloon of William Beiner at Norfolk and secured \$5 in nickels from the cash drawer. The Northwestern depot was also looted of \$1.95.

Harry Mead Garrett of Beatrice was married to Miss Ethel Johnson at the bride's home in Denver. Mr. and Mrs. Garrett will make their home in Beatrice.

Jack Otis was taken to Kearney from Elm Creek, charged with forgery. He got two pay checks for companions, endorsed their names and had them cashed. He confessed.

David McWilliams, an old resident, died at his home near Dunbar at the age of 75 years. He had lived on his farm near Dunbar for thirty-eight years. He leaves a family of twelve grown children.

James H. Burk, chief clerk of the Burlington freight office at Lincoln, has severed his connection with that department and is now local freight agent at Deadwood, South Dakota.

George Vascald, who has been missing from Fremont since July 3, has been located at Carthage, S. D. He professes great surprise that any one should be alarmed at his disappearance.

Postmaster Phillips of Exeter has received word that Exeter has been included in the towns of Nebraska to receive the "emergency warnings" of the weather bureau.

The boarding house of Mrs. Gordon at Fremont was considerably damaged by a fire which started from candles igniting the trimmings on a Christmas tree.

#### Good News from Minnesota.

Lakefield, Minn., Jan. 4.—Mr. William E. Gentry of this place is one of the best known and most highly respected men in Jackson County. For 45 years he has suffered with Kidney Trouble and now at 77 years of age he has found a complete cure and is well.

His cure is remarkable because of the length of time he had been suffering. Cases of 40 years' standing might be considered incurable, but the remedy that cured Mr. Gentry seems to know no limit to its curative power.

Mr. Gentry says: "I have suffered with misery in my back for about 45 years and had all the troublesome symptoms of Kidney and Urinary disease. I tried various kinds of remedies, but all to no effect until I tried Dodd's Kidney Pills. Now I have no pain in my back and feel quite well in every way."

"I am 77 years of age and I feel better than I have for the last 40 years. I attribute it all to Dodd's Kidney Pills."

Roy Mason of Long Pine was seriously injured by the accidental discharge of a gun. He was on the inside of the house when a gun in the hands of a companion outside the door was discharged and the charge, together with a piece of the door, passed into the lad's knee.

Martin Enright, the laborer who fell under the Union Pacific train at Fremont, had both legs amputated. One was taken off at the knee and the other at the ankle.

## IS FIRST TO SCORE

### SENATOR DIETRICH TO ESCAPE CONSPIRACY CHARGE

### BIG CROWD AT THE TRIAL

Suitings Made Thus Far All Against Dietrich, Who Starts on Conspiracy Case Under a Handicap.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 5.—Senator Dietrich scored the first decisive round yesterday in his battle with the United States District attorney. The indictment against him for alleged conspiracy leading to the reputed sale of the Hastings postoffice to Postmaster Fisher was quashed by the circuit court, composed of Judges W. H. Munger of this district and Willis Van Deventer of Cheyenne, the latter acting as spokesman and presiding, rather than consulting judge. Under the ruling it would seem impossible to draw a valid indictment for conspiracy in any offense the commission of which requires preliminary agreement.

Not only was this indictment quashed doing away the conspiracy charges completely against both Dietrich and Fisher, but the indictment against the senator for entering into a contract for a lease of the Hastings postoffice building to the government is left hanging in the air, and in regard to the one indictment remaining concerning the alleged Hastings postoffice trafficking, the government was put in the attitude of begging for time.

Some embarrassment is also caused the government counsel by the seeming determination of the court to hold it to the trial of the Dietrich bribery charge prior to that of the similar charge against Postmaster Fisher. It was the desire of Mr. Sumner when it became plain that he was to be required to try the bribery cases because of the failure of the conspiracy charges, to put the postmaster on the spit first, probably because he could mass the evidence in both bribery cases against the postmaster, the lesser light, but this privilege was denied him when it was discovered that the postmaster had never been arraigned on that charge and the case was consequently not set down for trial.

The court room was crowded when the trial opened. Within the railed enclosure were many of the leading attorneys of Omaha, more especially such as have been active in politics. Each chair was occupied, including those set apart for the jury, and even the small tables were occupied by rows of sitters.

#### President Discusses Panama.

In the course of his message President Roosevelt says the fact is brought home that if a canal is built to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans the United States is the only country that can build it. The act of congress providing for the waterway, he maintains, favors the Panama route with Nicaragua secondary at least if not a last resort. He presents a mass of documentary evidence bearing on the revolution going to prove that this government in no way instigated it but acted a part of defender of life and property and carried out its treaty pledge to the world to preserve free transit across the isthmus. Colombia the president says brought about the rising by her own bad faith toward the United States and disregard of the pleas of the seceding province of Panama. Finally says the president to congress the question resolves itself into the plain proposition: Shall the new treaty with Panama be ratified; or shall the canal be built?

#### Iowa's Capitol Scorched.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 5.—Fire gutted the northwest wing of the state capitol yesterday with an approximate loss of half a million. The chamber of the house of representatives is a charred mass of ruined debris and cannot be fixed up in time for the approaching session of the legislature.

The fire gained great headway before it was checked, starting about 10 o'clock, and at noon it was thought the entire building was doomed, and Governor Cummins ordered the contents of all the offices removed. However, it was finally confined to the wing of the capitol in which it originated and by 6 o'clock was practically extinguished. The estimated loss is between \$500,000 and \$700,000.

#### Pays Penalty for Murder.

MANILLA, Jan. 4.—Perez, who saved the life of General Smith from ambush, and who was a former secret service man under General McArthur, was garroted recently with two companions at San Carlos for murder.

General Recarte, the recently returned exile from Guam, now in hiding from the authorities in this city has written a letter outlining a new revolution. The matter is not considered seriously by the government.

## FIRM HAND NEEDED

### SITUATION IN SANTO DOMINGO GROWING WORSE.

### PROTECTION FOR AMERICANS

### DECISION REACHED FOLLOWING STARTLING REPORT.

Commander Dillingham Declares Democracy Exists Around Puerto Plata.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—With a firm hand the Washington government from now on will protect American life and property in the island of Santo Domingo. This decision follows a rather startling report received yesterday from Commander Dillingham.

It is said that the administration has as yet adopted no permanent policy for the conduct of affairs in Santo Domingo beyond that which it always has pursued in protecting American life and property. The statement is authorized that the conduct of Commander Dillingham while following only general instructions, is entirely endorsed and approved by the government, and it is believed that his intelligent handling of the situation will have a powerful influence toward restoration of order in the island.

It is realized by the administration that the Dominican problem must be taken up and disposed of in a way that will put a stop to what was described by an European ambassador last night as "an insufferable nuisance which the civilized world looks to the United States to clean up."

The navy department yesterday received a telegram from Commander Dillingham of the cruiser Detroit, telling of the demoralization near Puerto Plata. It says:

"In and around Puerto Plata anarchy prevails. Business is at a standstill. Puerto Plata is quiet at present. Jimenez authorities are collecting duties and dues, while Jimenez is at Santiago. There is a revolution between factions I shall not allow interruption of commerce."

#### Close To Crisis.

PARIS, Jan. 6.—The Coo-Foo correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald cables as follows: "Eight thousand Japanese troops are ready to land at Masampo, and their landing will probably mean war. A regiment of Cosacks is expected at Port Arthur."

"Reserves are being moved from the capital of the Armor province in eastern Siberia to Tsitsinar (in Manchuria)."

"The position of the troops in Manchuria is being rearranged, but their location is kept a secret."

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald says that should the Japanese occupy Masampo it would result in bringing matters to a crisis, Admiral Alexieff, the Russian viceroy in the far east, having full power to act in the case of such provocation.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Paris edition of the New York Herald says he is authorized to state that Admiral Evans has been instructed not to allow the movement of his war ships to be such as to encourage the construction that the United States is supporting Japan. The correspondent says that the action of the Washington government is sincerely appreciated, the conviction in some quarters being that Japan, if unsupported will not declare war.

SEOUL, Korea, Jan. 6.—A detachment of thirty-five marines for the United States steamer Vicksburg now laying at Chemulpo, arrived yesterday as a guard for the American delegation. Another body of seven teen marines will arrive tomorrow. The United States transport Zaphiri is also at Chemulpo, where Russia, Japan and Great Britain have each one man of war.

#### No Thought of Fire.

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—By their own evidence yesterday before Monro Fulkerson, who is conducting the fire department investigation into the Iroquois theater holocaust, Will J. Davis, Harry J. Powers and Thomas I. Noonan, active managers of the theater, showed that a worse condition of affairs existed as to prevention than had heretofore been suspected.

#### Trial of Car Barn Bandits.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 7.—The trial of three of the car barn bandits—Marx, Nidmire and Van Dine, was begun yesterday before Judge Kersten, and court adjourned without a juror being accepted. It has been announced that the defense would be instantly in each case, but attorneys for the defense yesterday indicated that some other line would be adopted.

## SEES NO ESCAPE

### SECRETARY LANSDOWNE THINKS WAR MUST COME.

### ABANDONS HOPE OF PEACE

### BOTH RUSSIA AND JAPAN HAVE GONE TOO FAR.

Refuses to Grant Concessions, Which he Taken to Mean Hostilities Must Start—Some Diplomatic Hopesful.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—Foreign Secretary Lansdowne has informed one of the foreign ambassadors he has practically given up all hopes of peace. At the embassies here the statement made by Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, today that he had been informed from Paris that Russia had decided not to grant the Japanese proposals, is regarded as being most grave, especially in view of the ministers' statement that his information came from Paris and the fact that he permitted such information to become known at this critical stage.

Baron Harashi, the Japanese minister here, has been informed from Paris that Russia has decided to not grant the Japanese proposals.

This is the first intimation anyone here admits having received, about the Russian reply. The baron said to a representative of the Associated Press:

"If the information of Paris is borne out by the wording of the Russian reply, there seems to be small possibility of averting war."

The British foreign office is unable to confirm or deny Baron Hayashi's information. The officials, however, say they are not surprised at the tenor of his advice.

The foreign office seems inclined to think that Russia will, if possible, avoid making a reply of any kind to the last Japanese note.

My information from Paris," said the minister of Japan, "is not official, but in connection with information imparted to me, by the British government it is only too correct."

"If Chancellor von Buelow's information that Russia's reply will be framed in a manner intended to satisfy Japan turns out correct it will be better news than I have dared to hope for."

PARIS, Jan. 1.—It is said in a well informed quarter here that France would have no right to officially communicate Russia's reply to Japan, and it is added that the reply has not yet been framed, and that it is said it will be presented to the Japanese government through Baron de Rosen, the Russian minister at Tokio.

#### Law Is Stern.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—Mayor Carter Harrison yesterday took steps to provide as far as possible against a repetition of Wednesday's horror at the Iroquois theatre.

As a result of an investigation made at his orders, and lasting but a few hours, nineteen theatres and museums were ordered closed, some of them being among the leading and most popular playhouses of the city.

The action of the mayor was based on one single violation of the ordinances which are intended to protect the patrons of theatres from just such an occurrence as that which cost so many lives on Wednesday. This was that every one of these places had omitted to supply an asbestos curtain. The theatres ordered closed are: Howards, Sam T. Jacks, Marlow, New American, Olympic, Academy of Music, Alhambra, Avenue, Bijou, Chicago opera house, Columbus stock, Thirty-first street, Criterion, Fiegebaum's, Milwaukee avenue, Garrick and Glickman's. In addition to these the London Globe museum and the Clark street museum were also compelled to close their doors.

The coroner's office yesterday issued nearly 300 burial certificates for people killed in the fire. Some of these were people residing in other cities, but they were comparatively few.

The city press association had the names of 500 identified dead. A re-examination of the list yesterday showed that a number were included incorrectly. Instead of being dead, the names of some were those who had identified bodies. While it is perhaps true that the total number of dead is in the neighborhood of 580 only about 450 have been identified. A recount of the unidentified dead was started yesterday.

#### New Suit in Bennett Will.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 2.—A suit in the form of supplementary proceedings in the Bennett will case was instituted Thursday by counsel for William J. Bryan as executor against Mrs. Bennett and other legatees of P. S. Bennett. The suit was brought for the purpose of having the superior court pass upon the validity of certain paragraphs in the will. These include some bequests made to Mr. and Mrs. Bryan.