

QUEER STORIES

Vesuvius, the famous Italian volcano, is 3,948 feet high.

An innkeeper of Wilhelmberg, who turns the scale at 592 pounds, is the heaviest man in Germany.

There are now twenty-nine women of title in England who were American girls, including four duchesses and two countesses.

It is not generally known that the jackal is a greater destroyer of humanity in India than the tiger. Statistics published by the government of India show that while 928 persons were killed by tigers, more than 1,000 children were carried away by jackals.

The chief desire of the municipality of Baro, in Chile, is to have the town known as a second London, and within the last decade much money has been spent to make it an exact replica of the British capital. The streets have been laid down and named after those in London.

No other creature on earth can undergo such tremendous fatigue over long periods as man. In speed over short distances there are, of course, dozens of animals—such as the horse, dog and hare—with which man cannot compete. But in long distance races, man, well trained, can wear out the best of them.

The enamel of the teeth contains over 95 per cent calcareous matter. Straight hairs are nearly cylindrical, curly hairs are elliptical or flat. The weight of the average man is 140 pounds; of a woman, 115 pounds. The brain is supposed to contain over 200,000,000 cells, in which thought works out problems.

Do geese "quack"? "No," says the observant critic, "geese do not quack but they squeak." It is the ducks that quack, and the story of the goose going about from day to day with a "quack, quack, quack," is declared to be without good foundation. There is, indeed, quite a difference in the vocabulary of these feathered creatures. But it requires a sharp ear to distinguish the difference.

Although man is not well fitted by nature to be a swimmer, and is one of the few land creatures who cannot swim without being taught, yet in long-distance swimming he can give points to any other land animal. Monague Holbein, in September, 1899, swam forty-six miles in twelve hours. Even in the matter of fasting there are few warm-blooded creatures who can emulate such a performance as the "forty days' fast" of Tanner.

Man's memory is one of the most wonderful attributes. What is possible in this direction was proved a year or two ago at Naples, when a professor of rhetoric—Arihili by name—repeated from memory 15,350 lines of Dante. He began to recite at 8 o'clock in the evening and went on till 2:15 the next afternoon. He was thus at work for 1,065 minutes, his rate being 830 lines an hour. He only stopped for a minute or two at long intervals to sip a little brandy and water.

HINTS FROM JAPAN AND INDIA

How a Drawing-Room Can Be Furnished Simply, Yet Artistically.

Few American housekeepers would care to carry the art of elimination in household decoration so far as the Japanese, who have nothing in many of their rooms except a couple of cushions and a chrysanthemum in a bamboo pot, but it is none the less true that simplicity is the greatest charm of any room, if it be allied to a sense of beauty.

This happy combination is usually obtained in the houses of the white residents in the tropics, and still more so in the homes of the Japanese. If a house is to be comfortable in a tropical climate, it must be furnished simply and sparingly. Out of this necessity there arises some beautiful effects in furnishing and decoration which ought to be studied and copied by American women.

In India and Ceylon the bungalows are noted for comfort and charm. They always attract the enthusiastic admiration of the tourist, and yet the women who create them go to work in the most simple fashion.

Take the drawing-room of an English or an American woman living in India. It is a large, airy room, with several big windows, which are either draped or only hung with small gauze curtains. The floors are uncarpeted, but their dark mahogany or cedar cane lounge, with many cushions, is placed near a window. A small tea table or two and a few easy wicker chairs complete the furniture of the room, the entire cost of which is less than a tenth of the sum usually paid for the drawing-room equipment of a middle-class American home.—Kansas City Star.

Perfect Proportions.

A perfectly proportioned man should weigh twenty-eight pounds for every foot of his height. If he is five feet ten inches in height his weight should be one hundred and sixty-three pounds; if six feet in height he should weigh one hundred and sixty-eight pounds.

Value of Oil Baths.

Any one can add strength and weight to his body by rubbing well with olive oil after a warm bath. Oil baths are particularly beneficial to delicate children.

Can't Tell the Difference.

There are people in the world who fail to discover the difference between having strong convictions and being plain obstinate.

Nebraska's Semi-Centennial.

To the People of the State of Nebraska: On May 30, 1854, the president of the United States approved what is known as the Kansas-Nebraska bill, the most important legislative and executive action in the history of the country west of the Missouri river since the Louisiana purchase as made under the direction of Thomas Jefferson. The fifty years that have since elapsed have been prolific in great events, but none are more worthy of note than the development that has come during the half century to the Trans-Missouri section of the republic and especially to the states of Kansas and Nebraska.

The undersigned, a committee of citizens, have been charged with the duty of arranging for a semi-centennial celebration of this event.

By both federal and state law the 30th day of May of each year is devoted to memorial observations of the gallant spirits who in their lives served their country during the great war of 1861-65. That day being thus devoted to holy purposes, it has been thought best to hold the exercises properly incident to the semi-centennial on Tuesday, the 31st day of May. Thus will come a proper recognition of Memorial day, and also of the important fact that the state of Nebraska received after the great war a greater proportion of ex-soldiers than any other state in the west, and these soldiers citizens have added greatly to its development.

The Grand Army of the Republic, which has had direction of the memorial observations, has been in the habit for years of detailing members of the organization to address the scholars of all schools throughout the state on the last school day prior to the 30th of May, and it has requested that on the Sunday preceding that date, in all the churches of the state, the clergy should make fitting reference to the incidents of note proper to the day and inculcate patriotism and fitting sacrifice for the republic.

The committee suggests to the Grand Army and to the clergy that it would be more fitting, in the schools and in the churches, to call attention to the fifty years of growth and prosperity that have come, not only to the part of it in which our lot has been cast, and on Memorial day it certainly will be appropriate that all who address the people, while giving fitting tribute to those who served the country and have passed away, should make like references to the progress that has been made during the half century that will close upon that day.

On the 31st day of May, in the city of Omaha, there will be proper observance of the signing of the Kansas-Nebraska bill by the president of the United States. The details of the exercise will be published and the city of Omaha invites all citizens of the state to join in this celebration by local ceremonial if they wish, but preferably within the limits of the metropolis of the state.

The committee takes pleasure in announcing that a son of Nebraska, who has achieved great distinction and prominence by reason of his ability and eloquence—Hon. Henry D. Eastbrook, now of New York—will deliver the oration of the day befitting the occasion. It is expected that other speakers of worth and prominence will recount the interesting events of the fifty years that have passed since the birthday of the state of Nebraska. Military and civic parades will also be an incident, and the latching of Omaha will be out in hearty welcoming to all who wish to glorify the event of May 30, 1854.

The press of Nebraska is requested to publish this address, and so soon as the details of the observances can be decided upon further communication will be made to the public.

GEORGE L. MILLER,
CHARLES F. MANDERSON
CHARLES W. DOANE,
GUY C. BARTON,
J. E. BOYD,
ST. A. D. BALCOMBE,
J. N. H. PATICK,
B. E. H. KENNEDY,
EDWARD ROSEWATER,
JOHN I. REDDICK,
J. M. WOOLWORTH,
E. W. YATES.

Killed by Fall of Scaffold.
LAWRENCE, Kas.—A scaffold on the Fraternal Aid building broke today and precipitated a dozen workmen to the ground. John Steiner was instantly killed and Lou McLaughlin and C. E. Clawson were badly injured.

In Enemy's Land.

LIAO, Yana.—Between last night and this morning the Japanese forced a passage of the Yalu, two companies crossing between Tchaog-djou and Siaoouakhe. Heavy firing was heard near Tatung Kau, in which it is believed the Japanese made a faint order to detract attention from the rail point of passage. So far no bridge spans the river. It is believed the Russian are succeeded in destroying the floating part of the Japanese bridges.

MISSISSIPPI NEAR THE DANGER LINE AT ST. LOUIS

Part of Place Under Water and Neighboring Towns Submerged—Tornadoes Cause Loss of Life in Territory.

ST. LOUIS.—The Mississippi river is rising rapidly here and preparations to resist a possible flood are hastily being made. The government weather bureau today issued a flood warning, advising that precautions be taken to guard against a probable stage of thirty-five feet by Thursday. The danger line here is thirty feet and the river tonight registered over twenty-eight feet. The high water mark in the great flood of last year was thirty-eight feet.

In East St. Louis, Ill., which suffered so severely from the flood last year, Mayor Silas Cook today secured a large force of men and the building of dikes was at once begun. As fast as dikes are built forces of men will be stationed to protect them and keep them in order. So far no damage has been done by the rising tide.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—During the past forty-eight hours fourteen inches of rain has fallen here, the greatest amount in that space of time recorded in many years. All the bottom lands are flooded, doing much damage to wheat and other growing crops. The Missouri river has risen six feet, and is continuing to rise at the rate of one inch an hour.

Late tonight the Missouri river reached a stage of 21.6, more than two feet above the danger line.

Cedar City, across the river from here is partly submerged and the people are moving from their homes, as it is expected that the entire city will be flooded before tomorrow.

Decides For the Military

DENVER, Col.—The state supreme court this afternoon denied for the release of Charles H. Moyer, president of the western federation of miners, on bail pending a decision in the habeas corpus proceeding in his behalf. The hearing on the merits of the case were set for May 5. Meantime Moyer will be held as prisoner in the military bull pen at Telluride.

The supreme court also granted the application of Adjutant General Bell and Capt Buckley Welles for a writ of supersedeas to stay the execution of the judgment of District Judge Stevens of Ouray declaring Bell and Welles in contempt of court and fining them each \$500 for failing to produce the person of Moyer in court in answer to the writ of habeas corpus issued by Judge Stevens.

TRINIDAD, Col.—Major Zeph T. Hill commander of the troops in the coal fields, today lifted the press censorship which was established after Governor Peabody declared Las Animas county to be in a state of insurrection and rebellion.

Enters a Plea of Guilty.

NEW YORK.—Frank McNamara, who shot and killed Captain George R. Jennings, president of the Jennings Adjustable Shade company of Brooklyn on February 18, pleaded guilty to murder in the first degree when arranged for trial today. He will be sentenced to Sing Sing for life.

The plea of guilty was entered on the advice of counsel because of evidence obtained in Chicago. One of the witnesses brought back by the assistant district attorney was Henry F. Cook, secretary and treasurer of the Fahys Watch case company, where McNamara stole \$5,000 worth of gold from the factory during the last three years of his employment. He gathered the sweepings from the floor and sold them to a Chicago jewelry firm. For his last theft McNamara received a draft for \$2,000. He was then in Brooklyn and induced Captain Jennings, who knew of nothing wrong in the matter, to allow the draft to be deposited to his account in the Borough bank. It was then agreed that McNamara should withdraw the money in sums of \$500. Later Jennings discovered how McNamara obtained the money, and refused to let him have any more of it until he had obtained a release from the Fahys company. McNamara then made up his mind to kill Jennings and did so shortly after.

Gets Life Sentence.

OMAHA, Neb.—Chambers was summoned to listen to the finding of the court on the argument recently made by his counsel a new trial on the ground that the court had erred in its instruction to the jury that drunkenness at the time of the commission of crime is not justification of that crime nor does it preclude the possibility of premeditation with regard to it.

GRAVE CRISIS NEAR

SITUATION IN HUNGARY REGARDING THE CITY—STOCK LOST AND ED ALARMING.

MARTIAL LAW PREDICTED

ATTITUDE OF WORKINGMEN MAY MAKE IT NECESSARY.

Popular Excitement Reaches Dangerous Point Following Riot at Eless Banks of Strikers Grow.

VIENNA.—The Hungarian situation is regarded here as alarming. The socialists threaten to proclaim a general strike throughout the country and in such an event it is stated in political circles that Count Tisza, the Hungarian premier, will put the whole kingdom under martial law.

Popular excitement appears to be reaching a dangerous point and the critical condition of affairs is further intensified by the near approach of labor day.

Following the tragic event at the market town of Eless, near Grosswarden, yesterday in which a socialist killed the commander of the gendarmes followed by the killing of twenty-three rioters and the wounding of forty by the gendarmes, a general strike has broken out at Grosswarden. Today the shops, cafes and restaurants there and even the schools are closed, and the business life of the town is entirely suspended.

Five thousand teamsters at Budapest, 16,000 workmen at Debreczin, the chief town of the Haiduck district, and a large number at Szegedin, the capital of the county of Scograd, are now on strike.

Troubles are also feared in other towns.

Tragedy Follows Holdup.

SAN JOSE, Cal.—A masked man, armed with two revolvers, entered the rooms of the Del Monte social club and after lining up against the wall six men who were in the rooms took a diamond ring, valued at \$900, from one of the men, grabbed \$50 or \$100 from the table and then backed out of the room. After pursuit by citizens lasting over an hour during which over thirty shots were exchanged, the robber was finally killed. Upon investigation the dead man was found to be Bert Thorndyke, a prominent young man. Thorndyke was one of the best known young men in this city. His mother-in-law is Mrs. G. M. Bruce, a wealthy widow, with whom Thorndyke his wife and little child lived. Thorndyke's mother is a wealthy widow of Stockton.

Destroy Marble Statues.

ST. LOUIS.—It was discovered today that vandals had entered the French pavilion at the world's fair and destroyed two of the most beautiful marble statues in the sculpture exhibit. The statues were "Etelle du Berger, the Shepherd's Star," by Roussel, and "St. Jean," by Dubers, and had been thrown to the floor and broken into bits. Six rose trees from the French garden were stolen. The French commissioners say their loss in the destruction of the statues is irreparable.

Ice Passes into the Lake.

ESCANABA, Mich.—Driven by a north-westerly gale, with a velocity of forty miles an hour, the ice field that has covered upper Green bay for nearly six months passed out into the lake today. Carried by the ice field as it was driven south, the steamer Duluth of the Escanaba Transportation company's line was torn from its moorings and carried to within ten feet of the shore. One of the Stephenson company's lumber docks is buried under a mound of broken ice nearly thirty feet high.

Mrs Bennett Files Appeal.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—An appeal was taken today by Mrs. Grace Imogene Bennett and the other reiduary legatees under the will of Philo S. Bennett from the decision of Judge Cleveland of the probate court by which the application for the removal of William J. Bryan as executor and trustee was dismissed. The matter now goes to the superior court.

Securities Company Wins.

NEWARK, N. J.—Vice Chancellor Bergen today denied the application of the Continental Trust company for an injunction restraining the Northern Securities company from distributing its assets in accordance with the plan formulated by order of the directors within a week after the United States supreme court rendered its decision declaring the formation of the corporation unconstitutional.

KANSAS HAS A FLOOD

FORT SCOTT HEMMED IN BY RAPID RISE OF WATER.

Channel Runs Through Street, Dividing the City—Stock Lost and Property Damaged—Tornado at McPherson.

FORT SCOTT, Kas.—Fort Scott is experiencing the most serious flood in its history. Marmaton river and Mill creek, which runs into the former stream here, have risen ten feet in the past twenty-four hours, the result of heavy rains. Several hundred persons have been rescued in boats. As far as known tonight no lives have been lost. The estimated loss to livestock drowned and property damaged is \$100,000.

The two streams began to rise at 10 o'clock last night and today the city was divided into three sections and almost completely isolated. Normally Mill creek runs into the Marmaton river northeast of the city, but because of the rapid rise they formed a new channel that cut across one end of the city. Tonight the entire northern part of the city is cut off, and part of the city is inundated. Ten feet of water is rushing through the streets in that part of the city and several hundred persons in what is known as Belltown have been forced to leave their homes. Many were taken in boats. There were several narrow escapes from drowning. Many who refused to leave Belltown today will still have to be taken away in boats, as all avenues of escape have now been cut off.

McPHERSON, Kas.—A severe tornado struck McPherson this afternoon, demolishing six residences and causing damage to other property. Three persons were injured, one seriously. Much damage was done in the country north of here. Beyond McPherson the tornado followed the ground, taking the path of an old water course. The tornado passed four miles east of Salina, wrecking telephone and telegraph poles and farm property. Efforts were made to follow the course of the storm by telephone, but all the wires were down.

Graves is Found Guilty.

DES MOINES, Ia.—Charles F. Graves, a furniture dealer, charged with murdering his wife and burning the body, was found guilty in the district court today, a jury recommending life imprisonment. Graves is said to have choked his wife to death in a fit of rage and then to have saturated the body with kerosene, setting it on fire. His stories relative to firing the body and his visits to the home on the morning of the crime were conflicting. This, coupled with previous threats to kill her, led to his arrest and prosecution. A daughter, Winnie Reader, a member of the Grau Opera company, then playing in Chicago, arrived home to spend the holidays, and three days after the crime, was committed. She buried her mother, accused her stepfather of the crime and secured his conviction.

Church Rules Elections.

WASHINGTON.—When the investigation of the Smoot case opened today Judge O. Powers was again called to the stand. He read a petition prepared by supporters of Moses Thatcher for senator, addressed to the senate of the United States, alleging that church influence had been used in the election, and asking for an investigation. Another instance of church interference had been shown, said he in a majority contest at Provo when Reed Smoot favored the candidacy of George Sutherland. The witness said Smoot was held in disfavor with the church and charged with going to the liberal party.

Senator Overman asked if women were elected to the legislature in Utah. The witness answered in the affirmative and said a woman was chairman of the judiciary committee of the house in the legislature which elected Mr. Smoot as senator.

Half A Million Fire Loss.

CAMDEN, N. J.—The interior of the large four story building of the Victor Talking Machine company of this city was totally destroyed by fire this afternoon, causing a loss estimated by an official of the company at nearly \$500,000. The concern carried an insurance of \$250,000. Upwards of a half million phonographic disc records and 25,000 talking machines.

Cannot Use the Mails.

WASHINGTON.—In deciding a case of a western turf investment concern Assistant Attorney General Robb of the postoffice department holds that the business of receiving of bets to place on the races is a violation of the law prohibiting lotteries and games of chance. The concern therefore is prohibited from using the mails.

NEBRASKA NOTES

A newspaper for Bellevue is being talked of. It is to be called the Bellevue Gazette and will be three columns eight pages.

The Rev. W. H. Morrow of Table Rock will leave for Washington county, New York, where he has accepted a Methodist pastorate.

Bishop Williams of Omaha has been engaged to deliver the commencement address here this year at the graduating exercises at Beatrice.

The general merchandise store at Leigh that was recently purchased from Al Willering by Rosenthal & Kranse, has been shipped to Norfolk.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wright died at the home of her son, Z. T. Wright in Nebraska City. She was a pioneer citizen of Nebraska, having come to the state in 1856.

Judge Harrington of the district court at Alton has postponed all jury cases until the fall term, and after disposing of a few equity cases will adjourn court.

The Rev. A. Bert, after twenty-five years as pastor of the St. John's Lutheran church and teacher of the German school at Harper, has resigned to accept a call to Waco.

There will be a large class graduate from the agricultural department of the university on Friday evening. President Albert B. Storms will deliver an address on "By-Products."

The Spencer young people who recently organized a show troupe, have been making the different towns in Holt county and closed a "starring" season with the play, "The Yorkshire Lassie." The opera house at O'Neil failed to accommodate the crowd.

Wayne Garrow and Miss Maud Davis sprung a surprise on their relatives and friends by announcing the fact that they had been married at the Methodist parsonage in Nebraska City the Rev. J. W. Scott officiating. Both young people are highly respected in this city.

Professor John Jacob Fessler, who has been superintendent of the Hartington schools for the past two years, has decided to take a course in medicine and not apply for the schools again this year. John L. Stine of Gretna has been selected by the board of education to succeed Professor Fessler.

Every saloon at Columbus was closed all day Sunday and not a drink could be purchased at any price. Mayor Boettcher has instructed the saloon men to close and the police were emphatically notified to arrest the first saloonkeeper who failed to comply with the request.

Aaron Steuvers, a young man living about ten miles north of Hooper was accidentally shot by a neighbor, Emil Suhr, while the latter was explaining the mechanism of his gun. The charge took effect in Steuvers' right side and may cripple him for life. Physicians do not think the accident will result fatally.

Miss Nettie Keehn, who disappeared so suddenly and somewhat mysteriously at Falls, S. D., a day or so ago, is well known to Hartington people, Hartington having been her home for some years, and until about a year ago, when she went to Sioux Falls. Her brother of Hartington seeing the account concerning her in the Bee, at once telephoned her employer at Sioux Falls and was told that she had left late the evening before ostensibly for Omaha with a strange man. Her folks seem to have no satisfactory explanation for her peculiar disappearance and appear to be very much concerned for her welfare.

Last week West Point furnished a number of weddings. Theodore Luedke and Miss Helen Fernholz were married by the Rev. M. E. Sudrock, pastor of the German Methodist church. The contracting parties were born and raised in Cumming county. John Horan and Miss Anna Gallagher were united in marriage at St. Mary's Catholic church. The Rev. E. A. Clementz officiating. The bride is a daughter of one of Cumming county's heaviest land owners. The groom is a Kearney county farmer. Miss Mary Scharfen and Casper Meier were married at St. Mary's Catholic church, the Rev. E. A. Clementz performing the ceremony. Both young people will reside in this county. Miss Margaret Ryan and Joseph Flemming were married by the Rev. Fitzgerald at the Catholic church. The young people have been residents of that county for some time.

C. Vincent, state organizer of the Farmers Co-Operative Shipping Association, was in Papillion conferring with a number of farmers regarding the advisability of building an elevator. Mr. Vincent is a member of the Omaha Grain exchange and is well posted on the grain and shipping business. It is said the proposition was looked upon with favor and a farmers' elevator will in all probability be erected this season.