

MORE THAN A RAIN SHEDDER

African Chiefs Take the Possession of an Umbrella Very Seriously, According to Reports.

Some time ago, there was what the news described as unrest in the West African colony of Lagos; telegrams were dispatched between that country and Great Britain, governors and deputy-governors were interviewed, and it was with difficulty that a native war was averted. The cause of all this commotion was an umbrella!

Now, in our country, as we all know, an umbrella is looked upon as a harmless possession—but not so in West Africa. There, among most of the native tribes, the umbrella is regarded as an emblem of royalty, and its possession is strictly confined to the chief or king of the tribe.

Therefore the indignation was intense on the part of one of these kings, when he found an inferior chief putting up an umbrella of his own. The king at once took a journey to Lagos, to lodge a formal complaint of the chief's treasonable conduct with the British governor.

An African king's umbrella is a very elaborate affair, and it often costs large sums of money. Most of the umbrellas for Ashanti and the Gold coast are made of gigantic size, some of them when open measuring ten feet across.

The coverings of these umbrellas are of colored silk—the brighter the better, with very deep fringes. The largest umbrellas are carried over the heads of chiefs, by bearers while other bearers steady the umbrella by cords attached to the uppermost parts.

One state umbrella had for its apex a silver eagle standing on two silver cannons, while another umbrella had a gold hen on the top, the hen being surrounded by numerous chickens, to represent the chief and his tribe.

CHANGES IN "OLD FAITHFUL"

Yellowstone's Famous Geyser Has Slightly Lengthened the Periods Between Its Eruptions.

Old Faithful, Yellowstone's most famous geyser, has slightly changed the period of its eruptions.

According to the observations of the park naturalist and the rangers, the geyser now spouts on an average every 64.6 minutes. Last year the average period was 60 minutes.

The alteration in Old Faithful's "tempo" does not indicate any lessening of its vigor or "faithfulness." On the contrary, Naturalist M. P. Skinner's observations show the mighty fountain to be increasing in volume. The change is believed to be due to an alteration in the subterranean tube of the geyser.

For the last year or so Old Faithful has acquired a habit of occasionally throwing out small rocks. The passage of the rocks through the tube is believed to have enlarged its dimensions slightly, this in turn being responsible for the lengthened period between eruptions and the increased volume of water.

A number of other interesting changes, lending a constantly varying interest to the mysterious manifestations of the park's performing natural wonders, also are reported by official observers.

That Word "Corker"

The American word "corker," meaning a person or thing of superlative quality, is only a slang use of a legitimate English word. Corker, in its original sense, meant a conclusive argument. It probably originated from the finality which a cork thrust into the mouth of a bottle stops all egress, or ingress of material in it.

The relegation of the word as used in America to the limbo of slang by the dictionary writers has neither weakened the word nor limited its use. The word "corker" is a perfectly good word. It expresses precisely a shade of meaning that needed to be expressed, and the chances are that it will be a word of good and regular standing long after the bones of the last living dictionary writers have thoroughly bleached.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Newspaper Accuracy

B. A. White of the Detroit News, after long investigation, finds that daily papers make only one error in every 3,250 opportunities for mistakes. This country recently celebrated the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and history has pointed out the very spot where they landed. Now a scientist discovers that at the time the Pilgrims landed this spot was under sea. Which leads Mr. White to ask, "If history cannot report a fact correctly in 300 years, ought we expect a newspaper to be infallibly accurate in six or eight hours?"

FIVE MEN KILLED

IN MINE GAS EXPLOSION

(By Associated Press) Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 10.—Five men were killed in a gas explosion when they entered the dolomite mine, one of the Woodward iron company, in face of warning that it was dangerous.

LEADS IN HOME OWNERSHIP

According to population, Canada is at the Head of All Nations in That Respect.

Canada has a larger percentage of home owners in its population than any other nation, according to recently compiled figures of the census department.

London, Ontario, leads among Canadian cities with 80 per cent of its inhabitants owning their own homes. Hamilton and Calgary have 60 per cent home owners, Toronto 55 per cent, Halifax 51 per cent, Vancouver 45 per cent, Edmonton 45 per cent, Winnipeg 44 per cent, Ottawa 40 per cent, Montreal 5 per cent.

Montreal, the largest city in Canada, pulls down the general average to 35 per cent for the ten cities. Taking into consideration the country districts, it is believed by the census experts that nearly 50 per cent of the people of Canada own their own homes. Canada is a land of farm owners where the tenant farmer is almost unknown.

The ten cities covered by the figures range in number of residences from 9,000 to 184,000. Of 72 cities in the United States with a population of 100,000 or more, only two, Des Moines and Grand Rapids, it is declared, have a 50 per cent population of home owners. Des Moines tops the list with 51.1 per cent while Grand Rapids has only a shade lower. Recent government statistics in the United States show that 45.6 per cent of the people of the United States own their own homes and 54.4 per cent live in rented quarters.

GOT VERIFICATION FROM DAD

Small Boy Satisfied That Malachy Was Right About the Steering Gear of Bulldozers.

An eminent college professor is the father of a small boy who is very observant and inquisitive, and is the employer of a man who has much Irish wit and humor.

One day Alfred, the small boy, was playing with a cat in the stable while Malachy cleaned the harness.

"Say, Malachy," the child asked, "why do cats always land on their feet?"

"They steer thimselves wid their tail."

"Well, how do rabbits steer themselves? They haven't long tails, only a nub."

"Wid their ears; that's phwat they have their long ears for."

"How does a bulldog steer himself? He doesn't have long ears or a long tail."

"Wid his bark."

At this the boy looked doubtful. Presently he ran to his father's study, and in a few minutes came back to the stable.

"Malachy!"

"Yis?"

"That's true what you told me about bulldogs. I asked papa, and he read something to mother out of a book about 'barks that steer against the wind.'"—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Unexpected Candor

My most embarrassing moment occurred one day last winter. I was attending a church bazaar with a friend of whom I was very fond. All went well until we came to the pillow booth, where I made my horrible break. Quite confidentially I told her: "Now, some of those pillows aren't so bad looking, and some of them are really quite good looking, but did you ever in your life see one in as poor taste as that?"

My friend looked at me queerly for a moment and then said: "I'll admit it is in poor taste, but, then, you see, I am rather noted for my lack of taste, and I made that."

I made a hasty exit, and have not since had the courage to face her, though she insists on considering it a joke.—Chicago Tribune.

Effect of War Against Disease

The effect of successful war against disease and death is to make life better worth living. There is no doubt that whole cities and even countries have lived at a low physical level of well-being. Settlers in malarial districts of the United States are pertinent examples. For them life was a sad affair. Low death and sickness rates signify a more exuberant vitality, and more general enjoyment of life. The possibilities in a nation which really enjoys life are limitless.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

EXTRACT FROM THE GOVERNORS MESSAGE

this plan, then I urge you to evolve from your own councils a plan through which we can be relieved from the difficulties I have mentioned. The duty of finding a remedy is yours, not mine. I offer my best thought on the subject. If you do not approve my recommendation, then I beg you to give the state a better one.

Our commerce must not forever languish. We must not forever remain Virginia territory commercially.

RHINE TROOPS OF UNITED STATES ORDERED HOME

French and Belgian Troops On Way to Ruhr for French Protection

AMERICAN TROOPS DON'T WELCOME NEWS

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 10.—Withdrawal of the American troops from the Rhine was ordered by the President, who the state department said in announcing the decision, deemed the time expedient, for the recall of the forces now at Coblenz. The Forces number about one thousand men and it indicated the withdrawal will be carried out as soon as major general Allen could make the necessary arrangements.

No official explanation of the order is forthcoming, but it is understood to have followed notification from France that she intended to proceed with the occupation of Ruhr valley, despite the definite knowledge of the withdrawal of American troops would be ordered if she did so.

News Displease Soldiers

Coblenz.—Withdrawal orders caused much excitement among American troops many of men being depressed at news which was transmitted them by the Associated Press Correspondent.

BELGIUMS TROOP ON WAY TO RUHR DISTRICT

(By Associated Press)

Brussels, Jan. 10.—The first Belgian troops to be put in motion for cooperation with the French in occupying Ruhr, entrained for Air La Chapelle. They totalled eighteen hundred.

BELGIUM JOINS FRANCE IN RUHR DISTRICT

(By Associated Press)

Brussels, Jan. 10.—Premier Theunis formally announced to the chamber of deputies, the governments determination to stand beside France in the occupation of Ruhr, saying he regretted the allies are moving without England and neither anger nor vengeance actuated Belgium.

GREAT BRITIAN WANTS ONLY FAIR BUSINESS SETTLEMENT

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Great Britain wants a fair business settlement of her five billion dollars war debt to the United States, on such terms as will produce the least possible disturbance in the trade relations of the two countries, Stanley Baldwin, British chancellor of the exchequer, declared before a meeting of the British American debt fund commissions.

GAZETTE FORCE CRIPPLED WITH "FLU"

Our Linotype Operator, Martin McGilvary, is still confined to his room with the influenza, and although he was able to sit up some today, is very weak and will not be able to be out for a few days yet. Master Carlyle and Julian Barksdale, who are great help about the office after school, each evening, are also sick, therefore the Editor, Mrs. Murray and Charles Mitchell are making a great effort to get out a paper. Only those that no something of the work, can realize the difficulty we are up against, and we may not be able to get out a paper every day.

BAPTIST PRAYMEETING

There will be a special program at prayer meeting tonight, at the First Baptist Church. Among those having part in the program will be a song by Miss Gladys Osborne, Reading, Contracting the church, by Mrs. Becker, also a reading by Miss Gwendolyn Hampton.

SLANG OF "GOOD OLD DAYS"

Great-Grandfather Enlightens Flapper as to the Meaning of Some Terms of Long Ago.

"He's a poor nut!" jeered the flapper. "In '09 we should have called him a blenny-hammer," put in her great-grandfather, unexpectedly.

"The flapper looked interested. "What was '09 for hip-pocket?" asked she.

"Blingo," answered the old man promptly. "And home brow we should have called 'blue-rin'; a gentleman occasionally was 'disguised.'"

"Go on," cried the flapper, delighted. "You, my dear"—he bowed to her—"would have been 'smart as a carrot' in my day. Some of your contemporaries I've seen 'blamocking' about in their 'clumpers,' more like men than women, but you are always—'blimpy.'"

"Next you'll be telling me you shimmied in '09!"

"No, we 'hopped.' Do you know what we meant by a 'bummer'?"

"A good one," guessed the flapper. "How did you get excited?"

"We were in a 'pucker,' or we went in a 'burst,' or there was a 'plather.'"

"But there's one word that your generation can't parallel. What did we mean by 'mannersbit'?"

"You have me, grandfather," admitted the flapper.

The old man opened a little, worn book on the table beside him and read: "Mannersbit—a portion of a dish left by the guests, that the host may not feel himself reproached. Those were good old days—what?" said he.

HIGH FOOD VALUE OF DATES

Ideal Diet Never Properly Appreciated by the American Public, Is Physician's Assertion.

"The value of the date as a food is not half appreciated by the American public," writes Dr. John Harvey Kellogg. "The date not only furnishes a variety of sugar which is readily assimilated and which is much more wholesome than cane sugar, but it supplies a fine quality of food iron. An ounce of dates, in fact, supplies one-third more food iron than an ordinary beefsteak and iron of much finer quality."

"The date is equally superior as a source of food lime and other food salts, supplying seven times as much lime as does beef tenderloin. The date supplies nothing but the simple addition of milk to constitute a complete diet. A pound of dates and a quart of milk afford nourishment not only sufficient in quantity to supply the needs of the average person, but of the highest quality."

"The American people are suffering from lime starvation, which is resulting not only in a loss of stature, due to lack of bone development, but an almost universal decay of teeth. The free use of dates with milk as a part of the American breakfast would conduce greatly to improvement of the national health and the lowering of the mortality rate."

The Mosquito Plant

The virtues of the species of basil (Ocimum viride) known as the mosquito plant are attracting attention in England. An army officer has given a growing plant to the botanical gardens at Kew. He obtained it in Nigeria, where, he says, it is known to drive mosquitoes from its neighborhood, and the natives use an infusion of its leaves as a cure for malarial fevers. Its virtues are known in India also, as a border of it was planted round the Victoria garden in Bombay because the workmen were pestered by mosquitoes and suffered from malaria. As soon as the hedge was completed the mosquitoes left and there was no more malaria among the workmen.—Exchange.

Figures for Home Builder

Unless very much interested in figures, the home builder does not know how each dollar is spent that he puts into the construction of his home. He knows in a general way that there are several general groups, but as he looks at the finished dwelling he does not know what per cent of the cost went for masonry or carpentry or something else. Using the dollar for illustrating the relative costs, it is estimated that 38.1 cents go for masonry, 29.1 cents for carpentry, 8.7 cents for heating, 6.5 cents for electrical work, 6 cents for plumbing, 3.5 cents for sheet metal work, 2.9 cents for roofing and 1.2 cents for hardware.

DECIDE NO MORE BILLS AFFECTING THE REVENUE

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 10.—House ways and means committee have decided that no bill affecting revenues, would be reported this session except those of purely an emergency nature, or of direct assistance to the treasury in the administration of fiscal affairs.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY TO HAVE ANOTHER PLANT

(By Associated Press)

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 10.—Plans to establish a plant here for the manufacture of automobiles and tractors, was announced by the Ford Motor Company. The purchase of one hundred and sixty seven and a half acres of land, adjacent to the Government dam is completed, and application is to be made for power rights. If these are granted a ten million dollar plant will be built employing fourteen to fifteen thousand men. If denied, a steam plant is to be built on a smaller scale.

ENGINEERS DECLARES DUST EXPLOSIONS PREVENTABLE

(By Associated Press)

BUFFALO, Jan. 10.—Dust explosions cannot be of spontaneous origin and are preventable, David J. Price, engineer in charge of development of agriculture, informs the safety bureau of the chamber of commerce here.

In thirteen recent dust explosions in representative types of manufacturing plants, Mr. Price says, 156 lives have been lost and property worth \$16,250,000 destroyed. Grain elevators, feed mills, sugar refineries and starch factories were the scenes of the most serious disasters, but explosions also have occurred in dust from powdered milk, soap, fertilizer, cocoa, spice and cork.

Smoking and using open lights in plants where the air is filled with dust particles are the most frequent causes of dust explosion, the bureau's statistics show.

HINTON OKLA. BANK IS ROBBED OF \$10,000

(By Associated Press)

Hinton, Okla., Jan. 10.—Three bandits held up the first national bank of Hinton and locked three persons in a vault and escaped in automobile, with approximately ten thousand dollars in currency and bonds.

WASHINGTON CONCEEDS WAR DEBT A PROBLEM

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 10.—Preliminary negotiations with the British over the war debt to the United States, has convinced the administration that no settlement of the problem can be made under the terms of the law as it now exists, a White House spokesman declared today.

VAN SEVEARINGEN SECURES CONTROL OF THE C. AND O.

(By Associated Press)

Cleveland, Jan. 10.—Control of the Chesapeake and Ohio by the Vansweringen, following the commerce commission announcement.

START BEER CAMPAIGN

(By Associated Press)

Cincinnati, Jan. 19.—Modification of the Volstead act to permit the manufacture of real beer, is the goal of a nation wide drive to be launched Sunday was announced after a meeting of the executive board of the international brewery workers union and Samuel Gompers.

PUBLISHERS CAN CONTROL ENTIRE PAPER PRODUCTION

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 10.—Publishers are not prohibited by the Clayton act, from contracting with news dealers to act exclusively as their wholesale distributing agents, the supreme court held in the trade commissions case against the Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia.

DAUGHERTY GETS CLEAN BILL FROM COMMITTEE

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 10.—Attorney General Daugherty was given a clean bill of real by the house tentative Kellar.

GOVERNOR PLEADS FOR STATE OWNED SHIPS AND PORTS

Message declares time has come to Break Virginia Control of rates

GOV. MORRISON SAYS HIS PLAN SOUND

(By Associated Press)

Raleigh, N. C. Jan. 10.—Constitutional amendments limiting North Carolina's indebtedness and protecting its sinking funds; the creation of a ship and port commission, with \$2,000,000 to establish state ports and to purchase a fleet of ships; a \$15,000,000 highway bond issue, and the additional of the departments of commerce and industry and of banking, are the principal recommendations of Governor Cameron Morrison made in a biennial message to the General Assembly today.

The chief executive also urged that adequate funds be provided for the improvement of the state's fisheries and to promote the health, educational, welfare and agricultural programs of the several state departments.

The chief executive also urged that adequate funds be provided for the improvement of the state's fisheries and to promote the health, educational, welfare and agricultural experiment and extension programs of the several state departments.

In urging the establishment of a state-owned shipping line corporation, the Governor declared that "our freight rates are nearly all based on the rates to the Virginia cities plus the rates from the Virginia cities to our towns." He added that there are no basic freight points in North Carolina and that the state always would be discriminated against until water transportation was established so as to reduce rates.

Give me, gentlemen, two millions of dollars to establish some North Carolina state owned terminal facilities, and to purchase a fleet of ships; then give me the authority to operate them, and I promise you to save the state more money annually than it costs the state government now, and to make it commercially free and independent Governor Morrison asserted.

I appeal to you to create the North Carolin Ship and Port Commission, with appropriate and ample powers to acquire terminals by lease or purchase, and to acquire and operate a fleet of passenger and commerce-carrying ships.

We should act without delay. The cheap ships can be had now, and it is important to act promptly.

Let me appoint the commissions, and the Senate confirm them. I promise you a great Commission. Let the bonds issue when the commissioners say in writing to the Governor and the council of state that they are ready to proceed.

If you think caution requires it, insert a provision that if the Commission finds it cannot arrange the practical details in a way their judgment approves, they may report there findings to the Governor and council of state, and they may, if they think wise, suspend further action until the next meeting of your honorable body.

They say, Give us the details. We are ready to place them before your committee when appointed, through practical men acquainted with the situation, the waters, the ships and freight rates.

Water transportation and good roads and truck transportation, competing with rail transportation will save this state more money before the first serial bond issue, ten years from their issue, than both the roads and ship company will cost the state, and in addition build ten cities in the eastern and Cape Fear

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