

THE GLEANER

GRAHAM, N. C., OCT. 1, 1931.

PREHISTORIC BONES OFTEN FOUND HERE

United States Fertile Field for Paleontologists.

Washington.—The discovery in Texas of the dorsal armor of a giant phytosaur, a crocodile-like creature which lived more than 50,000,000 years ago, emphasizes the fact that the United States is still a fertile field for paleontologists seeking the fossils of prehistoric animals. Traces of many species of these monsters have been found from time to time.

Judging from the number of tracks found, the dinosaur, or "terrible reptile," seems to have been the most common in all parts of the country. Beside the Connecticut river near Northampton are preserved dinosaur tracks said to be the most perfect ever found. Nearer New York, at Woodbridge, N. J., dinosaur tracks were discovered last year measuring 20 inches across the toes. They are thought to date back to the cretaceous period of the Mesozoic age.

Haunts of the Dinosaur. The haunts of the dinosaur in New Jersey were first discovered, however, in 1858, and a mounted skeleton is in the State museum at Trenton.

In the western states and in the Canadian province of Alberta dinosaur bones have been most frequently found and most easily excavated. Some huge tracks, 38 inches long, have been discovered in Colorado; and in Arizona canyon, near Flagstaff, Ariz., 300 tracks were found by one expedition. One of the largest skeletons of this beast was found in Utah in 1923—the dipodocus of the species. This specimen was 71 feet long and the pieces discovered weighed about 52,000 pounds. This creature is supposed to have lived 170,000,000 years ago.

Mastodons, it is believed, were abundant here about 25,000 years ago, whereas this animal was thought to have become extinct in Europe 1,000 centuries back. Mastodon teeth 7 inches long have been discovered in the ocean off the New Jersey coast; and the vicinity of Niagara falls has furnished a fertile field for such discoveries.

Huge Thunder Lizard.

Near Medicine Bluff, Wyo., was found the skeleton of one of the largest of the prehistoric reptiles, the bronchosaurus, or thunder lizard, now in the Peabody museum at New Haven. When alive, its weight is estimated to have been about 40 tons, and it lived about 120,000,000 years ago. The jaw of a titanotherium, to which family belong the modern horse, tapir and rhinoceros, was found in the White River Bad Lands of South Dakota in 1840.

Border Smuggling Cut by Help of Mexicans

Juarez, Mexico.—Smuggling operations along the Juarez-El Paso section of the Rio Grande have been cut in half since the Mexican government ordered armed patrols along the boundary. Gen. Miguel B. Gonzalez, Juarez garrison commander, declared, "While we never will be able to stamp out smuggling, we have cut activities to a minimum." General Gonzalez said.

"Our greatest trouble is in airplane smuggling. We are not yet equipped to cope with it and, as planes allow night operations at inland towns or secluded spots, we are in a difficult position."

General Gonzalez said that a large amount of merchandise being smuggled into Mexico from the United States also has been seized by his men as well as a large quantity of liquor being taken into the United States from Mexico.

Ancient Cuban Letters to Be Placed in Case

Havana, Cuba.—Valuable documents written by General Albenarrie, who led the English invasion of Cuba against the Spaniards in 1762, are to be placed on display under glass in the ancient city hall of Havana, it has been announced by Mayor Tiroso Mesa of Havana.

Some of the most historically valuable documents in the archives of Havana, they were written on parchment and are in a fine state of preservation. They include military orders and decrees and a number of personal letters.

Excavation Reveals Roman Jig-Saw Puzzle

London.—Excavations beneath the new building of the Royal Bank of Canada in Lethbridge, B. C., have resulted in the discovery of a 1,900-year-old jig-saw puzzle in Roman pavement.

Many pieces of the old puzzle are missing, but there has emerged a picture of the substantial house of some Roman citizen.

Archaeologists are now studying the Roman puzzle and other sections of remodeled paving found in the area.

Cumberland County farmers cooperated to ship a mixed car of hogs and sheep to the Richmond market last week.

MEASURE STRENGTH OF MAN IN TESTS

Public Health Service Puts 500 Through Races.

Washington.—How strong is a man? The answer has just been made by the United States public health service through a series of tests given to 500 men. Generally, heavily built men were found to be stronger than slender men of the same weight.

The tests were made to ascertain the pulling, pushing, handgripping, lifting and lung power of men between the ages of twenty and thirty-four, between the weight of 120 and 160 pounds, and between the heights of 63 and 70 inches.

The greatest pulling power was demonstrated by men in the heaviest weight class, between 160 and 169 pounds. Men in the two heaviest classes, 150 to 159 and 160 to 169 pounds, tied as the most powerful pushers. In each of these weight groups the taller men proved to be the best pushers, with a force of 121 pounds, the record figure.

In the handgripping contest the tallest and heaviest men gave the most powerful hand grips, with a force of 108.48 pounds. But the shortest men in the heaviest group were the most powerful lifters, lifting on an average 519.2 pounds.

The men having the greatest lung power were found among the shortest in the 150-159 pound class. Their lung force was measured at 154 millimeters.

So far as general strength went, it was found that the taller men were for their weight the less strong they had on the average, and the shorter they were for their weight the stronger they were. This rule applied through practically all weight groups.

As a rule heavy men were found to be stronger than men of a lighter weight. Men in the 63-64 inch class were found to be the strongest in the 120-129 pound class, as they were in the next weight class, 130-139 pounds, and also in the 140-149 pound class. However, the tallest men in the 150-159 pound class proved to be an exception to the general rule, for they were found to be the strongest. But the general rule held again in the heaviest class, 160-169 pounds, where the shortest men were the strongest.

Chinese Population Is Placed at 474,787,000

Peiping, China.—The latest census of China, compiled by the ministry of the interior, shows the population to be 474,787,000. This is 15,000,000 less than the post office estimates of 1926.

Due to disorders in several parts of China at present, the latest estimate is considered approximate. Dr. Warren S. Thompson, head of the Scripps Foundation for Study of Population Problems, who recently completed a year in China, declared that it is possible to say only that the population of China is somewhere between 350,000,000 and 500,000,000.

Army Survey May Start Vast Irrigation Project

Farmington, N. M.—The San Juan valley in the Farmington section may become a vast area of irrigation farms if a survey now being made by army engineers proves the feasibility of a great reclamation project.

An area of about 500,000 acres would benefit from the project and lands now in the public domain in San Juan county would be thrown open to new settlers.

Army engineers under Maj. W. H. Lanagan are making the survey to determine the wisdom of the reclamation project on the San Juan river. A dam constructed 30 miles east of Farmington may provide irrigation water for 500,000 acres.

It Costs \$2,187.75 to Prepare Child on Coast

Los Angeles.—It costs taxpayers approximately \$2,187.75 to give a boy or girl 15 years of schooling in Los Angeles city and county and equip the student for matriculation in a college or university, according to Archie M. Clifton, county superintendent of schools. He said he arrived at the estimate by dividing the average per capita cost in all branches of the city and county school system and multiplying it by 15.

Child, 5, Hypnotized Self

Fredericktown, Ohio.—Doctors attending Clarence Fletcher, five, injured while playing, declare he possesses the rare power of self-hypnosis. The lad is able to induce upon himself an insensible sleep so deep that physicians are able to give him delicate treatment without aid of an anesthetic.

Item in Newspaper Reunites Brothers

Clyde, N. Y.—An Erie (Pa.) newspaper which mentioned the name of Edward Damm of Erie brought about the reunion of Edward and his brother, Joseph of Clyde, who had not seen each other for 34 years.

A relative noticed the name and notified Joseph. The brothers were separated when Edward "decided to see the world."

AIR MAIL SPREADS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Sao Paulo, Coffee Center, Now Gets Service.

Washington.—Sao Paulo, capital and business metropolis of Sao Paulo state, Brazil, is one of the latest cities to be enmeshed by the network of air mail routes which are spreading over the South American republics. The trip from Rio de Janeiro to Sao Paulo takes 12 hours by rail. The air mail schedule calls for a three-hour trip between the two cities.

"Sao Paulo is one of the oldest cities in South America," says a bulletin from the National Geographic society, "but its age has not deprived it of modern commercial development. Boom started in 1875.

"Fifty years before the Capt. John Smith-Pocahontas episode at Jamestown, Va., a Portuguese sailor founded Sao Paulo and married the daughter of a native Indian chief. Later Jesuit missionaries established a church at the settlement and held the first religious service on the feast day in celebration of the conversion of St. Paul. Hence the name of the city, Sao Paulo, which means St. Paul.

"For three centuries Sao Paulo enjoyed isolation, unfettered by colonial laws of Portugal. It was about 1,000 miles from the Portuguese government officials who were, at that time, at Bahia. In 1875 the ball of commercial progress started rolling among the inhabitants, and newcomers were instilled with a boom spirit. In slightly more than 50 years the city has increased in population from 23,000 to more than half a million. New streets that were built were made broad and straight and flanked with modern buildings.

"The railway depot, municipal and state government buildings, museums, libraries, schools, and some of its new business buildings would be flattering additions to many cities of the world of the same size. Three huge public gardens and more than 50 parks break the monotony of the miles of streets.

City That Coffee Built.

"Sao Paulo might properly be called the city that coffee built. Many of the palatial residences are those of coffee 'barons.' In Sao Paulo streets huge trucks, heavy carts, and perspiring men laden with sacks of coffee are always within eyeshot. Coffee was not introduced into Brazil until two centuries ago, but the price of coffee now largely governs the rise and fall of Sao Paulo's prosperity. While Ethiopia is the original home of coffee, Sao Paulo state has adopted the greater portion of the descendants of the original coffee berries. If all the coffee plantations in the state were in one plantation, it would cover an area as large as Delaware and Rhode Island combined. In a single year more than one and a quarter million pounds of coffee are produced in the state. There are more than seven coffee trees for every man, woman and child in the state."

To Broadcast Weather Reports for Vessels

New Orleans.—Weather forecast reports for ships in the gulf, Caribbean and other southern waters are to be broadcast from New Orleans the year round, it was announced. Heretofore this service was maintained only during the so-called hurricane season, from June 1 to November 30.

Selected ships of all nations on southern ship lanes will radio conditions in their vicinity to Washington, where the weather forecasts will be compiled and transmitted to New Orleans to be broadcast over a powerful radio station here.

Memory of Hubbard Is Kept Alive by Tree

East Aurora, N. Y.—An apple tree here is keeping alive the memory of Elbert Hubbard, philosopher and lover of man, lost in the Lusitania disaster.

Charles J. Rosen, official of the Roycroft shops, and Elbert Hubbard III dedicated the tree at simple ceremonies here recently.

"Elbert Hubbard symbolized life," Rosen said, "and that is why we chose a tree instead of a building to dedicate to his memory.

"We thank God who made this tree, for Elbert Hubbard."

Ohio Bluejays Declare War on Pedestrians

Norwalk, Ohio.—Bluejays have declared war on Norwalk.

Persons walking through a clump of trees at a street intersection have heard the warning scream of half a dozen of the birds and been driven at a run from the scene. Arthur Pearl, J. E. Osborn and Paul Clark suffered severe facial scratches from the beaks and claws of the jays.

Officials attributed the attacks to annoyances suffered by the birds from boys violating their nests and molesting their eggs and young.

Cows Recognize Calves; Man Arrested as Thief

Harper, Ore.—Four calves pastured in R. Faust's yard. Faust denied he had stolen them. So four cows belonged to Virgil Smith were driven up. The calves seemed glad to see them. The cows gave every indication of fondness for the calves. So Faust was accused of larceny.

Still See Significance in Signs and Portents

Although most people in these days disclaim a belief in signs, one who watches closely will find almost every one making occasional remarks on the significance of this or that happening, most of which, sifted down, prove to be remnants of old superstitions, or folklore, of ancient days, some reaching back even to the Dark Ages, when the world was commonly supposed to be peopled by various demons, whose voices were heard in the beating of the rain, the whistle of wind, rolling of thunder, and all unusual noises.

When the Evil One visited the earth he was supposed to take the form of a black cat, or a black dog. He was also credited, upon occasions, with taking the shape of a black pig on the ridgepole of a dwelling. A branch cut from a mountain ash, or a horse-shoe nailed over the door, was commonly believed to keep out witches. Picking up a pin with the head toward one was supposed to insure a ride.

When the sole of the foot itched, one expected to step on strange land. When the sun shone through the limbs of apple trees on Christmas day it was claimed there would be a good crop of fruit the next year. "Plant a bean with the eye up, and it will grow straight down through the earth to China," was a common belief.—American Agriculturist.

Livingstone Worthy of Stanley's Fine Tribute

The finding of a letter written by David Livingstone in the heart of Africa is a reminder that the boys who went marching off in '61 also knew the inspiration of an adventurous hero. Seldom mentioned today, that mild Scot who entered a cotton mill at ten and the Dark continent's wastes in his twenties, was to the Civil war bugle boys what polar armen are to their grandsons. The letter is of particular interest because it was written shortly after he discovered Lake Nyassa and contains an enthusiastic description of that "great water." His thirty years of explorations took him through a third of Africa—no other man did so much. He worked not in haste for publishers back in London, but carefully for the advance of civilization, and accordingly progressed slowly, living with the natives and noting down everything worthy of record. His were the first white man's eyes to see the Victoria falls, he sounded the slave trade's death knell, he stirred the imagination of James Gordon Bennett. In the end he left a record of accomplishment which led Stanley to write: "We look in vain among the nationalities for such a name."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Paris Claims Treasure

The city of Paris is to have an unexpected item added to the receipt side of its budget owing to a discovery made in the Bois de Boulogne last August, writes a correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph. A railway worker who was making mud pies to amuse his child unearthed a casket containing a number of gold and silver medals and 77 gold coins bearing the effigy of Louis XVI. Taking his find to a police station, he was informed that if no one claimed the treasure for a year and a day it would become his property.

But the city of Paris has now stepped in to register a claim on the coins and medals. Its case is that as the owner of the Bois de Boulogne it is entitled to a half share in anything found there.

Excursion Into Crater

After so many centuries of blighting and blasting human life, one would not expect that the old volcano outside of Naples would interest tourists. Yet that is where we can go today and right into its mouth. It will grumble and puff in spasms of rage while you enter, but that need not annoy you. It may even jerk out jets of brown steam or with muffled roars throw up beautiful gold vapors, while wicked-looking vents of hot air will lick up in flame any paper you hold to them; but, apart from the uncomfortable feeling that you are walking on ashes and molasses, breathing sulphur the while, you will return safely to the plain.

Netherlands Dykes

The dykes which protect The Netherlands from the North sea in many cases go back to Roman times. Many are raised as much as 40 feet above high-water mark and are wide enough at the top for a general roadway or canal. They are made of earth protected by stone slopes and by piles and at the more dangerous points by artificial structures of brushwood laden with stones. The West Kapelle dyke is 12,468 feet long and has a seaward slope of 300 feet. On a ridge 39 feet wide are a roadway and a railway.

One of World's Wonders

The Hanging Gardens of Babylon are said to have formed a square with an area of nearly four acres and rose in terraces, supported on masonry arches, to a height of 75 feet. They were irrigated from a reservoir built at the top, to which water was lifted from the Euphrates by a screw. Fountains and banqueting rooms were distributed throughout the numerous terraces; groves and avenues of trees, as well as parterres of flowers, diversified the scene, while the view of the city and neighborhood was extensive and magnificent.

LIGHTS of NEW YORK

The elevated trains in New York run past some flats which have fire-escapes on the front of the buildings. The platforms of these iron stairways form little terraces for the inhabitants. On one of them, north of Fifty-third street, stands an ordinary bushy basket filled with earth. Growing there is one tall sunflower and two stalks of corn. Every time I see it I wonder if those people originally came from Kansas.

What might be termed kitchen gardens are plentiful in the city. I saw in one place a lovely hanging vine. Some one had put a sweet potato in a glass jar, which was suspended by a piece of wire. The jar was partially filled with water and the potato vine had overflowed the top and hung in long streamers. It was as pretty as many of the more expensive plants carried by florists.

I suppose many of us have, at some time or other, planted orange, lemon or grapefruit seeds. They spring up into a tiny forest of miniature trees. They tell me that one can raise tomato vines, but that in this case the seeds must be dried first, just as seed corn is dried. Those who come to the city from far away farms often raise green things in a little box on a window-sill. It reminds them of home.

Recently I learned something in this connection I never knew before. They tell me that, if you wet a sponge and sprinkle it with bird seed, you will soon find it covered with a fine, green grass. I never had any idea that bird seed would sprout. Some day I'm going to try it.

I know one owner of a penthouse who actually has some good sized trees growing in deep tubs on his terrace. He dug them up himself on a trip to the mountains. Another terrace has a framework, which supports clematis vines. The owner told me he was going to try honeysuckle, but didn't know how well it would do in this climate. Personally, I should like a canteloupe or watermelon vine.

One trouble about my planting any seeds is that there are some pigeons from a roof down the street which pay me fairly regular visits. I found one of them recently investigating a box of earth on the porch. My wife had intended to plant something in it, but had not yet done so. The joke was on the pigeon.

I know a man who took a small place in Westchester for the summer while his wife and children went on a European trip. He was delighted to see a green vine growing by the wall of the little garage and put-up some strings to help it climb. When his family returned the vine had done splendidly. The children discovered what it was. It was poison ivy.

A butcher on Park avenue slapped a cigarette out of a woman's mouth and a judge later slapped a twenty-five-dollar fine on the butcher. After this, as far as the butcher is concerned, ladies may smoke.

Texas Caves and Bluffs Give Up Indian Relics

Del Rio, Texas.—The caves and bluffs of the rugged Pecos and Devil's river country near here have yielded relics which archeologists believe will do much in furnishing valuable data about the early Indian inhabitants. Miss Emma Futzietz, principal of the Mark Twain high school and director of the Witt Memorial museum, San Antonio, headed a small expedition which found a collection of skulls, bones, primitive knives, and other Indian relics.

Miss Vivian Carson copied many paintings, in as near the original colors as possible, which were found on the rock walls of the caves and bluffs.

Survey Shows Cost of Living Has Dropped

Washington.—The cost of living has dropped 6.5 per cent since last December, it was revealed in a Labor department survey completed in 51 cities. The survey included food, clothing, rent, fuel, light and house furnishings. Food showed the biggest decline of all the items. It was down 18.1 in the first six months of this year. Rents are down 8.1 per cent and clothing is down 4.6 per cent.

Tiny Mummy Found

Vernal, Utah.—A strange discovery, the mummy of a mature person only 32 inches in height, was made in Egin canyon recently by Lee Snyder and E. S. Noe.

Alone for 26 Years, Wife Gives Up Hope

Seattle.—The insurance of a man who has been missing 26 years was sought by Mrs. Margaret M. Otis, wife of Lieut. Frank I. Otis, missing since he left New York for San Francisco in 1905. Mrs. Otis believes her husband is dead and seeks his \$5,000 insurance, with interest.

How Schliemann Found His Perfect Helpmeet

Schliemann (the excavator of Troy) went to Greece, a middle-aged man, believing in the simplicity of his heart that he would find the manners of Acadia. He was to begin married life over again after an unfortunate experience in Russia. What more fitting than a Greek wife? It is hardly credible, but he asked his old Greek tutor to find him one. It is not incredible that the tutor found one for the wealthy foreigner among his own relations!

Before they were betrothed he gave her a viva-voce examination, including the reciting of passages from Homer by heart. She passed! The marriage was nearly broken off when the millionaire asked her why she was ready to be his wife. She replied: "Because my relations have told me that you are a rich man." And he had come to Greece sure of finding simplicity of heart.

Yet the marriage took place. And it succeeded. Mrs. Schliemann survived to see her husband's reputation established beyond the reach of ridicule. She made a perfect helpmeet to the grown-up boy. His instinct had been right in matrimony against all the probabilities, as it was in archeology against all the antiquarians.—London Saturday Review.

Few Corpulent Bad Men in Life or Literature

Doctors say that the man of middle age and beyond who is overweight has a better chance to live out the year than the man who has too much poundage. Doctors look askance at the individual of large girth and excess weight. His days are likely to be fewer in number than are those of the skinny man with a natural site for a belt.

A medical officer at a Japanese prison has been studying the physical aspects of his charges and he gives his approval to fat men. They are not lawbreakers or if they are they avoid the expected results of a lawless life. They do not go to prison.

Wilkie Collins apparently did not know that fat men are not criminals for he made the villain of his "Woman in White" a fat scoundrel. He is the only fat villain in literature so far as the records go. On the theory that there are exceptions to all rules this fat villain can be accepted in spite of the Japanese medico who asserts that the plumpitudinous lawbreaker is rare.—Miami (Fla.) Herald.

Metallurgic Changes

Since the discovery of radium by Professor and Mme. Curie in 1898, the enormous importance of this and other metals which behave in a similar way has been more and more strongly realized. Radium, thorium, uranium, and one or two other metals, have extraordinary properties. They are never at rest, but are always flinging off parts of themselves and changing as they do so into something else. In the course of millions of years radium, by far the rarest and the most valuable of metals, turns into lead, one of the commonest and cheapest.

Osmium Heaviest Element

The element osmium is the heaviest substance known. Its specific gravity, compared with water, is 22.5. Iridium, with a specific gravity of 22.42, comes second; platinum, 21.37, third, and gold, 19.33, fourth. Specific gravity is relative density, that is, the ratio of the weight of any volume of a substance used as a unit or standard. Air is generally used as the standard for gases, and water for solids and liquids. When we say that the specific gravity of osmium is 22.5 we mean that osmium bulk for bulk is 22.5 times heavier than water.—Pafthunder Magazine.

Religious Unbelief

Infidel is a term given to disbelievers in religion by those who do believe, rather than by themselves. An infidel is one who does not believe in religion, or often, in the particular religion of those about him. An atheist is one who denies the existence of a God; while an agnostic is one who professes ignorance as to whether or not there may be a God, a future existence, etc., and who often holds that man cannot possibly prove the matter either way. The inventor of the term agnostic was Thomas Huxley.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Divisional Line

The Continental divide of North America consists of a continuous line, extending north and south from the Arctic seas to the boundary between Panama and Colombia. In the United States it follows, as a rule, but not always, the most elevated portions of the Rocky mountains. Water falling east of this line flows into the Pacific. The term "Great Divide" is a popular one, but rather indefinite in meaning, and applies to a vast region in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado traversed by the Continental divide.

Moncton Tidal Bore

The famous tidal bore, near Moncton, N. B., is the inward rush of water up the Petitcodiac river of New Brunswick from the bay of Fundy, which has one of the highest tides in the world. The waters enter the estuary of the Petitcodiac in the form of a bore, or tidal wave, from four to six feet high. The difference between extreme high and extreme low tide at Moncton is 30 feet.

LOW BIRTH RATE ALARMS BRITAIN

Only Sweden Has Fewer Infants Per Capita

London.—Great Britain now has the lowest but one birth rate of any country in the world—the only one below Sweden—and economists are now warning that alarmed over the possibility of this forecast.

The census, taken throughout Great Britain, reveals that there has been an almost unbroken fall in the birth rate during the last ten years. It has been reduced to the level of 1900 per thousand population, which is more than half less than in 1900, and only about two-thirds of that recorded in pre-war years.

S. P. Vivian, the registrar-general, in his report warns: "Though further slight increments in the total population may be expected during the next two decades owing to a rapidly diminishing but not quite exhausted momentum imparted by the higher birth rates of the past, there can be no doubt that, falling a considerable rate above the present birth-rate figure, of which there is no sign at present—the population maximum will then be reached and will be followed by its turn by a small but increasing decline."

Vivian adds that at its present rate the birth rate is insufficient to sustain a stationary population in the future.

The report points out that, in spite of the fact that marriage rates have been well maintained, particularly at the younger ages at which the bulk of births occur, and of the further fact that the exceptional post-war spurt in the birth rate itself had passed its maximum at the beginning of the last period of ten years, the total births registered between 1921-1931 are more than a million and a quarter fewer than they were in the preceding period—a period which covered the war years, when the birth rate sank to levels never before recorded in this country.

The births were between 2,000,000 and 2,500,000 fewer than those of the last completely normal ten years, from 1901 to 1911.

Daguerreotype Is Only Picture of Betsy Ross

Evansville, Ind.—A dim daguerreotype, believed to be the only existing original likeness of Betsy Ross, maker of the first American flag, is owned by Capt John Vetch, who lives here. The Vetch family claims to be directly descended from Betsy Ross.

Vetch explained that the daguerreotype, about 160 years old, was made by D. A. Ross, a relative who lived in Cincinnati, while Betsy was visiting near there. It was first in the possession of Abigail Ross, a cousin of Betsy. She, with her husband, came to a farm near Mount Vernon, Ind., and later to Evansville. When she died the relic passed to her daughter and then to its present owner.

Miss Charlotte Vetch, Captain Vetch's youngest daughter, expects to fall heir to the daguerreotype.

Majestic Swans Again Nesting in Yellowstone

Yellowstone Park.—The appearance of eight pairs of trumpeter swans was reported in Yellowstone National park during the month of May, which is their nesting period. Conservationists hail this as good news, for these majestic birds are one of the species which are facing extinction under changing conditions, and the Yellowstone is one of the points where it is hoped to check the apparently ebbing tide.

Unless the few remaining trumpeter swans in existence can nest and rear their young safely, the species will soon join the dodo and the passenger pigeon.

Ex-Slave, Deceased Dead at 5, Is Nearing 100

Staunton, Va.—"Aunt Annie" Johnson, former slave, who, when a child and following a serious illness, was given up for dead and placed in a coffin for burial, is nearing her one hundredth birthday anniversary at her home at nearby Waynesboro.

Pronounced dead at the age of five years, a member of her family noticed her body move as she lay in her coffin and she was nursed back to health.

The ancient colored woman, who will pass the century mark December 1, is still active and a familiar figure about the streets of Waynesboro.

Negroes Mail Carrier

Marietta, Ohio.—Helen Gibson is believed to be the only negro woman mail carrier in the government service. She was awarded the contract for a star mail route between Marietta and Outler, Ohio, after Post Office Department officials found her bondman satisfactory.

"Baby Girl" Is a Nun When Letter Arrives

Augusta, Maine.—Mrs. John L. Flammie recently received a letter from her sister, Mrs. Fred Fowler of Fairfield, 22 miles from here. The letter announced the birth of a daughter. Investigation revealed that the letter was mailed 20 years ago.

The "baby girl" is now a nun in the Jackman convent.