

STORIES From the BIG CITIES



Chicago Con Men Caught by Corncob Pipe Lure

CHICAGO.—"They Fell for the Corncob Pipe," a one-reel of city life, was run off on Van Buren street the other day. The passenger had a corncob pipe, and had he worn a celluloid collar and cotton in his ears the trio would not have been happier. As it was they only crowded fondly around him on the platform and deftly examined his pockets to make sure that he had left nothing at home on the farm that he might need in a big city.

The owner of the corncob fired it so earnestly that the conductor chased him to the front platform. He apologized for his ignorance of city car etiquette. The three pocket examiners obligingly accompanied him forward to make sure he did not fall off

or into the hands of rival operators.

"There's a lot of money to be made over on the lake front," ventured one of the trio by way of striking up an acquaintance.

"How's that?" asked the corncobbler.

"Oh, just matching pennies with suckers," he was told.

"Come on over and we'll show you how it's done," invited one of the three.

"All right, boys," said the man with the corncob, "I'm out for a good time, gosh darn it. Let's go over and do it to a few of them easy ones."

One of them, supposedly the stage manager, left the car at Jackson boulevard.

At Adams street the smoker and the other two alighted. The owner of the pipe paused at an iron box on a post to knock the ashes out of the cob.

"Ding bust me," he said, "if it ain't a patrol box. Boys, you're pinched." The pair tried to run. Detective Sergeant Garrett Coan dropped his corncob and grabbed them both.

Women at Atlantic City Smoke on Boardwalk

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Now there's a new fad among the women visiting here. It started one day when one fair creature in a rolling chair procession blithely and seemingly oblivious of the shocked countenances of sedate boardwalk strollers puffed contentedly away at a cigarette.

A few followed suit next day, and soon there were scores of 'em leaning languidly against the rattan backs of the moving chairs and indolently enjoying "a smoke."

The sight of women smoking in public—so many of them, too—literally staggered visitors with fixed, staid ideas of conventionality. There were many indignant protests registered over the bizarre innovation, too; but since those who indulged in it were of apparent respectability and accompanied by male escorts, nothing could be done about it. The police simply winked, shrugged and otherwise demonstrated their helplessness.

Most of the fair smokers were young girls—young girls, who, between puffs giggled as if it were the jolliest of ideas. A few held dainty gold-tipped cigarettes; some were equipped with ornamental gold holders, and all if asked why they ventured to defy custom—"Why, just to keep the mosquitoes away," and they added, with benign smiles, that josh sticks and punk were antique and useless for such service.

It was really a strange spectacle to watch handsomely gowned women with unmistakable marks of breeding, rolling along the boardwalk in the comfortable chairs and leaving tiny wisps of smoke. They attracted more attention than the bathers, and, instead of being annoyed by the stares of passers by, they rather seemed to enjoy them.

A hotel man said the young women who started the fad did it more in the spirit of a lark than anything else.

Pepper Dislodges a Burglar From Dumbwaiter

NEW YORK.—Employing the most modern tactics after usual methods had failed, tenants of an apartment house at 145 West One Hundred and Thirty-third street early the other morning arrested George Jackson, a young negro, after a burglar had entered the apartment of Mrs. Lena Halsey, on the fourth floor. Jackson ran down the fire escape to the second floor and dropped to the rear yard. Headed off from the street, he sought refuge in the dumbwaiter and began to pull himself up, evidently hoping to gain the roof.

Saul Finkelstein and Emmanuel Goldman, who had run in from the street, went to the dumbwaiter shaft. Jackson stopped the dumbwaiter with himself in it half way between the second and third floors. By this time all doors to the dumbwaiter shaft were opened and voices were heard from all the floors. Finkelstein and Goldman pulled the rope to bring the dumbwaiter down, but Jackson had braced himself and they could not move it.

"Throw something on him!" yelled Finkelstein.

A shower of milk bottles followed the order, but the roof of the dumbwaiter was proof against such projectiles.

"Try pepper," called a woman's voice. The contents of three boxes of the ordinary black variety and one of paprika were emptied simultaneously down the shaft. There was the sound of a titanic sneeze and of rope running through a pulley. The dumbwaiter struck with a crash and Jackson sprawled out on the concrete floor, where he was pounced upon.

Missouri Couple Measured for Walnut Coffins

EDWARDSVILLE, MO.—Mr. and Mrs. Anton Wieneke, an Edwardsville couple of mature years, but robust health, a few days ago stood up and were measured for their coffins. Attention was paid to having a neat fit, and they insisted on nice workmanship and finish.

Alderman W. J. Smith, one of the managers of the Edwardsville Planing Mill company, was called out of his office recently to inspect a wagon load of lumber, which had just arrived. He found that it was a very fine quality of black walnut.

Mr. Wieneke accompanied the driver and briefly explained his mission to Smith.

"I want you to make a couple of coffins for mother and me from this lumber," he said. "It is cut from trees that grew on the old home place. Several years ago mother and I decided that we didn't want any 'store' coffins, made out of cheap boards and covered with black cloth.

"So I had a big tree on the old home place cut and sawed into these boards. They have been carefully seasoned for three years and are ready to use. We want the complete coffins made from them, top, sides and bottoms, joined and smoothed and polished, but with the natural finish." Smith booked the queer order and his workmen executed it.

FACTS ABOUT POTASH

Made No Perceptible Difference When Used for Wheat.

Exact Results Not Yet Obtainable—Lime in Wood Ashes Has Marked Effect on All Plants of the Leguminous Family.

(By A. J. LEGG)

There is an impression among the farmers generally that a fertilizer should be especially rich in potash.

One cause of this is no doubt from the marked effects that wood ashes have on most soils.

A liberal application of wood ashes shows an improvement in crop production on almost any soil. This is usually attributed to the potash contained in the ashes.

An analysis of the ashes usually shows from four to five times as much lime as potash in the ashes, since wood ashes usually contain from



The Nine-Bundle Shock With Single Cap.

five to eight per cent of potash, 35 to 40 per cent of lime, and about two per cent of phosphoric acid.

The marked effect that wood ashes has on almost all plants of the leguminous family seems to indicate that the lime in the ashes has more influence in making the ashes valuable as a fertilizer than the potash does.

Last year our fertilizer dealer put in a bag of fertilizer containing ten per cent of phosphoric acid and six per cent of potash at the same price as what I was buying, which was a 15 per cent available phosphoric acid goods, on condition that I would use it on wheat and compare them side by side.

I put the bag of fertilizer, which contained the potash, in my grain drill, and when it ran out I continued with the superphosphate containing 14 per cent available phosphoric acid, without changing the quantity per acre.

There was no perceptible difference in the growth of the wheat during the growing season. The wheat ripened by July 25. There was no difference in the time of ripening. I could see little, if any, difference between the wheat with and that without the potash.

I showed the wheat to several farmers, and all agreed that if there was any difference between the two plants, that it was in favor of the wheat where the 15 per cent phosphoric acid without potash was applied.

I have not threshed, and cannot give exact results, but it is a plain case that the \$3 per ton which I would have had to pay for the potash would have been a clear loss so far as results on the wheat crop were concerned.

Both kinds of fertilizer were used, so that both plants extended over a dark loamy soil, with some sand at one end and a rather stiff yellowish clay at the other end.

It is usually considered that a loamy, sandy soil is not as well supplied with potash as a clay soil, yet the potash did not show any improvement over the other fertilizer in the loamy soil.

SELECT PIGS FOR BREEDING

Breeder Who is Not Afraid to Sell Some of Purebreds Will Live Longest in the Business.

The spring pigs will soon be old enough so you can begin to pick out the ones not good enough for breeding purposes.

Don't be afraid to cull closely. The breeder of purebred stock who is not afraid to sell some of his purebreds over the scales will live the longest in the business.

Not only that, but he will have the pleasure of receiving words of commendation from his customers.

Shelled Corn.

Under average conditions in fattening hogs shelled corn is a more economical ration than corn meal and especially when fed dry.

Keep Weeds Down.

"Weeds are sure a nuisance." Yes, but you are doing a good thing to the soil if you keep the weeds down by cultivation.

Declaration of War.

If we are going to declare war, it should be on the weeds and on breeding places.

SQUASH INJURED BY BORERS

Whole Patches of Vegetable May Be Destroyed by Insect in Few Days—Plan of One Farmer.

Some years the Hubbard squash vine is badly injured by the squash borer. The moth lays her eggs on the outside of the vine, and in a few days the eggs hatch into small grubs. These immediately bore their way into the stalk where they live unseen and for a time unsuspected.

For a while the vines grow well; then, as the borer continues feeding on the inside of the stalk, the vine withers and dies. Whole patches of squash may be destroyed by these borers in a few days.

In 1914 one farmer made tests of early and late planting. The early plantings were begun in April and continued into May. Sweet corn was used as a companion crop, with the early plantings to furnish shade for the squash vines, but every vine except one was destroyed by the borers in all the early plantings.

He made late plantings of seed from June 1 to July 20, which was the last planting of the season. In order to hasten the development of the plants as an offset to late planting, separate hills were prepared. Holes were dug from eight to ten inches deep, which were filled with rich soil thoroughly mixed with chicken manure, but he left saucer-like depressions as an aid to watering the plants in dry weather. This plan proved very serviceable, as no rain fell during six weeks of midsummer. The plants had to be watered frequently to keep them vigorous.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks of late planting and a dry season, this crop of Hubbards was among the best he had ever raised. Hardly a vine was attacked by the borers. The period of squash-moth flying was over before the plants were above ground.

ONIONS LIKE COOL WEATHER

Plant Will Stand Much Heat After Making Good Start—Will Not Keep Unless Properly Ripened.

Onions grow best in relatively cool weather and require an abundance of moisture during the early stages of growth. However, they will stand considerable heat after they have made a good start, and ripen better if the weather is relatively dry at the time they mature.

This makes them an important crop in central and northern latitudes, where the weather of spring is cool and moist, and a dry period normally occurs in August or in early September. However, the season must be sufficiently long for the onions to mature before the autumn rains set in, or they are likely never to ripen properly.

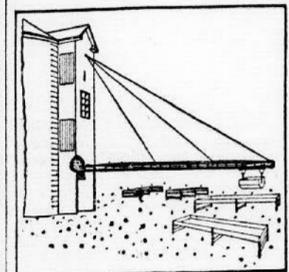
Unless properly ripened, onions will not keep. For northern localities it is sometimes necessary to use only the earlier maturing varieties.

The above statements refer to the growing of ripe onions. Green onions reach edible size in a comparatively short time, and can be grown during the normally cool and moist weather of early spring in central and northern latitudes. As a commercial crop, they are of minor importance compared with ripe onions.

SILAGE CARRIER IS USEFUL

Labor-Saving Device Can Be Used to Great Advantage by Farmer When Feed Is Not Too Large.

If you have put up a good strong silo and your feed yard is not too large, you will find the silage distributor illustrated herewith a very useful and labor-saving device. This overhead silage carrier is described in bulletin No. 145 issued from the



New Idea in Silage Carriers.

Nebraska experiment station. The arm must be well guyed and strongly pivoted. The feed bunks are placed in the form of a semicircle so the silage may be dumped directly into them from the carrier, as the arm is swung around. Either hay carrier or litter carrier track may be utilized for this purpose.

FEEDING THE YOUNG POULTS

Coarsely Ground Corn Mixed With Milk Makes One of Best Feeds for Young Fowls.

One of the best feeds for young poults is coarsely ground corn mixed with either sweet or sour milk, or the corn might be baked in a cake and then moistened with milk before feeding.

One should determine as to whether he wishes to use sweet or sour milk and then continue to use the kind decided upon as it is not advisable to change from one to the other.

This moistened ground corn is gradually mixed with corn meal until they receive clear corn meal when they are about eight weeks old.

Feverish Old New York



MADISON SQUARE GARDEN SOON TO GO

WHAT a hard time old Father Knickerbocker has endeavoring to satisfy the jaded pleasure palates of his multitudinous Manhattanites.

Having something less than 10,000 theaters, vaudeville houses, moving picture establishments and amusement places generally, he seems constantly to feel called upon to put forth something new and different to hold his inhabitants.

As a matter of fact, he could not get rid of them if he wished to do so. The vast majority of those who have become real New Yorkers would stay right there if he stripped them of everything and tied them to an electric sign on Broadway. They would stand right there and enjoy its glitter and feel sorry for all those who were "condemned" to live beyond the glow of the White Lights.

But he doesn't seem to realize that, and so hardly a day passes that we do not read of some new enterprise to be launched for the stated purpose of entertaining the people of New York city. There may be some who will think that these new undertakings are merely for the purpose of making money, but their advertisements say nothing of the sort.

Time Brings Changes.

Yet it is all different now from what it has been. Time was when each new enterprise of the character referred to was launched with bold announcements about the high prices that would be charged. That was before the European war got under way, when New York had money oozing out of its pockets. Now, however, every new amusement project comes forth modestly telling us that prices will be extremely reasonable. There has been a realization and an acceptance of the fact that money is not being spent so freely here as it once was.

Hardly a theater in Manhattan today is running on the old scale of prices; or, if it is, it has out slips, procurable at almost every store, which entitles the holder to a seat at half the advertised price. The very best Broadway theatrical productions are now having "popular priced" matinees and there is hardly an entertainment on the island for which some kind of seat may not be procured for 25 cents or less.

And the character of the entertainment is changing even as are the prices. For instance, the old Eden Musee, on Twenty-third street, recently closed its doors. This famous institution has been one of the sights of the city for years. There was a time when something like 10,000 people passed through its doors daily; but recently it has had a struggle to keep alive and that struggle was finally ended in defeat. Location had something to do with that. Twenty-third street, Madison square, there once was the very heart of things, but now New York has moved uptown. The white lights do not send their beams quite that far south these nights and already Twenty-third street is lined with "For Rent" signs, many of which have been so long there that they are obscured by dust and dirt.

Madison Square Garden Going.

Yet another landmark of old New York has fallen before the march of Manhattanites "uptown." The famous Madison Square garden, familiar the country over, either through visit to the metropolis or illustration, is to make way for improvements. Its notable tower, the work of Stanford White, slain by Harry K. Thaw nine years ago, will be missed by visitors and residents alike. Many of the most notable men of America have addressed audiences in the structure.

But Father Knick is no whit discouraged. He moves on uptown and keeps trying. As stated, new announcements appear almost daily, telling us that ere long we will have something else to entertain us. One of the latest of these announcements is to the effect that an enormous ice palace is to be erected at once on Broadway between Forty-third and Forty-fourth streets. Its size will equal that of the New York hippodrome (which recently failed as a home for moving pictures) and it will have several restaurants (reasonable prices) on its upper floors. The lower floor will be of ice and around it at a somewhat higher altitude will be a balcony where one may gine and watch the carnival on the ice below. Of course the ice will be for skating. The whole

affair is to be different from anything on the island in spite of the fact that we already have a number of indoor skating rinks.

New Gigantic Enterprise.

Then, a little farther north, another enterprise has begun. The Grand Central palace has opened a "three-ring" moving picture carnival which will occupy its vast exhibition halls. You pay one small price of admission and you may enter any of the "movies" therein, or pass from one to the other at will. If you care to stay throughout all, you will have had just eight hours of moving pictures, which should satisfy even the most rabid moving-picture fan. There is a terraced garden, too, in which one may procure drinks and refreshments while he inhales the odor of beautiful flowers—and tobacco smoke. But there is more.

At one desk you may register your name as an applicant for a "job" with the movies and at another you may leave your "scenario." In each case what is left will be referred to the proper authorities, and in this way you may break into moving pictures at any moment.

So, you see, Father Knickerbocker is doing his real best to keep us entertained throughout all the seasons, though some people seem to think he is merely trying to take our money away from us. But, as we explained, we have effected a sort of compromise. He charges us less and offers us more, while we go more and give less. It is really quite satisfactory all around.

One of the charms of living in New York, to many, lies in the fact that they will probably never meet anyone they know on the streets. In a small town they soon become more or less known, and if they make \$700 a month and dress after a fashion to shame the queen of Sheba, some acquaintance is sure to "call" them on it. But there, as soon as they go out of their apartments, they feel as if they are on the stage and it is up to them to assume any role they feel capable of playing—and how they do enjoy it!

In Onions There is Strength.

Onions supply a complete cure in themselves for cold, as well as being a wonderful remedy in cases of insomnia. An onion-cure breakfast includes a poached egg on toast, three tablespoonsful of fried onions, and a cupful of coffee. Luncheons of sandwiches made of brown bread, buttered, and filled with fine chopped raw onion, seasoned with salt and pepper, make the second meal on the schedule. For the supper the onions may be fried as for breakfast and eaten with a chop and a baked potato. The efficacy of onions is well-known to the singers of Italy and Spain, who eat them every day to improve the quality of their voices and keep them smooth. Onion plasters are prescribed to break up hard coughs. They are made of fried onion placed between two slices of old muslin. The plaster is kept quite hot until the patient is snugly in bed, when it is placed on the chest, to stay overnight. Onion sirup is claimed by some to be unequalled as a cure for a bad cold in the chest.

Agate and Onyx.

The distinction between agate and onyx is not apparent to everyone, as is indicated by the samples of the two minerals received by the United States geological survey with requests for information. Onyx marble, or Mexican onyx, is composed of calcium carbonate or banded limestone. True agate is a variety of silica. Onyx marble is much softer than agate and is rarely used for gems, but when onyx is obtained in pieces of sufficient size it is cut and polished for small ornamental objects like inkstands and paper weights, as well as for table tops and soda water fountains.

Wells Foretell Storms.

On the approach of storms the water in the wells of southern Minnesota, which is ordinarily clear, becomes cloudy or milky; in others it becomes bright yellow or deep red. Among those whose waters become milky before storms are certain wells near Lakeville, in Scott county, and the most pronounced examples of discoloration are in the vicinity of Waterville, in Le Sueur county. The milkyness is due to silt or clay, and the yellow and red colors to fine particles of iron oxide.