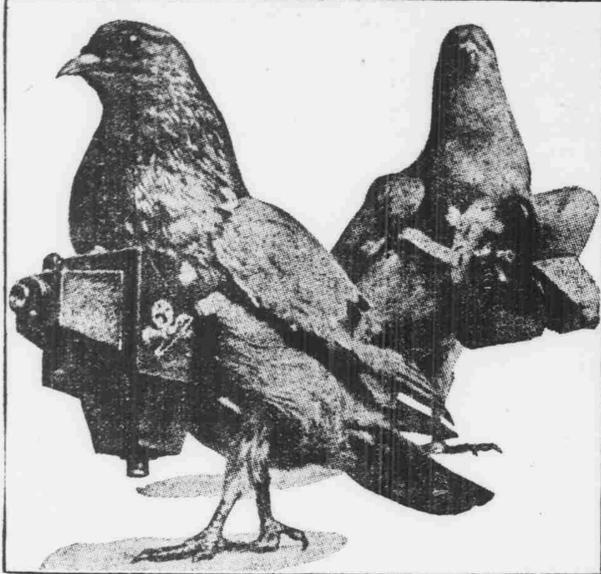


The World's Wonders

STRANGE THINGS FOUND IN VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE EARTH

Pigeons as Photographers



In Germany and France considerable successful experimenting is being done with pigeon-photography, as yet untried in this country. The idea originated with Dr. Julius Neubronner of Cronberg, Germany. Trained carrier pigeons are equipped with tiny cameras that act automatically at a fixed moment, and thus photographs of the surrounding country are obtained so good that it is believed the device would prove very valuable in war.

GLOVE OF KING'S CHAMPION



Among the many quaint customs observed at old-time coronations in England but which have been discontinued was that of challenging the world to dispute the right of the new king to reign. The king's champion, clad in full armor, used to ride into the hall during the coronation banquet and throw down his glove, issuing his challenge. The position of king's champion is still held by the Dymoke family and the historic glove, exquisitely embroidered in gold and silk, is one of their cherished possessions.

KIDNAPED BY BALLOON

An officer of the garrison at Ingolstadt, Bavaria, had a thrilling ride one day lately, when a military captive balloon broke loose from its anchorage. The officer, who was a novice at ballooning, was taking his first lessons in the art when the balloon broke away. He was unable to manipulate the gas valve. Finally, when the balloon had reached a height of 16,500 feet, the officer clambered to the top of the gas bag, and succeeded in wrenching open the valve. Then the balloon began a headlong descent near Munich. As the balloon was nearing the ground its occupant boldly jumped into a tree and was only slightly injured. Relieved of the man's weight, the balloon again ascended, and was later found near Innesbruck, Austria.

GRUESOME "THIRD DEGREE"

What is known as the "third degree" practice adopted by police to loosen the tongues of unwilling suspects and prisoners took a rather gruesome form at St. Louis, Mo., recently, the victim being Peter Stanish, who refused to testify at an inquest on the death of Andrew Stein, a lead worker. Stein died of blood poisoning, developed from a gunshot wound. Stanish was suspected of having some knowledge of the shooting, but he was so firm in his refusal to talk at the

NOVEL USE FOR RATS.

That the much-abused rat can be of real service in the world was shown the other day, when from underground life in Chicago, a crate containing twenty of the rodents was shipped to Frank Ebey, manager of the Rockford telephone exchange. "We are laying several miles of conduit," Mr. Ebey explained. "The cable could be fished through by using a thick wire, but it is a quicker operation to use rats. A light cord is fastened around a rat's neck. It is released at the mouth of the conduit. Instinctively it runs to the other end, where our men capture it. With the string we pull through a heavier cord and finally the cable."

WILLS \$3,500 TO PARROT

Will leaving \$3,500 for the support and maintenance of a pet parrot has been drawn and witnessed by Thomas Billingsby, a capitalist of Oklahoma City. The parrot is 20 years old. Billingsby was a sailor many years ago and came into possession of the parrot in Polynesia. When he left the sea he carried the bird with him inland, and succeeded in reforming the bird, which at one time was an expert on profanity. Three men are named in the will as trustees of the fund to be expended in the care of the parrot, and during the bird's lifetime the money cannot be devoted to any other purpose.

MONKEY KNEW HIS FRIEND

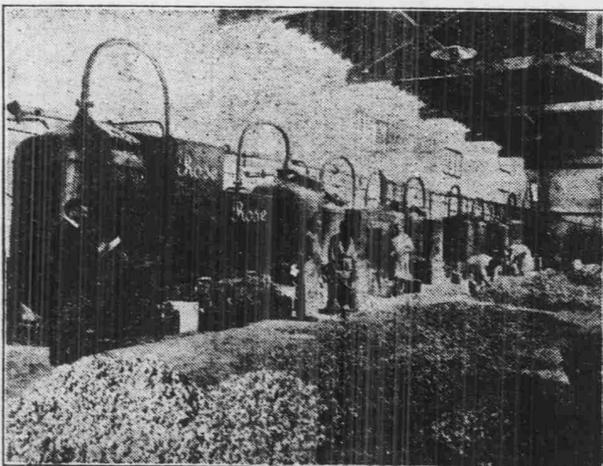
Some excitement, and later, kindly interest, was caused in a vaudeville theater at Copenhagen the other week. During the performance a monkey named Moritz suddenly sprang off the stage and threw himself into the arms of a man in the audience. It was discovered that the man had been Moritz' master four years ago, and they had been great friends.

IS HERO OF MANY HOLDUPS



The accompanying picture shows "Billy" Hodges, one of the best known of the old-time stage drivers, as he was in 1884, when he assumed charge of the Mount Hamilton (Cal.) stage route. Billy and his stage have been held up by bandits no fewer than 14 times. The veteran is now an elevator man in Oakland, Cal.

Where Perfumery Is Made



The town of Grasse is one of the largest perfume and essence manufacturing centers in France, and tourists are often attracted to it for this reason and find a trip through the great distilling plants very interesting. About 60,000 acres in the vicinity are covered with flower gardens. Grasse was settled by Sardinian Jews in the sixteenth century. It is picturesquely situated, about 18 miles from Nice and nine from the shores of the Mediterranean.

COL. STREET DISCUSSES CAUCUS

Spzaker of the House of the Legislature Says It Was Like Other Democratic Caucuses.

Col. H. M. Street, speaker of the lower house of the legislature, has written the following letter in reference to the Democratic caucus of 1910 that is of interest to every voter in Mississippi:

Meridian, Miss., June 26, 1911. Messrs. Shannon & Street, Laurel, Miss. Gentlemen—I have yours of recent date, asking me to write what I know about the legislative caucus during the session of 1910 and how it compared with previous Democratic caucuses. There was nothing that came under my observation during the caucus that any honest participant should wish to conceal, and the only reason that I have not replied to the remarkable statements made by disappointed parties is my aversion to engaging in a controversy at a time when the minds of many people are so poisoned with passion and prejudice that statements not in accord with their preconceived opinions are not credited.

I have been more or less in public life for over forty years. My seventy-ninth year is nearly half gone, and my part in state affairs must soon end. If I could close my eyes on a peaceful and happy state, where every voter was guided by his conscience and judgment, my end would be welcome, rather than live in the present turmoil. We should all seek the truth and be controlled by it.

In January, 1894, Senator Walthall resigned his seat in the United States senate. In December, 1909, Senator McLaurin died. In both cases it devolved upon the legislature to fill the vacancy without instruction from the people. In both instances a caucus was called to select a successor. In 1894 there were twenty Populists in the legislature. In 1910 all claimed to be Democrats. This was a matter bearing on the propriety or necessity of calling a caucus, but had no bearing on the manner of voting after the caucus was assembled, for in both cases the caucus was composed of Democrats only, and the people had as much right in one case as the other to know how their representatives voted.

In 1894 I remember of no objection whatever to a vote by ballot and that method was adopted. Each member prepared his own ballot and dropped it in the box. In 1910 the names were all on one ticket, and the voter put a cross opposite the name of his choice. While I do not know why this method was adopted I believe it was done to shut out dark horses, and while it may have hit me, I had no right to object. It was intended to and did improve the chances of every man on the ticket.

There were two calls for a caucus. The first intimation I had of a caucus was from a leading Vardaman man. He said the call provided for a viva voce vote and that I should preside. The other was unconditional and was signed by 137 members out of a total of 181. I presume the latter was not presented to all, as there were Vardaman and anti-Vardaman men whose names were not on it.

The general call for the caucus was as follows: "Whereas, More than one form of call for Democratic caucus to nominate a candidate for United States senator has been circulated and signed, therefore, "To avoid confusion, and exercising only such authority as may be conferred on me by either of said calls, I hereby name Thursday, January 6, 1910, at 7:30 p.m. as the time, and the hall of the house of representatives as the place of meeting of said caucus. "I recommend that the two houses adjourn over till Saturday or Monday and give the intervening time to the business of the caucus.

"H. M. STREET, "Speaker of the House."

I believe all the candidates were anxious for the caucus and none more so than Governor Vardaman. Before the caucus met he said he was absolutely certain of 85 votes on the first ballot and, if Dunn, of Lauderdale, did not enter the race, he would be nominated the first night. Dunn did not enter.

I have never known the Golden Rule applied in a political caucus or convention. The majority adopt rules to suit the majority. I believe the ballot was adopted as the best means of uniting the opposition to Vardaman, and not to take the votes from him, while some voted for it because it was following Democratic precedent. Every test vote showed there was a clear majority against Vardaman. There was jealousy and friction between the other candidates, and some of the tactics played against each other deceived Vardaman's friends. The followers of some of the candidates created the impression that, when their favorite was dropped they would go to Vardaman and elect him. This may not have been sincere, but it was politics.

The house was very nearly equally divided for and against Vardaman. There were true and good men on both sides. Some voted for a ballot and some did not. If the opponents of Vardaman had thought a viva voce vote was necessary to defeat him they would have voted for it. If Vardaman and his friends had believed a secret caucus best for him, they would have supported it. I am not a mind reader and only speak from experience. The members of the legislature of 1910 were ordinary human beings and the more any one of them parades his own virtues the more he will bear watching.

That Vardaman should desire an open vote is perfectly natural. He had at his back from counties that voted against him, senators from Washington, Hinds, Quitman and Lauderdale, and representatives from Hinds, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Clark, Tunica, Forrest and oth-

ers. By bringing pressure to bear from other counties that had voted for him his chances would be improved. In appeals to members to represent their constituents, it depended on whose ox was gored.

I was present at every session of the caucus. It was no more a secret caucus than the one in 1894, in which Governor Vardaman and I both took part. At that time Governor Stone, Judge Campbell, Governor Lowry, John Allen, Anse McLaurin and R. H. Taylor were candidates. Following the action of all caucuses and conventions, it was the field against the leading candidate. This is not the result of enmity, but of personal interest. Each of the weaker candidates, thinking he would be the beneficiary in the defeat of the stronger man.

In 1894 the man feared was the noble, independent and upright John M. Stone. The silver question was just beginning to loom up. It was brought before the caucus in the shape most certain to eliminate Stone. The candidates were not asked to give their own views, but to answer the question, "Do you endorse the position of George and Walthall on the silver question?"

When the question was proposed in the caucus, Dr. Keirn, of Holmes, who was an ardent free silver man and believed in meeting all issues squarely and fairly, moved to amend by asking, "Do you favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at a ratio of 16 to 1?" He was immediately besieged with requests to withdraw the amendment and was assured of the fact that it would be voted down, as the party was, at that time, not prepared to go that far. I then offered as a substitute, "Do you favor the coinage of gold and silver at such a ratio as will make every dollar coined and issued by the government equal to every other dollar in the markets of the world?" This was lost by a tie vote and the question adopted as originally conceived. Stone immediately withdrew. After a few ballots, Allen withdrew, leaving McLaurin, Lowry, Campbell and Taylor in the race. It was then the field against McLaurin and the second combination was formed.

A caucus of the friends of Lowry, Campbell and Taylor was held in the supreme court room, and a resolution adopted, pledging each member to vote in the general caucus for the nominee of this side caucus. The decision was reached by requiring each member to vote for two candidates—first choice and second choice. After adding first and second choice votes together, the lowest was dropped. Lowry was the first dropped. On the next ballot, Taylor was nominated by this side caucus, but was defeated by McLaurin in the general caucus. The voting in all the caucuses was by ballot, just as was that of 1910.

In the caucus of 1894 the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, by the Democratic members of the Mississippi legislature in caucus assembled that we pledge ourselves, individually and collectively, that no election of senator shall occur in the two houses or in joint convention until a nomination is made by this caucus, and if no nomination is made before the time for voting begins, we will so distribute our votes in either house or in joint convention as to prevent any one candidate receiving a majority."

The Gibbs resolution of 1910 said: "Each member of this caucus is instructed to vote on each roll call for a Democrat of the voter's congressional district, not heretofore voted for."

The resolution of 1894 was a pledge and binding on the conscience of the members. That of 1910 was an instruction of no binding effect, and members obeyed it because they thought it best for their candidate. Each member had a right to vote as he pleased until a nomination was made. The resolution only served as an excuse to those who wanted it and could not have been forced of a single member.

I never saw a cleaner of fairer caucus than that of 1910. Ladies were in constant attendance. Mrs. Vardaman, than whom there was not a more refined Christian lady in Jackson, attended all the meetings. On one or more occasions she occupied a seat on the speaker's stand. My family were there frequently. None of these good women would have been in a dirty, rotten gathering of any kind. I cannot speak for places frequented by Bilbo and White, where the presiding officer of the caucus had no jurisdiction. The caucus should not be held responsible for occurrences at places where decent people could not go.

Something has been said about detective work. That work is justifiable and sometimes necessary. A reliable detective is hard to find. To be one a man must be able to tell a lie with the assumed candor of truth. If an honest man undertakes it his conscience betrays him. What the dishonest man uncovers still remains doubtful if not corroborated by others, because he is still under suspicion. But his statements should be weighed in the light of reason and if they will not stand such a light they should be discarded.

A nomination secured by bribery is not binding on any Democrat. He should repudiate it at the first opportunity. To vote openly to confirm a corrupt nomination cannot be otherwise than an approval of corruption. Read the record. The caucus of 1910 was a strenuous one. Every test vote showed Vardaman in the minority. The vote for a ballot was 101 to 69. I did not vote as there was not a tie. Adams, of Oktibbeha—anti-Vardaman—voted for a viva voce vote. I would have voted for a ballot first because that had been the custom.

and because four of the candidates had favored me for speaker, and I felt a delicacy in voting against any of them.

In the early part of the caucus more than one of Vardaman's supporters expressed the belief that he could not be nominated and thought he should retire and name the nominee. It has also been intimated and believed by some, that every change was corruptly brought about. I heard an appeal to one Vardaman supporter based entirely on his use of trust funds. This member agreed in this conversation to change and he did so. There was no other inducement in this, or any other case, in my presence. On another case, one of his supporters, in speaking of a railroad pass, said if he discovered that Vardaman had used a free pass after his pretended opposition to corporations, he would drop him and drop him forever. I never heard him speak of the matter again and do not know what he did. The first named changed and remained so.

I was told that whiskey was used freely. I do not know. I detected stale drink on the breath of two candidates only, but not on Percy and Alexander. I hope all have reformed. I think the use of it by lobbyists or candidates before the legislature should be prohibited.

The game of politics seems to have been played to a finish and as in all games some outclassed others. I don't believe any one candidate or his friends did anything the others would not have done, except in the free use of whiskey, from which some were said to be exempt.

The most marked difference in the caucuses of 1894 and that of 1910 was that in one, Vardaman was a voter, in the other a candidate. But for that both would long since have lapsed into obscurity. I do not believe Vardaman lost a single vote by fraud. His friends were anxious at all times to have the run off with Percy. He did receive anti-Vardaman votes on the last ballot. Captain Allen, of Montgomery county, the oldest member of the house next to me, was too feeble to be in Jackson, but came, under the care of a physician, and voted for me when I was a candidate. Under appeals from his son and others he agreed to vote for Vardaman if I withdrew, and did so, notwithstanding his personal opposition. This was one vote for Governor Vardaman by a man I know preferred another. I think there were others. I know that four of my supporters voted for him.

(Signed.) H. M. STREET.

A STUPID TRICK.

Realizing that it is with Senator Percy that they have to reckon in the race for the United States Senate, and not with Mr. Alexander, the Vardaman forces were guilty of the stupid trick of circulating the report that Mr. Alexander is rapidly gaining strength and has become the most formidable candidate of the opposition forces.

Such a method might possess merit in circumstances where there is real doubt concerning the true situation; but under the conditions surrounding this campaign, when correct information can be so easily obtained, it is stupid, as we have characterized it, and for the very simple reason that when traced to its source it exposes the desperation of Vardaman and his followers and leaves them further weakened than before. Vardaman realizes the utter hopefulness of a contest with Senator Percy before the people of Mississippi, consequently his only hope, a vain one to be sure, is by fair means or foul to keep the Senator out of the second primary, should there be one.

Unmoved by this canard, the Percy forces are moving steadily forward to the victory which awaits them. An examination discovers their battalions in every part of the field, the battle flaring along the whole line, marching with grim determination to certain triumph.

Senator Percy's campaign has been conducted with a dignity which is characteristic of the man. The press has been filled with no empty claims, no tom-toms have been beaten, no red fire burned, but systematically and persistently the work has gone on in perfecting a working organization reaching into every precinct in the State which has dismayed his opponents by its perfection and power.

The character of Senator Percy's individual utterances on the stump and elsewhere are no less remarkable. A microscopic examination will not discover the least trace of demagoguery in a single word that has fallen from his lips during the entire campaign. He has sought no advantage from his father's noble record as a Confederate soldier and a reconstruction statesman, though he might with perfect propriety have done so; he has paraded no personal intimacies and friendships with eminent members of the clergy or other prominent citizens; he has not stopped to "point with pride" to his own perfections; he has not sought to tickle the ears of the unthinking with nursery rhymes and other forms of meretriciousness; but, standing upon his own record of faithful performances, he has appealed in earnest fashion to the reason and understanding of the people whose servant he is, with the inevitable result that he has wrought conviction in their minds and filled them with a swelling pride in the fact that the State they love so well has not lost her ancient power to bring forth sons worthy of her fame and greatness.

Let no one be disturbed by this latest campaign trick, nor by any other that may, and doubtless will be, sprung before the election occurs, for there is not the shadow of a doubt that Senator Percy will receive the well-merited approval of the voters of Mississippi.

For 1910-11 fiscal year Canada gave \$2,654,000 in mail subsidies and steamship subventions, and estimated for 1911-12 total \$2,006,620.