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## WHO IS WHO NOW

### CONGRESSMAN KEATING'S ANCESTORS



Representative Keating of Colorado, when a small boy, was taken from Missouri to the Centennial state. The family settled at a small place called Greeley, in honor of the great Horace.

The inhabitants were all prim New Englanders, whose ancestors had come over in the Mayflower, and whose talk was only of their lineage. Keating was the only kid at school who was Irish and not long on American forefathers who had fought in the Revolution. And this fact was a cause of constant humiliation to him, for the other children at school boasted daily in history lesson of an uncle at Bunker Hill or a grandfather at Yorktown.

So one day young Keating made up a story. He invented a wonderful forefather and his glorious deeds; and when he told it to the breathless admiring class, he was the hero of the recess hour. His mother upbraided him for telling a falsehood in school. "Those other boys are always bragging about their ancestors and I had to do the same," she said. "I couldn't just help it," he replied. "Another time Keating was asked to speak at a banquet of some kind of a colonial society. When he rose, he smilingly said: 'Gentlemen and ladies, I appreciate this honor, but confess I cannot understand why I am asked to address you. When your forefathers were distinguishing themselves in the Revolutionary war mine were hoeing cabbages in some Irish garden.'"

Yet the fact is, Keating is of ancient Irish lineage, and of its "bluest" blood.

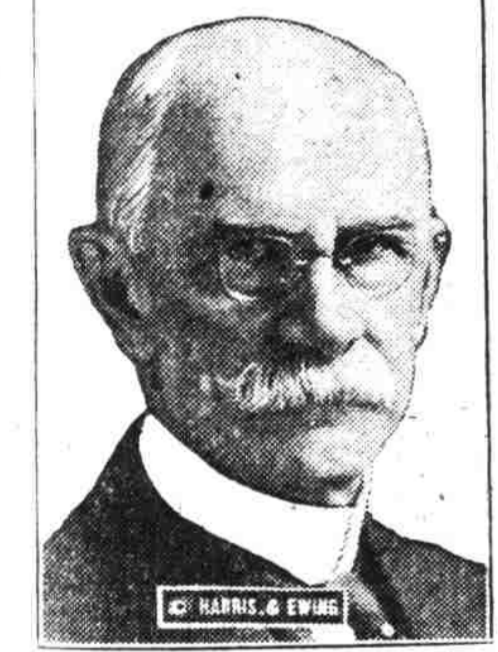
### KETTNER IS ON THE MOVE

"I'm thinking of breaking into poetry and writing a philosophic ode on the mutability of mundane affairs, with metaphors and similes and things in it," confided Representative Kettner, from the San Diego, Cal. district. "I'll have something to say about being like a leaf about on the changing sides of fate and how, just as you've gotten your little card house nicely built, something joggles your elbow and spills the milk—or whatever's poetry for spilling the milk.



"It's experience that inspires me," continued the representative from the clime of climate. "Nine years ago I said to myself, 'Come, I shall pick out a suitable spot, build me and my family a home there and settle down for the rest of my life.' So, after carefully weighing a score of localities, I determined on Visalia, Cal. "I bought me a ranch near by, built me a house that will outlast the monument, put up fences, barns and other improvements so permanent that they will echo to Gabriel's trumpet. Then we planted ourselves there and cried aloud: 'Behold us! This is our home forever and ay!' "Three years from that day I was in the insurance business in San Diego. "An' then I said, 'Now, I am fixed for good. I shall tie myself in a hard knot to my business here and nothing but a universal cataclysm shall remove me.' "And three years later I was in congress!" "Are you going to stay in congress?" queried his visitor. "That depends upon a higher power," replied Mr. Kettner. "A greater than I, in whose hands I am but as an atom—my constituents!"

### SENATOR THOMAS TELLS OF BIG TUMBLE



"To tumble down a mine shaft to a depth equal to the height of a fifty-story skyscraper is a trick anybody can turn if he is careless enough around a mining camp," said Senator Charles S. Thomas of Colorado, who is one of the most eminent mining lawyers in the West and also one of the early settlers in the Centennial state.

"But to come through such an experience alive is a feat few can achieve," he continued. "Yet that is just what happened to a man I knew in Colorado. A fellow named Jim Dorris of Leadville performed this Fall of Man act in 1881 and went through an experience enough to kill ten men, yet came out as chipper as though he had been lying in a feather bed."

"Jim slipped at the top of the shaft of the Cleora mine and fell a sheer 297 feet to the hard rock bottom, while a 300-pound ore-bucket came clattering down on top of him. Of course, we all thought he would have been brought up again in a box, but Jim came out with only a few scars besides. He lived for many years after, though he was not much of either after such an experience. But the remarkable part of it is that a man could fall 297 feet onto rocks, and then have a huge iron bucket clatter down on top of him and live at all."

### STEFANSSON'S ARCTIC PARTY SAFE

Brief cable dispatches from St. Michael and Nome indicate that when the Stefansson exploring ship was crushed in the Arctic sea, January 16 last, the men saved their instruments, supplies, dog food and left only the crushed milk and its coal cargo when they bobbed east over the ice to camp on Arangell island.



The experience of the Karluk proves that the drift of the ice sheet from Point Barrow is not northerly, as had been supposed, but westerly. Both Stefansson and Amundsen had believed that a ship entering the pack at Point Barrow could be carried coast to Greenland. Probably the shipwrecked men passed the winter in comfort, having dogs to carry them on hunting expeditions.

It is expected that the Canadian government will authorize Capt. Robert A. Bartlett, who is at St. Michael, where he arrived after a dog team and sea journey from Wrangell island, to engage a ship to go to the island and bring off the 18 men marooned there. Being sea is now navigable over its whole area, and the whaler Herran, the relief ship most available, should be able to enter the Arctic zone. The Karluk's men will be landed at Nome, whence they can take a passenger steamer to Seattle. It is not likely that they can reach Nome in time to board a vessel bound for Point Barrow, from which place they could strike to join the second division of the Stefansson expedition at the mouth of the Mackenzie.

### BOAT OF ROOSEVELT EXPEDITION THAT CAPSIZED



This is the boatload of natives, part of the Roosevelt expedition in South America, that capsized in the Duvida river, one man being drowned. The photograph was taken by Leo Miller, one of the naturalists of the party.

### BLOODY DEEDS DONE

#### Pirates, Pestilence and Storm Have Scared Vera Cruz.

Buccaners of the Spanish Main Have Plundered and Burned and Committed Other Atrocities Repeatedly in Ancient Port.

New Orleans.—Bloodshed is not new in Vera Cruz. In fact, no city on the continent has witnessed such devilish cruelty, such plundering, burning and ravaging, as has this place of the "True Cross." Since Cortez landed in 1518, there has been a succession of strife and pestilence which can be paralleled in few cities in the world. Reproached buccaners, in all their awful glory, have raided the port time and again; it has been a point of vantage which has called forth the fiercest fighting in the many civil wars that have swept Mexico and it has always been selected as the landing point for foreign foes, writes Paul Norton in the New Orleans Times-Democrat-Picayune.

Whenever any of the numerous pirates who preyed on the rich shipping of the Spanish main wanted to "sting the beard of the King of Spain" they would attack Vera Cruz. Lorencillo, a famous pirate of the early days, with 800 of his cutthroats, slipped by the sleeping cannoners at the fort, killed thousands, outraged its women and stripped the city of its valuables. Hundreds of persons were driven into the cathedral, men, women and children, black and white, and held prisoners. When the doors were opened four days later most of the inmates were dead from suffocation.

As the gateway through which all the commerce with Spain was conducted, there always were great stores of valuable property on hand. This was true particularly just before the sailing of the galleons, which usually traveled in fleets owing to the menace of pirates. By learning of the schedule of the galleons the buccaners generally dropped in when the supply of treasure was great. Nicolas de Aciramoto, another highwayman of the deep, pillaged the town some years after the visit of Lorencillo. He enriched himself with \$7,000,000 in silver awaiting transportation to Spain. By way of appreciation he took prisoners 300 of the citizens of the city and manacled them on the Sacrifice islands, patches of sand far from the coast, where they died of starvation. The anniversary of this calamity is observed by memorial services to this day.

While the blood of thousands has flowed through the streets of this ill-fated port, the toll of war and violence is insignificant in comparison with the deaths that have come from pestilence.

Until 1850 the city was surrounded by a mighty wall. This great bulwark may have saved the city on a few occasions from attack, but cutting out the healthful sea breeze made it a pest hole compared to which Guayaquil is a health resort. Yellow Jack in all its terrors was never absent. Smallpox, bubonic plague and the other offspring of the dirt and squalor of the middle ages were always present. It was only in recent years that modern sewer and drainage systems were installed, which, with other sanitary precautions, has changed the place from a death-dealing focus to a health resort.

The harbor at Vera Cruz has little natural protection. Before the building of the present breakwaters the northers which characterize the Mosquito coast dealt the struggling city almost as severe blows as did the pirates and the diseases. Modern engineering now protects the city and gives a limited area, in which the ships can anchor behind the seawall.

Due to the hatred of the Spaniards, Vera Cruz once was ground to powder. At the close of Mexico's war for independence, in 1821, the Spaniards still held the fort of San Juan de

#### Ulua in the harbor. Learning that he soon was to be ordered to evacuate, the commander hauled his heavy guns to the city side of the fortress and fired into the town until all his ammunition was expended. No building in the place was undamaged. So great was the havoc that it was with difficulty that the lines of the streets were re-established. As there was no warning of such action, the inhabitants were forced to flee to the sand dunes which surround the city, after the hail of solid shot had begun. Trails of blood led from the choked gates of the ill-starred town.

In 1838 the French bombarded the place. In 1847 General Scott favored the Veracruzans with a terrible bombardment. In 1859 Benito Juarez was besieged in Vera Cruz by the troops of Maximilian. In 1861 the French fleet again took the place. During the revolutionary period, which was almost continuous previous to the opening of the regime of Porfirio Diaz, this port and its revenue always were objectives. During the Madero revolution, for the first time, a period of civil strife passed, during which Vera Cruz was unmoistened.

#### DROVE SHAH FROM BERLIN

Rumors of Brusque Imperial Action Lent Credence by Watch Kept on Potentate.

Odesa.—It is rumored here that the recent return of the former Shah of Persia was the result of pressure brought to bear upon him by the Russian ambassador at Berlin, where the Shah has been for several months undergoing treatment for diabetes. It is understood that Sir Edward Grey was told by Russia that she would not tolerate any further attempt on the part of the Shah to regain the Persian throne and thus cause another grave disturbance. A Russian adjutant attached to the suite of Mohammed Ali is keeping a vigilant watch on his movements and

#### THIS STORY IS UP TO DATE

Electric Creatures Besiege Ship in Gulf Stream. Sailors Assert on Reaching Port.

Boston.—A remarkable story is told by the crew of the British freighter Rochelle. According to stories by several of the men, the delay was due principally to electric fishes, otherwise known as torpedo fishes, which were attracted by the steel plates of the vessel, and fastened themselves by hundreds against her bottom and sides.

The steamer was in the Gulf Stream, north of Cuba, when she began to slow down. The officers were unable to explain the change in the progress of the craft. Several sailors said they felt a tingling sensation about their feet and finger tips. The steamer was held back strangely. Members of the crew became alarmed. A sailor looked over the side and says it was plastered with strange-looking fishes. They were two or three thick along the port side under water. The starboard side also was covered.

As the Rochelle moved north and got out of the warm waters of the stream the fishes dropped off and the vessel resumed her speed.

"Follow Your Hunch." Chicago.—The Natural Science club at a meeting devised a program of thought vibrations to save the 12,000 persons in Cook county who are contemplating suicide according to Coroner Hoffman.

Second Appendix Cut Out. Mount Hope, N. Y.—The appendix of Frank Davis, removed ten years ago, grew again and had to be cut out a second time to save his life.

Remove Brick Walk to Save Man. Mohegan, N. Y.—Adolph Hartley, weighing 267 pounds, could not be rescued when he fell and stuck in a narrow arway until part of a brick wall was removed.

Watch Saves Man's Life. New York.—A gold hunting case watch saved Rudolph M. Hoffman's life when a highwayman shot at him. The bullet wedged itself in the watch.

SEA COOK GETS BIG EARFUL. Five-Year-Old Baby Empties Horse Liniment Into It and Things Happen. New York.—Although Julius Karr, a cute little five-year-old, never heard what they did to Hamlet's father, he had an inspiration of a similar nature when he saw his father asleep on the parlor sofa with his starboard ear conveniently exposed. Starboard, because Canud Karr is a sea cook.

### INDIANS AT PENN MONUMENT

Many of Blackfoot Tribe Pay Reverential Respect to Memory of Great Man at Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Pa.—A dozen Blackfoot Indians from the Glacier National park reservation, in Montana, visited Philadelphia recently en route home from the Shriner's convention, which they attended in Atlanta. The Indians visited Penn Treaty park and enacted a tribal peace ceremonial before the Penn monument in perpetuation of the memory of the founder of the City of Brotherly Love and his famous peace treaty with the Leni Lenapes which was signed on that spot in 1683.

This photograph shows Medicine Owl, "Spirit or Medicine" man of the Glacier park tribe, and Chief White Wolf, paying their reverential respects to the memory of Penn. Medicine Owl is shown praying to the "Great Spirit of Peace."



Indians Honoring Memory of William Penn.

## GOOD ROADS

GOOD ROADS PROVE BENEFIT

Improved Highways Increase Attendance at Rural Schools—States Making Greatest Progress.

While it is true that various factors contribute to increase or decrease the attendance at schools in given sections of the country, it is worthy of comment that in the states having a high percentage of improved roads a much larger percentage of the students enrolled regularly attend the schools than in the states having a small percentage of improved roads. In five eastern and western states, which have a large mileage of improved roads, the average attendance of enrolled pupils in 1908-9 was 80 per cent, while in four southern states and one northwestern state, which are noted for bad roads, the average attendance for the same year was 64 per cent—80 per cent in the good roads states as against 64 per cent in the bad roads states. In the states first named 25 per cent of the roads have been



A Good Road in New England.

Improved, while in the latter group of states there are only 1 1/2 per cent of the roads improved.

That improved roads would benefit our country school system there would seem to be no doubt. Improved roads make it possible to consolidate or centralize the schools and to establish graded schools in the rural districts. Such schools centrally located will accommodate all of the children within a radius of from four to five miles. In many communities having the advantage of improved roads commodious buildings have been provided, more competent teachers have been employed, and modern facilities for teaching have been supplied at a minimum cost. For instance, since the improvement of the main highways in Durham county, North Carolina, the number of school houses has been reduced from 45 to 46, which are graded and have two or more rooms and employ two or more teachers.

There are at the present time about two thousand consolidated rural schools in the United States. It appears that the greatest progress along these lines, and it is rather significant to note that in these states about one-third of the roads have been improved. According to statistics of the agricultural department there was expended in 1899, \$22,116 in Massachusetts for the conveyance of pupils to consolidated schools, but in 1908 the expenditure for this purpose amounted to \$292,213. In Indiana the expenditure for this purpose in 1904 amounted to \$56,000, while in 1908, \$290,000 was expended. This expenditure for transportation reflects, in a general way, the change in the progress of the educational movement. It must not be understood that this is an additional burden, as the expenditure thus made is saved in other directions.

### BENEFIT OF IMPROVED ROAD

Among Many Other Things It Attracts Investors Looking for Advantageous Locations.

A long stretch of improved road is one of the best advertisements a state can have. It attracts a class of tourists who are able and willing to pay for entertainment. It brings investors who are looking for advantageous locations. It includes agricultural investigation and consequent immigration and investment, not only along the line of the road, but in other accessible sections. It changes, by the sheer force of publicity, backward localities into progressive ones; enhances values, and brings into general notice resources which had only been known locally; or, if known, not appreciated.

The advantages which such stretches of main roads cause to accrue are advantages which affect the entire state, as well as the localities themselves. It should, therefore, be assumed as a principle that such main roads should be built, in whole or in part, by the state; that their management and maintenance should be in the hands of the state authorities.

### Raising Lettuce.

Many market gardeners sow lettuce in rows 10 to 12 inches apart and thin the plants to stand from 8 to 12 inches apart. This plan is very satisfactory whenever good markets are available. Any of the loose-leaf and heading varieties may be grown in this manner.

### Using Kerosene.

Kerosene may be used in connection with a lamp externally or a light film on it may be put on the drinking water, but it should not be used internally or externally otherwise.

### Really Not Much Difference.

Telephone troubles in the tropics are largely due to the wires becoming covered with air plants. In Porto Rico the humidity of the atmosphere is so great that the plants continue to grow until they are detached by the lightning.

## NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



### Washington Explorer Finds Strange Cave Men

WASHINGTON.—Caves hewn in the solid rocks of sugarloaf mountains, sometimes to the depth of 150 feet, large enough to hold from 1,500 to 2,000 people. Men who think nothing of running 40 and 50 miles a day without taking a drink of water. People who never set eyes on fruits or vegetables.

Towns of 5,000 to 6,000 inhabitants, in which there is not a building, the people living in holes in the earth. A land of no shadows between 3 a. m. and 5 p. m. A nation in which women are never seen.

These are some of the wonders described by Frank Edward Johnson, the explorer and lecturer and contributing editor of the National Geographic Magazine, who arrived in Washington after an absence of almost two years, spent among the troglodyte tribes of southern Tunisia. Mr. Johnson gave out his first interview since his return to the United States, after reporting to the National Geographic society in Washington.

While in Tunisia Mr. Johnson conducted extensive researches among the buried Roman cities, and traced the old Roman highways, which have been hidden for centuries by the shifting sands of the Sahara. He discovered a following for 300 miles the route of the road that was built from Carthage to Leptis Magna and to Alexandria nearly two thousand years ago.

"On the trip just concluded," said Mr. Johnson, "I came into a more intimate contact with the innermost lives of the peoples of the extreme southern Tunisia than ever before, and I had an unequalled opportunity to study them at closer range than any foreigner has ever enjoyed. There are probably more than one hundred thousand of these people in a section hitherto supposed to be almost uninhabitable. They are pursuing an exceedingly primitive life.

"All the troglodyte strongholds are difficult of approach. Their warriors could see the enemy approaching for many miles, unless they came by night, and then the zigzag path that led up to the great walls, worn smooth by centuries of hard use, with a surface like polished marble, was too dangerous, for a stumble meant sudden death on the rocks hundreds of feet below. It is difficult even for the mountain goats born and bred there."

### Capital Folk Scramble for Rent-Free Houses

THERE'S a scramble for among several hundred Washingtonians for rent-free houses during the summer months in the city's most exclusive residential districts. Few people outside the capital realize that there are in this city scores of beautiful and costly homes which are turned over to caretakers, sometimes without rent, and with coal, gas and electric light bills paid. On some occasions, even caretakers are paid a nominal sum to live in the houses.

Now is the season when these caretakers are the busiest. Those who have had these positions in the past are the most active and they besiege almost daily the various real estate offices in the city. For this business is one of the hardest for real estate men to look after. In the first place they must be able to judge character "on the jump" and be able to pick men and women who would be capable and honest. Then after selecting the names of applicants the agents have to investigate their standing and trustworthiness. In the selection of the tenants widows almost always have first choice. A good widow with children is always regarded as the best caretaker.

While the occupation of caretaker grew up originally when Washingtonians left the city for the summer it has extended to another branch now—that of furnished houses for sale or rent. For instance, if a public official who has lived here several years suddenly becomes a "game duck" and moves "back to the farm" his Washington home is for sale. Often it is difficult to sell the place immediately or even to rent it. As a result a caretaker is selected. This person is given possession of the house, but is required to keep it in tip-top condition and to show it to prospective buyers.

### Uncle Sam Needs Rifle Ranges for Civilians

WITH the probability that citizen soldiery may be called to national service, the national board for promotion of rifle practice of the war department has issued a statement explaining the need of rifle ranges for practice, which has been made possible by the present congress in providing for the free distribution of rifle and ammunition to civilian rifle clubs and school cadets.

"Again we are faced with the possibility of sending untrained youths from their homes to the battlefield," the statement says. "Recruits can be taught to march, drill, and take care of themselves in the field in a comparatively short period, but such is not the case with the care and effective use of the service arm. A long step in the right direction was taken by the present congress when it enacted a law, through a paragraph in the army appropriation bill, authority for the war department to issue, rifle and ammunition free to certain civilians.

"It is a fundamental principle of national defense, that citizens should be trained in the use of the service arm. Rifle instruction is the keynote of national defense of Switzerland. If we were to train our citizens in the same proportion as that small republic, we would have about 2,000,000 trained civilian expert riflemen.

A serious handicap to the proper development of this movement is the lack of rifle ranges. With the growth of cities and the increasing value of land generally rifle ranges have been swept away. Therefore, unless the issue of rifle and ammunition is followed by the construction of ranges where civilians can practise such issue will not accomplish the results desired by the government."

### Varied Lot of Plants Grown by the Government

IN CONNECTION with its investigations, the Smithsonian institution undertook some years ago the collecting of a series of cactuses. Not only herbarium specimens, but many examples of living plants were secured.

The problem of the care of these living plants while under observation was solved through the co-operation of the department of agriculture, which assigned special greenhouse No. 7, at Fourteenth and B streets northwest, for housing them. Today a veritable desert flourishes in it, filled with all kinds of strange desert plants, especially cactuses from North and South America, of which there are perhaps in the neighborhood of five thousand specimens.

The collection has so much to attract the ordinary visitor. No such collection in Europe has so many unique and rare species. Each pot contains a label which gives the key number to record books giving the history of each plant. The collection contains about twenty-five species of the night-blooming cereus, several plants of the so-called bishop's cap, and some striking specimens of Turkei cactus.

The photographer of the National museum makes photographs of the flowering plants when any special features are to be noted, thousands of these cuttings being distributed by the department to the various botanical institutions throughout the world.

The collection is directly under the charge of E. M. Byrnes, superintendent of gardens and grounds.

Air Plants on the Wires. Telephone troubles in the tropics are largely due to the wires becoming covered with air plants. In Porto Rico the humidity of the atmosphere is so great that the plants continue to grow until they are detached by the lightning.

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