The Washington Herald

Published Every Morning in the Year by
The Washington Herald Company,
425-427-429 Eleventh St. Washington, D. C.
J. E. RICE, President and General Manager.

Phone: Main 3300—All Departments

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—BY CARRIER
In Washington and Vicinity
Daily and Sunday, 1 Month, 60c; 1 Year, $7.20
SUBSCRIPTION BY MAIL IN ADVANCE
Daily and Sunday, 1 Month, 65c; 1 Year, $7.50
Daily Only, 1 Month, 50c; 1 Year, $6.00

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES:
The Beckwith Special Agency
New York, World Building; Chicago, Tribune Building; St. Louis, Post-Dispatch Building; Detroit, Ford Building; Kansas City, Mo., Bryant Building; Atlanta, Ga., 1415 Atlanta Trust Building.

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1921.

Both potter is jealous of potter and craftsman of craftsman; and poor man has a grudge against poor man, and poet against poet.—Hesiod.

Washington Street Railways.

XIII. CAPITAL TRACTION FAIR VALUE.

THE story of the Capital Traction Company as told at a formal hearing by its president, is comparatively simple. It has little red fire and few skyrockets. He frankly stated that the franchise was secured in order to make money. This is the object of every street railway company. None too frequently the franchise is asked and the road built in response to a real demand fairly adequate to justify the investment as a transportation facility. Far more often, they come as an adjunct to a real estate boom or speculative investment. Then they are but an inducement to the purchase of lots and have no investment justification on a promise of profit in themselves, save as a day dream.

The first street railway in Washington was the Washington and Georgetown, indeed it was among the first in the country. That was in 1862. Of course it had horse-drawn cars. It ran on Pennsylvania avenue, Seventh and Fourteenth streets. It became a very profitable property earning as much as 20 per cent on its stock. In 1895, when merged with the Rock Creek Railway Company, its bond issues were $4,000,000 and its stock, $2,500,000, a total of $6,500,000. The Rock Creek was the smaller concern that had already lost in its operations, some $330,000. Its capital securities were under $1,250,000.

It is rather important to find that the baby absorbed the adult. The reason given for this is that the Rock Creek Company had in its charter the right to purchase connecting lines. But this clause was not quite satisfactory and on application by the company Congress amended it. It would have been exactly as easy to have gotten this right of purchase added to the Washington and Georgetown franchise, permitting it to purchase the smaller and feebler company which could have been bought at probably much below its capital value.

The consequence of working the other way was that the purchase price of the Washington and Georgetown was fixed at $10,750,000 which was $4,250,000 above its total capital, and over $5,000,000 above what the commission finds as its then fair value. It was equally that much above its reproduction cost. However, the $10,750,000 was not over the actual market value, though if the object had been to make a close business deal which would have reduced capitalization instead of padding it, the purchase would have been made the other way around.

At that time the company's bonds were selling on the market at 100 per cent premium because of a proviso that if the permission of Congress could be secured to increase the stock issue these bonds could be exchanged for stock dollar for dollar. But at the time of the sale three-fourths of these bonds had but four more years to run before maturity and it was the stock, not the bonds, which controlled the road. This stock, $2,500,000, was selling at a huge premium of over five times its face value and this fixed the purchase price, which, on that basis, was low rather than excessive.

But the milk in the cocoanut is the fact that if the Washington and Georgetown had bought the Rock Creek the joint capitalization of the two, when taken over by the Capital Traction Company could not have exceeded $7,750,000 and that would have been nicely in excess of the investment. As it was the total cost of the Washington and Georgetown was added to the Rock Creek bonds and stock, making the combined capital $12,000,000. Congress empowered the company, also, to issue bonds not in excess of one-half the stock and $6,000,000 in bonds were promptly issued and the proceeds used as the company's records show, for the cost of extending underground cable construction, changing this later to underground electric, for double-truck cars and other like expenditures which the commission holds were partly charged against depreciation.

The commission also has refused to include in its fair value for rate making uses the over $5,000,000 paid in excess of the Washington and Georgetown value, that is for franchise, market value or whatever it may be called. It may be recalled that Andrew Carnegie had a rule that whenever a new machine was found which would reduce operating costs in his mills, he scrapped his old machines and bought it. Large double-truck cars and electric motor power was a like operating saving for street railways, and just how much of the cost of the change should go to capital is a problem.

However, with such allowances as the commission thought fair and rejecting the $5,140,000 franchise charge capitalized by the company, the fair value fixed by the commission is $14,250,000. The company's total capitalization today remains $18,000,000. It has not been increased since 1895 and is but $3,700,000 above the fair value allowed by the commission.

It is fair to add that the Capital Traction in all its history has given fine service, has been well managed, has paid living wages, has maintained popularity with the public and has paid dividends according to its earnings, never more than 6 per cent. The year after the purchase or consolidation the dividend was 3.5 per cent; in 1867 it was 1.75; 1868, 2.25 and it then gradually increased reaching 6 per cent in 1913, but dropping to 5 per cent in 1914 and 1915.

President Wilson's "Clothes."

THE Democrats in Congress are being mighty decent. They are entitled to commendation for not trying merely to get in the way, to "ball things up" and to delay action. On the contrary there has been no objection on their part, in getting definite days for final voting on important measures even where they were in opposition. Other measures, too, have had their support without that favorite hobble of amendments of all sorts.

The budget bill is in conference, the immigration bill is ditto, the Knox resolution is through the Senate, and held up in the House by Republicans, the emergency tariff having passed the House is to be finally acted upon in the Senate tomorrow. There is no reason to believe opposition to the complete foreign relations program will meet serious opposition from the larger body of Democratic Senators. It is more apt to come from a few dissenting Republicans.

No one of them should object to the solace they get from saying that the Republicans have put on President Wilson's clothes. This has fully as much of truth as the claim of the Republican extreme irreconcilables that the vote of November 2, was a verdict against any slightest Wilsonian taint; that everything ever advocated by Mr. Wilson is unclean and that no remnant of his program can be accepted; that the people then declared that nothing which by any stretch of the imagination could be credited to Mr. Wilson, shall be even considered.

Indeed this old world is full of interest with enough of vaudeville to keep alive its sense of humor. Mr. Wilson's foreign policy as a whole, and in its details, never had a chance. But in principle it was upheld by a majority of the Republicans of the last Senate. If Mr. Wilson had been content to get only the principle and had forgotten the details, the treaty would have been ratified with votes to spare. It happens, also, that President Harding was one who voted for ratifying the treaty with reservations.

To accept no part of the principle claimed for Mr. Wilson, would mean the complete isolation of the United States and a separate treaty of peace with Germany. This is as far from the real sentiment of the Republican party as would be the adoption of the treaty of Versailles without change. When President Harding made Mr. Hughes his Secretary of State—no appointment he has made was and is more popular—he gave conclusive notice that he had not so radically changed his position as to be classed with either extreme. Somewhere there is a middle ground and if the Democrats take comfort from the fact that the administration seems to be seeking it—well, it will take at least ten Democratic votes in the Senate and maybe more to finally adopt any form of a foreign policy.

The Chemical Warfare Section of the army denatures its alcohol stock with tear gas. Enough to make anybody cry.

Over There and Over Here.

OVER there, on the fighting front when the boys went back to the first relief zone, as they dragged along, the first bit of cheer they met was Salvation Army doughnuts. Away up, under fire, in the real trenches, or in what was left of a house knocked to pieces by German shells, the Salvationists made and distributed doughnuts and "home-made" pies.

How they got there, no one knew. How they found places to set up their kitchens, no one knew. They were in forbidden territory. No one but the army was permitted to be there. But somehow they got there. Where they came from, who brought them, how they got their materials, has not been told. They just suddenly appeared, and always where they were most needed.

If you want to feel the jolt of a healthy fist, just say something slighting to a doughboy about what the Salvation Army did in France. If you want to hear English language "as she is spoke," with volubility and emphasis, merely intimate to one who saw service at the front, that a Salvationist ever did anything that was not exactly the right thing over there, or anywhere.

Yet what they did in France is just what they have always done here at home, and are doing. They pick the worse jobs, the toughest places and the points of danger. Did you ever see, in the old days, a demure, splendid Salvation lassie with her poke-bonnet and her tamborine, walk into a barroom and hear the coins jingle in the tamborine as she passed it from one to the other who were collected there? If you did not you were never there. Nor was this just in the "respectable" saloons, but also in the worst of them.

They did not go there just for the money. It was a part of the Salvation campaign. The sight of the lassie gave many a tough heart a jar and many a man who had not thought of home for years, had the home picture revived. Many a one, too, remembered that there was a place he could go and be welcomed, when too low down to be received anywhere else. Many a one has sought that place and refound his self-respect and lost manhood.

Can the Salvation Army be repaid for what it has done and is doing? It does not ask to be repaid. It asks no reward. It does not seek a Victory Medal nor a Distinguished Service Medal. It only asks support to "carry on." It only asks money to go on with its work. For Washington this budget is $50,000. To get this amount there must be several contributions of $1,000 each, others of $500 and so down, while there is ample assurance that thousands will give their mites. Will those who can, give the larger amounts? Surely they will. Wealth does not atrophy the heart and it is an atrophied heart that does not respond to the work of the Salvation Army.

British Finances.

GREAT BRITAIN was in the war for four years; the United States for nineteen months. The British army was double our own in numbers. Since the armistice it has had large forces in various parts of the world and much trouble at home. Yet the British budget for the coming year is £1,000,000,000, which on the dollar basis, is little, if any larger than our own.

More than this the surplus from the last budget is £230,500,000. The surplus of the United States is a deficit, or many deficits, with which Congress is now concerned. We have heard a great deal here about Great Britain defaulting the debt due this country, the interest remaining unpaid, and hints that we would have to wait and hope.

But this same budget report shows that the British foreign debt was reduced £117,000,000 including £75,000,000 pounds paid on the debt to this country. Evidently this government could with profit still go to school to the British, while we are still puttering along, dripping money by the wayside without that first and fundamental requirement, a budget law.

We wonder if that desire by the British miners to end their strike is due to a belief that their future no longer looks as black as coal.

UTAH JUDGE UPHOLDS EDISON ON COLLEGES.

Sharp issue with the reply of Commissioner of Education, P. P. Claxton, to the assertion of Thomas A. Edison that college men are "amazingly ignorant" and wanting in other vital respects is taken by Judge Willis Brown, of Salt Lake City, who is in Washington attending the sessions of the Southern Cooperative League. Judge Brown is nationally known for his work in the founding of "Boy City," which was located at Winona Lake, Ind. He has also been identified with juvenile court work, having been judge of the Parental Court of Salt Lake City.

Dr. Claxton denying the charge maintained that "most of the discoveries on which Edison and others have based their work," were the product of the toil of college men.

SAYS CLAXTON FAILS TO ANSWER CHARGES.

"Dr. Claxton is not really answering Mr. Edison's charges, Judge Brown said. "Edison does not deny that the colleges instruct. He says they do not educate, and in this he is absolutely true. Education is more than the pouring in of a fund of knowledge. The colleges supply the knowledge, but they do not teach the pupil to tie it up with the world—with life. In one of the leading vocational schools of Oakland, Calif., we found that only a fraction of 15 per cent used the mechanical knowledge they were receiving daily in their school in any way whatever in life. And if this is true of a vocational school, it is far more true of the average school where more abstract information is imparted."

SAYS COLLEGES HURT GROWTH OF INITIATIVE.

The colleges, moreover, Judge Brown continued, have a tendency to over-emphasize the things acquired by memory, hence "they interfere with the development of initiative, resourcefulness, self-reliance and those other qualities which really make an education worth while."

Judge Brown, however, has a cure for the trouble, he says. He declares his "boy achievement movement," which he is fathering and has already succeeded in introducing to the schools of Binghamton, N. Y., presents the solution. By this plan the schools recognize any act of achievement performed by the pupil outside of school and give credits for it.

Each pupil must report at occasional intervals his achievement. They fall within the following classifications: "Scholarship, individual attainments, athletics, music, care or rearing of animals; production of value from soil; making any article of value; building or construction; position in business, club or class; special scholarship reward; money earned by special effort."

In the Oakland schools, Judge Brown said, out of about 2,000 who submitted to the test, only 255 were adjudged by a committee of leading business men as having qualified for an achievement mark.

D. S.

DISTANCE From Washington to

	Miles
Glen Echo	8
College Park, Md	8
Forest Glen, Md	9
Cabin John, Md	9
Great Falls, Va	14
Mount Vernon, Va	16
Laurel, Md	17
Rockville, Md	16
Chesapeake Beach, Md	30
Baltimore, Md	40
Annapolis, Md	41
Frederick, Md	56
Harpers Ferry, W. Va	55
Bluemont, Va	57
Antietam, Md	64
Havre de Grace, Md	73
Hagerstown, Md	76
Martinsburg, W. Va	83
Winchester, Va	86
Gettysburg, Pa	110
Wilmington, Del	110
Charlottesville, Va	115
Richmond, Va	116
Harrisburg, Pa	124
Philadelphia, Pa	136
Cumberland, Md	152
Petersburg, Va	139
Trenton, N. J	170
Lynchburg, Va	175
Newport News, Va	191
Atlantic City, N. J	192
Clifton Forge, Va	211
Newark, N. J	219
Norfolk, Va	201
New York City	227
Scranton, Pa	259
Pittsburgh, Pa	302
New Haven, Conn	304
Springfield, Mass	367
Albany, N. Y	373
Rochester, N. Y	394
Providence, R. I	418
Cleveland, Ohio	437
Buffalo, N. Y	438
Niagara Falls, N. Y	460
Columbus, Ohio	487
Boston, Mass	463
Cincinnati, Ohio	553
Portland, Me	578
Toledo, Ohio	595
Savannah, Ga	617
Atlanta, Ga	643
Detroit, Mich	655
Louisville, Ky	663
Indianapolis, Ind	664
Jacksonville, Fla	755
Birmingham, Ala	763
Chicago, Ill	790
Milwaukee, Wis	875
St. Louis, Mo	894
Memphis, Tenn	929
Mobile, Ala	1,003
New Orleans, La	1,144
Kansas City, Mo	1,171
St. Paul, Minn	1,200
Minneapolis, Minn	1,210
Duluth, Minn	1,269

Gives Up Long Name; Becomes John T. Landis

CHICAGO, May 9.—It used to be about a name about as long as a freight train and it sounded a good deal like that train crossing a bad intersection. But it's John T. Landis today, and the bearer, a Lithuanian and former soldier, wore it proudly as he asked for passports at the Federal building.

The chief of the passport bureau was somewhat startled to hear the name of the famous jurist when he asked the applicant's name.

"Well, my other name was impossible," was the explanation. "Nobody could pronounce it. So when I was naturalized I decided to pick out a real American name. Wherever I went I heard of Judge Landis and of his patriotism. So I took his name and I am trying to live up to the name."

He was given his passports.

Fast Stands and Sure the Watch—The Watch on the Rhine.

By Darling.

Open Court Letters to The Herald

OPPOSE "BLUE LAWS."

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

I note in the "Open Court" column of your valuable paper that I am called to task for some statements I recently made in these columns and accused of "Biblical misinterpretation." I am glad to see that the gentlemen agrees with me that the government has not the right to declare by law any day a holy day. Of course, then, "Blue Laws" making it a crime to read Sunday newspapers, ride in my automobile, play golf, basketball, etc., would be unconstitutional because the very minute the government took that position, it could do so only for religious reasons. The writer, who, I infer is a Sundaykeeper, contends that the government has "an unquestionable right to set aside a particular day, whether that day be Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, as a uniform restday."

Let such a law be passed compelling him to keep Saturday or Monday as a day of physical rest, while his conscience says he must observe Sunday, with the likelihood that his job would be jeopardized thereby, and I am satisfied he would change his tune. A rest day law is fair only provided it does not specify the particular day and leaves each one free to choose his own day in harmony with his religious belief. To quote Judge Cooley, an eminent authority: "A man who is forced to respect another day of the week when his conscience requires him the observance of the seventh also, may plausibly urge that the law discriminates against his religion, and by forcing him to keep a second Sabbath each week unjustly, though by indirection, punishes him for his belief."

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma has just recently handed down a decision, written by Justice Brett and concurred in by Chief Justice Doyle and Justice Armstrong to the effect that, "If a man's conscience compels him to rest on one day and the law forces him to rest on another, that man will thus be forced to violate the first provision of the commandment he is conscientiously attempting to keep and for that reason is unfair."

The writer of the communication asks for proof that "the seventh day of the week is the Sabbath" of the Fourth Commandment. Bible students everywhere are agreed on that point but he says his Bible doesn't have that in it. The Encyclopedia Britannica says: "The week is a period of seven days; those who reject the Mosaic recital will be at a loss to assign to it an origin, etc." Let him turn to the first and second chapters of Genesis and he will find there a record of the first week of time—Creation week. The first six days of that week were God's working days; the seventh day was God's Sabbath or "rest" day. Then if he will go into any church, upon whose walls hang the Ten Commandments, he will discover that he is commanded, for that very reason, to keep holy the day that Jehova made holy—the seventh day of the week.

It is possible to desecrate only the day that God made sacred. That day was the last day of the week. The Scriptures also emphatically state that what God blessed is blessed "forever." Again, by referring to Luke 23:56 and 24:1, no person can fail to see that the first day of the week came immediately after the "Sabbath" according to the Commandment" and, therefore, the Sabbath day of the Fourth Commandment must of necessity have been the seventh day of the week "at that period of Jewish history." A blind man can see that there's no getting around it. Since astronomy, history and religion identify the week then and now as the same, that day is Saturday. Luke calls the seventh day of the week the Sabbath thirty-five years after the resurrection. At the time of Christ's crucifixion the Sabbath "commandment" was observed by the Jews while the first day of the week was observed by sun worshipers in the Roman period. It was later adopted into the Catholic Church and observed by Catholics and others professing Christianity.

Let's grant that the writer of the communication is right when he insists that the disciples met for religious worship "for some reason" on Sunday. We have proven that the "reason" could not have been because it was the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment, because it had gone when Sunday came. After work I often meet with Christ's followers for religious worship on the first day of the week, but that act doesn't change the Sabbath day of the commandment.

The only way to get out of keeping the same Sabbath day that Christ and the Disciples kept—the seventh day Sabbath—is either to abolish the whole law or that part of it which says: "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy."

Lastly, the writer of the article states that proof cannot be found that the Papacy changed the Sabbath. Not only does the Catholic Church boast of having done so, but I repeat it is possible to give historical proof of the time, place, manner, facts and reasons of the Papacy's erecting the Sunday-Sabbath institution definitely and to a certainty.

Christian Work (Presbyterian), New York City, says: "We must go to later than apostolic times for the establishment of Sunday observance." The late Cardinal Gibbons said: "You can search the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday." The famous Bishop Jeremy Taylor said: "Sunday is merely an ecclestical institution." Chambers Encyclopedia says: "By none of the fathers of the Fourth century is Sunday identified with the Sabbath, nor is the duty of observing it grounded either upon the Fourth Commandment or the precept of Christ or his apostles." I might quote many more authorities confirming what I say if space permitted.

C. D. MYER.

Washington, D. C., May 2.

LIKES HERALD ATTITUDE.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

Thanks for your editorial of May 7, "A Separate Treaty." Some of your editorials are not worth a fig, but the fellow who writes now and then concerning the treaty of Versailles is as sound as a die. He has never budged an inch from his convictions on that point.

Descendants of the timorous gentlemen who are now opposed to our entry will one day laugh at the fears of their illustrious ancestors—except, of course, those who have a sinister meaning in not wanting to enter. They will not laugh.

Yours very truly,

JANE POE.

Washington, May 8.

DEFENDS "HUMAN MALE."

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

The pastime of shooting "mere man" is taking hold of the gentle sex to an alarming degree. Why should the Rev. Mr. Martin wish to encourage it!

We have game laws protecting all living beings of consequence except the human male. In his case the season is open all year round.

Does Mr. Martin really think flirting is a capital crime meriting the death penalty without trial? Verily, it would bring about a nice state of affairs if we permitted every woman to appoint herself judge, jury and executioner.

Let us not lose sight of the fact that woman can always get protection whether right or wrong. As a rule, she knows how to take advantage of this condition when occasion arises.

The idea of permitting her to take a potshot at me every time she feels that she is in need of additional publicity taxes my sense of humor.

If every man who ever spoke to a woman without proper introduction deserves to be shot, there would not be a sufficient number of men left in Washington to support a cigar store.

Why not preach a gospel of love and happiness instead of one of sin and suffering? At any rate, I remember that somewhere in the Decalogue it says: "Thou shalt not kill."

ALFRED JACOBS.

OPEN COURT

WOMEN'S "MOST POTENT" WEAPON.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

I believe a desire to be original must have inspired the Rev. Martin to make his appeal for the arming of women, appearing in the Herald.

It must be evident to anyone that there are entirely too many young women killing men and vamping freedom from the jury as it is. A man is killed, a diary is published, and an acquitted maid signs up with a movie company to teach other women the dangers of the beast called "Man."

How easy it would be for a woman given this freedom to abuse the privilege, getting rid of someone under a pretense sure to be countenanced by others so foolish as to give them this firebrand.

I fail to understand, if he was a witness, as one would infer from his writing, to the incident in the square where an elderly man annoyed ladies, why he did not intervene. If he was not present, then others who were present should have objected.

The woman who encourages what he terms "innocent flirtation," has no one to blame but herself if the line she chooses to draw is disregarded. I agree that women have a potent defense in words, but an infinitely more potent defense in demeanor and personal appearance. Few men are so low or base that they can look into the eyes of an innocent and protesting woman and dare to do violence.

B. ELVARD SAGER.

Washington, D. C., May 5.

3 MEMBERS NAMED FOR SCHOOL BOARD

Edwin C. Graham and Mrs. Susie Root Rhoades were reappointed as members of the Board of Education for a period of three years beginning July 1, by the justices of the District Supreme Court. William L. Houston, colored attorney, was appointed as a member to succeed Fountain Peyton, colored, whose term expires June 30. All three have announced they will serve.

Mr. Houston is said to be an attorney for Roscoe Bruce, assistant superintendent in charge of colored schools, whereas Peyton, whom he will displace, is a pronounced critic of Bruce and has advocated the latter's removal.

In 1912 Houston declined appointment to the board when the question of his eligibility was raised, due to the allegation that he had not been a resident of Washington for three years.

Mr. Houston has been a member of the District Supreme Court bar for twenty-nine years. He is a professor at Howard University.

Hyattsville Relative Inherits Zoll Estate

Leopoltina Krebs, of Hyattsville, Md., a sister of Mathilde Zoll, of Washington, who died April 24 at her home, 3235 Seventh street northwest, is bequeathed $2,000 according to the will of the sister filed for probate yesterday.

Included among the beneficiaries are the German Orphan Asylum, the Little Sisters of the Poor, and "Rupperts Home" in Anacostia, which are to receive $100 each.

The Herald Scientific Notes and Comment

Calendar of Meetings; Activities of Societies in Washington

TUESDAY, May 10, 1921.

Board of Surveys and Maps of the Federal Government, public meeting, Interior Department Building, today, 10 a. m. The subject to be discussed will be: Report of the committee on general maps regarding the standardization of wall maps of the United States, report of the committee on technical standards regarding change in the scale of topographic maps, a bill to provide for the completion of the topographical survey of the United States.

District of Columbia Dental Society, George Washington University Medical School, this evening, 8 o'clock. Dr. M. I. Schamberg, of New York City, will speak on "Oral Surgery, a Growing Specialty."

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, eighth annual meeting, National Museum, today. Sessions at 10 a. m., 2 and 8 p. m.

Society of Motion Picture Engineers, spring convention, today. At Bureau of Standards, 10:45 a. m., reports of committees; "Continuous Motion Picture Projector and Taking Pictures at High Speed," by C. Francis Jenkins; "New Developments in Incandescent Lamp Projection," by C. A. B. Halvorson; 12:30 a. m., luncheon followed by an address by Dr. S. W. Stratton; 1:30 p. m., smoke box demonstration of lens action, by F. H. Richardson. Trip through the Bureau of Standards.

Medical Society, Section on Internal Medicine, Medical Society Building, this evening, 8 o'clock. Case report of migraine treated by horse serum by Dr. W. M. Barton; case report of spinal disorder by Dr. Tom Williams; diagnosis of focal infection by Dr. B. M. Randolph.

PROPOSES NEW PROOF OF FERMAT'S MATH. PUZZLER.

A new method of proving the Fermat's Last Theorem, which has been a stumbling block for mathematicians for centuries, was prepared by William E. Heal, of the Coast and Geodetic Survey at the meeting of the Mathematical Association of America Saturday. For the first valid solution of this mathematical theorem, the University of Goettingen in Germany holds in trust a bequest of 100,000 marks.

"The theorem known as Fennat's Last Theorem asserts that no power of an integer can be the sum of two other powers of the same degree except in case of the first and second powers," explained Mr. Heal. "This theorem was announced by Fermat about 1654, and he declared he had found a wonderful demonstration of it, but no record of such demonstration was found among his papers after his death."

"In itself the theorem is of little value and its fame rests upon the stubbornness with which it has resisted the efforts of the very greatest mathematicians since Fermat's time. Only a few special cases have been fully demonstrated. Kummer, about sixty years ago, succeeded in carrying the demonstration as far as n equals 100 when n denotes the power, but his proof has recently been questioned so far as it relates to the primes 37, 59, 67. If the roots of the powers be all prime to n Fermat's theorem has been proved for values of n less than 7,000, but if one of the roots be divisible by n the proof, as above stated, has only been carried to n equals 100."

Mr. Heal's new method is based on the idea of taking the roots as known and trying to determine that value of n which will satisfy the equation. While no important results have yet been reached, it appears that some such departure from the known methods must be made.

ELEPHANT'S TEMPERATURE MAY TELL HOW TO KEEP COOL.

Taking an elephant's skin temperature is the first step of science in finding out what would be the skin temperature of a man who remains nude for some length of time in an environmental temperature of about that of a cool summer morning.

Armed with delicate electrical thermometers and using much patience, Drs. Francis G. Benedict, Edward L. Fox and Marion L. Baker of the Nutrition Laboratory of the Carnegie Institute located at Boston, and of the New York Zoological Park, have succeeded in measuring and charting the temperatures of nearly every portion of an elephant's skin from the flap of his ear to the tips of his toes.

A keeper at the New York Zoo petted a hippopotamus until he turned over on his back and went to sleep and so allowed the scientists to determine the temperature of his body.

These interesting and practical thermometric experiments were reported upon at the meeting of the National Academy of Sciences.

Mr. Rhinoceros, however, objected strenuously to the scientific attempts to tickle him with the wires of the electro-thermometer. He would stand still only a few times for the six seconds necessary to make a temperature determination and therefore the heat of his hide is not well known.

These trips to the zoo to test the epidermis of the pachyderms are only preliminary to experiments to be conducted on people, both nude and fully clothed, to find out whether Newton's law of cooling is followed by the human body.

Man, when fully clothed, has a skin temperature of 91 degrees Fahrenheit, only about 8 degrees less than that of his body. Because the scientists know that the loss of heat from the animal organism by radiation, conduction and vaporization of water is governed among other factors, by the temperature of the skin, they want to know what the skin temperature of man would be if he, like some of his brother mammals, went around without protective clothing. Elephants, rhinoceroses and hippopotami are not covered with fur or hair and in that respect are similar to man.

The experiments showed that these animals have nearly the same skin temperature of from 10 to degrees higher than that of the surroundings and there were differences of as high as 5 degrees between spots on different parts of the animal's skin.

One of Robert Louis Stevenson's earliest publications was a scientific paper contributed to the Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. It deals with the effects of forests on climate. W. D.