

THE PEOPLE.

Don't the streets near the buildings... That are reared with prosperous skies...

THE CALL OF THE DESERT

PROSPECTORS WHO CAN'T KEEP AWAY FROM IT.

Grub Stakers Who are Always Searching for Mines and Sometimes Finding Them But Who Rarely Profit From Them—Luck in the Panamint Region.

"Say, boss, kin I talk to you for just a minute?"

The speaker, writes the Los Angeles (Cal.) correspondent of the New York Sun, was a tall, thin man with gray hair and whiskers, his face the color of tanned hide.

With words still gurgling in his throat he fell over on the bench unconscious.

"It is better so," the Elkhair said, gently stuffing a blanket under his head for a pillow and lifting his feet to the bench.

"The Elkhair returned to the window and his newspaper. I watched the unconscious face till the glint of the flashlight across it dazzled me and the hypnosis of his steady snoring made me sleepy.

"The Elkhair touched my arm, pointing to something he had written on the margin of the paper opposite the description of the murderer."

"Compare this with the man on the bench, and if you agree with me pass it on to Father Belcher."

"The only thing which astonished me was that I had not thought of it before or that the man's own account of himself had not suggested it."

"The priest read it carefully, then went over to the bench and read it again. He crossed himself and muttered a prayer."

"The Elkhair struck the Red Rose I was a hundred miles out on the desert."

"I had on earth was four pounds of bacon and a pound of coffee. Some chaps came along and offered me that money for my claim and I took it."

"I went to Los Angeles, walked in to a barber shop, and got a bath and a shave, then went to a store and told a man to get me out from head to foot, and I saw when I went out I didn't know myself. I bought a bag and went over to the hotel and entered my name as John Handy, Red Rose, San Bernardino county, took the best room for a week for a dollar, and the next morning read in the paper that Col. John Handy, the millionaire mine owner from Red Rose, was in town."

"Well I gained twenty pounds in the next two weeks and at the end of the month I was broke. No, no; I didn't drink it up. I ran across the wife of an old partner. She was scrubbing floors in schools, and she is 55 years old now. I staked her with \$500, hired a little house for her so she could rent a room or two and that cleaned me out."

"Then I got a stake from a restaurant man, the next day I was walking to the desert; and, d'ye know, there's something about the desert that kind of locoes a man? This time I'll let you into it."

"You know how they have found some queer stones down at Mesa Grande Pala and different places in San Diego county; and last week I was sitting in a bar room at Daggett, out on the desert when a man came in, the picture of hard luck, but when he came to pay he unrolled from a bag a lot of curious stones and offered to sell them to me. One was the most beautiful blue you ever saw."

"Where is it?" I sold it for \$20 at Indio one night. I wanted a burro, and I struck an Indian and bought his burro for the stone and \$10; he wanted it for his squaw."

"It might have been worth \$1,000 for all I know, but the point is this. The man I bought it from gave me a map of the place where he found it, here it is. He said he knocked it out of the side of a cliff with a stone, and there was a lot of it all broken up and no good."

"I kept a little piece and showed it to a travelling jeweler and he told me that if I knew where the mine was it was in luck and would make my fortune; so there you are. The stone has probably been knocked and hammered with rocks, and all you want is to put in a small blast and get in to it where it's good."

"How much of a stake do you want?" asked the cashier.

"Grub," was the reply, "grub for two months and some new tools. Hundred dollars will do it."

"All right," said the cashier, "I'll go you, sign this, and he drew up the following:

I, John Handy, agree to divide with anything I may find from January 11, 1905, to March 31, 1905, on account of grub stake of \$100 provided by:

The prospector signed the paper and said he would make it six months. The cashier took him to an outfitting place and next day the man left for the desert. All of which is the story of the discovery of one of the best tourmaline mines in southern California.

There are scores of grub stakers wandering over the desert; poor men, men on small salaries, grub stake men. These men often keep themselves poor, hoping against hope; many have spent their lives wandering over the desert without making a valuable strike. Again some of the best mines have been found in this way.

The big Cajon Pass and the pass of San Geronimo, leading down to the deserts of California and Mojave, are the highways for the grub staker, and hardly a day but you may see him following the track or on the road, and at the desert towns, as Daggett, Daguerre and Indio, he may be seen.

The desert, while forbidding, has valuable mines, and it is the grub staker's roaming ground, and along its pathways you can see his bones bleaching in the sun or his grave marked by a rude cross.

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Heavy Lambs the Best. The Missouri station found that the heaviest lambs at birth were in cold weather, absorbing too much animal heat then, it has on them a soothing effect during warm weather, and will prevent them from melting, however fat. Plenty of grass to eat is likewise cooling and loosening to them, let alone that it counteracts the feverish properties of corn, if that is fed; and if it is desirable to fatten them, corn should be fed, for in connection with the grass, water, mud and a certain amount of milk, this is one of the most economical ways of making pork.

Without corn, moreover, hogs that have been wintered on grain if turned on pasture in the spring would be pretty sure to lose a good deal of the fat which they have stored up. While the succulent grass will stimulate the appetite and correct stomach troubles that have been caused by too heavy winter diet, it would not be policy, any way, to stop grain feeding and give them all pastureage. Rather the change should be made gradually, and where liberal grain feeding was carried on through the winter, a moderate amount should certainly be given through the early spring months when pasturing begins. The danger of the animals getting sick because of the change in their diet will then be greatly lessened.

If young, however, very little corn or no corn at all should be fed until the pigs are at least four months old. Otherwise they are apt to become constipated, followed by scouring, whereupon, rubbing against everything they can get to, their skin will have a red and dry appearance; next a dry, black scurf will form, and the more corn and cornmeal they are given the poorer they will become.

For checking scours in young pigs, lettuce is good, and coarse flour or middlings from rye or wheat, made into a thin sloup with milk, is, with the exception of bread and milk, a most ideal food for them.

To make it, the middlings should be mixed with the milk at night after the feeding has been done. With a little of the old lard in the bottom of the swill tub, to act as yeast, it will be in fine condition by morning to feed, especially if given at night, in larger quantities than the pigs will eat up clean. But, though it is necessary for the swill to be become fermented in order to digest well, care should be taken never to let it get stale. After four months old their food, of course, can be made stronger, and then it is that opportunity in grass and corn should be made most of.

Don't Make Garden in a Day. J. C. Whitten, Horticulturist of Missouri University gives the following timely suggestions for garden making:

"If the garden is planted all in a day to get the disagreeable job out of the way, it is probable that only one or two species of plants will do their best early and others too late."

"For best results in garden making each kind of plant should be put out at the time when conditions are best suited to it. Lawn grass seed, sweet peas, parsnips, onions, spinach and some other species should be planted as soon as the soil can be worked in spring. Seeds of all these will germinate, and even make stronger growth, when the soil is only a few degrees above freezing. If it freezes more or less on cold nights after they are planted no harm is usually done."

"Other plants, like nasturtiums, candy-tuft, beets, potatoes, carrots, etc., have a larger heat requirement and should be planted in mid spring, or at least later than the mentioned list. They will not reduce well if put out on the first days when the ground begins to thaw out that they should be planted before the soil gets very warm."

"Corn, beans, melons, cucumbers, tomatoes and many others require a warm soil and time will be gained if they are not planted until the soil is well warmed up to a considerable depth. If put out too early, the seeds are liable to decay in the soil. Even if the plants do grow they will become stunted by the cold and will not develop into good plants. It saves time to plant these warm-loving kinds after the soil is warm."

"Some species need a great deal of heat. These are lima beans, okra or gumbo, egg plants, and some others. They should be the last vegetable planted. Still other species should be planted at intervals so as to get a succession of vegetables for the table. Most kinds which grow quickly may be planted in succession. Radishes, beets, lettuce, peas, and many others are best only when they are tender and succulent. Seeds of these may be planted every three weeks for a time, so as to have them under the first half of the season."

"No date can be mentioned for planting the different sorts. Seasons differ. It may be warmer one year on the first of April than it is two weeks later another year. If one will watch the starting of leaves and flowers on early shrubs, he can get an index as to the time to plant. To plant sweet peas when the willow catkins are coming out is a good rule, and similar comparisons may be made for other plants. This is accurate, for the willows start, not on a given day in March, but when they have received heat enough to grow well."

There are low calcium carbide factories in Norway. Their output in 1904 was 779,000 tons, valued at about \$25,000,000. In 1905 the export reached nearly 900,000 tons.

Feeding Swine in Summer. Hogs, in order to do well in summer, want good pasturage. Also, a

RADIUM IN MEDICINE.

Useful in Therapeutics, But Not as Much as Asserted.

Wild claims have been made regarding the efficacy of radium emanations as a cure-all in therapeutics, and on the other hand the reaction against its use has been from time to time equally violent. The contribution of Dr. Myron Metzbaum to the Medical Record regarding the known medical value of radium is therefore timely and of importance to those interested in its use. The writer bases his conclusions upon an exhaustive survey of medical literature on the subject and two years' clinical experience with the substance, and offers the following conclusions:

"That lupus responds promptly to the action of radium, and that this result is obtained as readily as with the Flouren light or the X-rays, and that these results seem permanent. That small affections of the epithelium, without glandular involvement, heal rapidly under the action of the radium rays, provided the tubes of radium can be brought into intimate contact or close proximity to the diseased area. Large epitheliomatous areas of the mucous membranes may not be influenced to any marked degree, probably because in large areas the disease is not only superficial, but the deeper tissues are involved as well. Epithelioma on the skin respond far more rapidly than those of the mucous membranes; this is probably because the skin is kept dry and is not irritated by moisture or friction of the parts. The healing of epithelioma under the action of the radium rays seems to be permanent. The roentgen ultra-rays, and the head respond better to the action of radium than to any known agent excepting the X-rays, and the results are better than those usually obtained by surgical interference. Deep-seated, malignant growths seem beyond the influence of the radium rays, and even when an incision is made into the growth and the tube of radium is inserted into its interior (as in the case of the late President Harper, there is then only a histological change in that part of the growth surrounding the tube of radium, as is demonstrated by a microscopic study of the tissue. Even if the radium rays exert any beneficial influence on truly malignant, deep-seated growths, the fact could not be used to any great advantage in these cases, for the local action would be so pronounced as to cause an ulceration of the skin before it could influence the growth beneath."

"In certain cases of total blindness, possibly where some of the fibres of the optic nerve still remain intact, a sensation of light may be noted when a tube of radium of high activity is placed in front of the eye or against the temporal region. But thus far radium has given no beneficial results in the treatment of blindness. When tubes of radium are applied to old ulcers resulting from healed syphilis, it causes a more rapid healing."

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THE IRISH NAMES.

Names with the musical lilt of a troll to this—

Names with a rollicking swing 'n' a roll to them—

Names with a body an' bones an' a soul to them—

Names with a fine old Irishman's shen to them—

Names with the dewy shankers clingin' to them—

Names with a willif' o' the honest potheen to them—

Names with a taste o' the salt o' the earth to them—

Names with the warmth o' the ancestral hearth to them—

Names with a bonny o' the land o' the where can ye bate them the whole 'n' the world o'er?

—John Lusk in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Backlogs—Does your servant girl overlook herself? Substitus—Not only that, but she overlooks us—Philadelphia Press.

Major Buffer—Lady VI looks uncommonly well. Got such a fresh complexion. Mrs. Scratcham—Yes. Fresh every day—Punch.

Him—I don't like young Higgins, and he doesn't like me. Her—Well, that is certainly very nice. Her—Well, that is certainly very nice. Her—Well, that is certainly very nice.

Mary—Did she make a good match? Ann—Splendid. Lots of money, good social position, and all that. In fact, the only drawback is the man—Brooklyn News.

Mostly Wrags—You used to move in good society, didn't you? Wareham Long—I never done any movin' when I could help it, in any kind o' society. —Chicago Tribune.

Mrs. Corrigan—A stroke, is it? Will, thin, begorry, yez kin help me wld me washin'. Mr. Corrigan—Ay course, O'll, darlint. If the tub breaks down, O'll fix it for yez—Puck.

Ethel—Think of his being a foot-pad! He looked like a real foreign nobleman. Esther—What did he do for you? Ethel—Everything I had. Esther—That's all right, but make the beauty thing a haunso!—Punch.

Belated Traveler—What's matter? Cobby—Eez a nice gal. One of the 'em. Well, knowed o' fo'ber, an' make the beauty thing a haunso!—Punch.

At the Garage—Boy Mr. Smith is telephoning for his machine. Can you send it to him today? Head man—Don't see how we can. Why this machine is the only one around here fit to use!—Life.

"A politician should strive to be a representative man." "Certainly," answered Senator Sorghum. "The question is whether you are going to represent the public or the boss."—Washington Star.

"Binx is always mowing his lawn. 'Yes, answered the neighbor who takes life easy. 'Binx doesn't realize how a man in his shirt sleeves pushing a lawn mower spoils the looks of a lawn.'—Washington Star.

"I don't see anything in that poet's new poem." "Of course you don't," replied the editor in chief, "because I opened it first and took a \$4 bill out of it. Give it a good place—top column, next reading matter!"—Atlantic Constitution.

Newitt—They say that boy of yours is a pretty bad one, Mose. Uncle Mose—O! I dunno; ah don't reckon he so terrible bad Newitt—Think not, eh? Uncle Mose—No, not; ah don't 'spos he ez white ez his kaise-mine!—Philadelphia Press.

"All I ask," said the Muck to the Rake with a gentle dignity that impressed all who heard it, "is simply to be let alone." Then it hastily and unobtrusively backed up on a little corner where the graft was showing through.—Baltimore American.

The Lion's Share. Two brothers, of whom a writer in the Washington Post tells, got on none too well with each other for reasons which will be plain to all.

"Here," said their mother to the older of them one day, "here is a banana. Divide it with your little brother, and see that he gets the lion's share."

The younger child a few minutes later set up a great bawling.

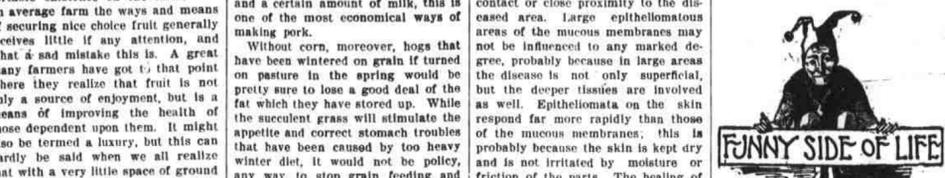
"Mama," he shrieked, "John hasn't given me any banana!"

"What's this?" inquired the mother, hurrying in.

"Why," explained the older boy, "lions don't eat bananas."

Automatic Rifle. Major Cei of the Italian army has submitted to the minister of war an automatic rifle toward which military opinion is already favorably disposed by the results obtained in practical tests. The new rifle differs from all others of the kind by its principle of action, which is to utilize the gases of the explosion for producing automatic action. This is done in a way which detracts nothing from the propelling force of the discharge. The six cartridges in the breach can be discharged with the rapidity of a machine gun, producing only one prolonged detonation.

The Lackawanna Railroad Company has just returned from active service "Ben" Knox, one of the old-time engineers. Knox worked for this company thirty-seven years and has nearly every train on the road. He has driven his engines more than 1,000,000 miles.



FUNNY SIDE OF LIFE

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