Odd News From Big Cities

Stories of Strange Happenings in the Metropolitan Towns

Soldier Victim of Rare Affliction

PORTLAND, Ore.—Sojourning here the last several weeks has been a man who has attracted widespread attention in medical circles. He is Thomas P. Dunn, a native of Montana, who, as a member of the First Montana volunteers in the Spanish-American war, was shot through the head at Caloocan in the Philippines more than twelve years ago and is alive to tell of it today.

When Dunn fell wounded on the battlefield of Caloocan he was carried to the ward where the fatally injured were placed and no one paid any attention to him for two days, as there were too many other wounded whom the physicians and surgeons in charge believed had better chances for recovery. At the end of two days, during which the Montana boy lay practically without attention, the surgeon in charge remarked upon his vitality and decided to try to save his life.

A Mauser bullet had entered the left side of his head just above the temple and emerged from the right side just below the temple, a wound that had previously proved fatal as far as any of the medical men who have examined Dunn ever heard.

His remarkable recovery and the fact that he retains his reason are the most remarkable features of this case. While he is alive, in good health and able to walk around the streets and converse with his friends and acquaintances, Dunn is handicapped by the loss of all sense of smell or taste and has lost the sight of his right eye. Despite these afflictions he bears his lot with fortitude. He cannot enjoy a meal, for no matter what choice viands he may order, he cannot relish them any more than he would hardtack and salt pork. The loss of the sense of taste he looks upon as his worst affliction.

Tommy Dunn, as he is known among his friends, is a ward of the government, though not of his own choosing, for he has relatives and influential friends who take care of him and look after his comfort at all times. His impaired eyesight has proved an obstacle toward his securing employment, and idleness is something he dreads because of his afflictions. His only amusement is to join several congenial companions and tell stories of past experiences, or to take street car rides or journeys through the country in automobiles. He cannot go to the theater, being handicapped by partial blindness and fearful lest the glare of the lights shall impair the sight of his remaining eye.

As a ward of the government Dunn must report at Washington or some other military headquarters at certain periods and to undergo the periodical examination required by the surgeon general's office.

Woman Laughs Her Jaw Out of Joint

NEW YORK.—Tee-hee-hee! Haw-haw! Cra-a-a-ack!!!

Mrs. Cecilia Goldberg's birthday party was an enjoyable occasion up to this point, or, to be exact, until she dislocated her jaw laughing at her mistake in kissing the wrong man.

The occasion was the eighteenth anniversary of Mrs. Goldberg's arrival in Harlem, where she has since become duly popular in her set. She is a pretty young woman, and her parents invited all their friends and relatives to come around and celebrate.

They came by the dozens, and it was one of those "a-gorgeous-time was-had-by-all" affairs. The tables groaned with good things to eat, and there was a decorous but all sufficient dampness out in the vicinity of the ice box. Along about midnight, when the young folks began thinking of going home, some on suggested that "blind man's buff" was a good game to taper off with. The music was stopped and Mrs. Goldberg was chosen as the first to be the blind one.

She was blindfolded and led into the parlor. She was entitled to kiss any man she could catch, and she supposed that Jim, her husband, would be on the job and see that he was caught. But a young man named Harry was caught by Mrs. Goldberg and was kissed. Jim was just a second too late. Then they pulled the blindfold off and Mrs. Goldberg saw whom she had kissed.

The crowd combined in a roar of glee and Mrs. Goldberg graciously joined in the laughter. But she overexerted herself. In the midst of an unusually loud "Ha-ha!" she grabbed her jaws and began to dance about the room. She gasped and groaned, and Policeman Mott, rushing upstairs, found the company in confusion and hysteria. Mrs. Goldberg seemed unable to close her mouth, and nobody could hold her long enough to close it for her. A policeman gave all the first aid he could muster without result, so he called a doctor from the Harlem hospital. The doctor made a hasty examination and diagnosed the trouble as a dislocated jaw. He finally succeeded in getting it back in place, and advised the patient not to laugh again for a day or so. She won't for a week at least.

Day Spent in Circus Beats School

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—"No session of the public schools of Springfield after ten o'clock a. m. on circus day."

This edict from the office of Prof. Jonathan Fairbanks, life-long educator and for 36 years superintendent of the public schools of Springfield, brought joy to the hearts of 9,000 school children, for it meant that at ten o'clock on the morning of circus days the city schools closed for the day.

"A circus is something every child ought to see," Superintendent Fairbanks said, in explaining his orders, "for it is a veritable education in itself. You can see for a small sum attractions that have been grouped together at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and which would cost large sums to see outside a circus.

"School children read of lions and see pictures of them, but they don't really know what a lion is until they see one. Merely seeing the animals in the open cages of a circus parade is of great value to children. They see many animals with which they are not familiar and get a real knowledge of animals of which they have read but which they have little opportunity to see. In the menagerie there are animals from all parts of the world and the child who goes to the circus learns more about animals in one day than he can learn from the teacher of a nature study class in a year.

"The trained animals of a circus are an object lesson that cannot be beaten anywhere, and for this reason every school teacher ought to attend the circus. The performances of the animals prove what conscientious and continued training will do. If the school teacher put as much effort in the training of children as the circus trainer gives to the training of performing pigs, the improvement shown by the school children of today would be remarkable.

"The influence of the circus is broadening for the reason that it shows so many things which seem impossible to the average person, but which are really done with apparent ease. The child who attends a circus gets an entirely new idea of expert horsemanship and of skill in the performance of physical feats, and for this reason I say the circus has an educational value.

"Then schoolroom work is done in the most perfunctory way when there is a circus in town. The minds of the children—not nearly all of the children are there—are not upon the work, and the teacher can put no life in his or her tasks. The teacher knows all the work will have to be gone over the following day."

Professor Fairbanks is almost eighty years old, and he has been elected superintendent of the public schools here almost without opposition 36 times.

No Missionary Cash for the Indians

MUSKOGEE, Okla.—The Methodist church in Oklahoma has decided upon a new policy relative to religious work among the Indians. At a meeting here of the executive board of the church it was decided to combine all of the five civilized tribes, Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws and Seminoles, in one district, under the supervision of one presiding elder, and to require the Indians to support their own pastors without the aid of foreign missionary money.

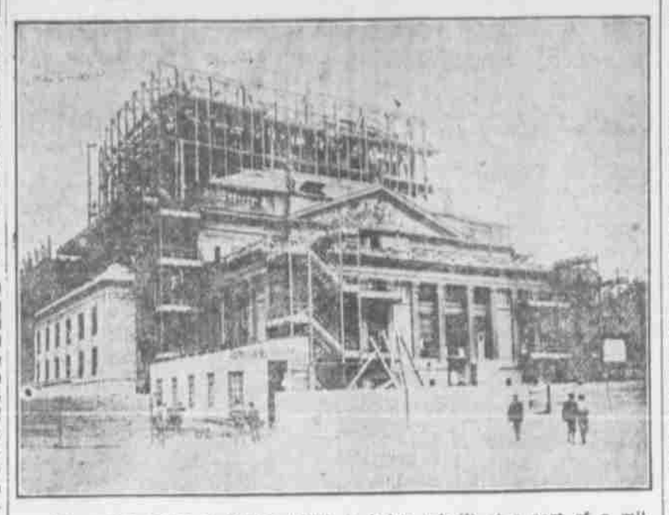
It was also decided to request the bishop to transfer every English-speaking congregation of Indians to some white charge. This is for the purpose of getting the Indians under a white pastor in order that educational as well as religious work may be carried on. The old idea of teaching a white missionary to speak the Indian tongue and sending him among the Indians to preach in their own language is to be abandoned.

It was pointed out that, under the state government, the Indian and the white man are the same socially and politically, that the state schools are being extended into every Indian settlement, and that the Indian children everywhere are being taught English.

Methodists, Baptists and Catholics have been carrying on religious and educational work among the Indians, through mission churches and schools, in Oklahoma, for more than half a century. The missionaries arrived immediately after the Indians came in 1838. Until now their efforts have been to meet the Indians on their own grounds.

It is expected that other religious organizations will take the same step, it being practically forced upon them by the new conditions arising from the adoption of state government and state schools.

GERMAN CAPITAL'S NEW PALACE OF MUSIC



The opera house at Berlin, which is being rebuilt at a cost of a million dollars.

IS RICHEST WOMAN

Mrs. Taylor, Daughter of Former Governor, Inherits Millions.

Death of Mrs. Sarah M. Flower, Widow of Roswell P. Flower, Makes Daughter Wealthiest Woman in Northern N. Y.

Watertown, N. Y.—With the death in this city of Sarah M. Flower, widow of the late Governor Roswell P. Flower, the only living daughter, Mrs. Emma Flower Taylor, becomes one of the richest, if not the richest, woman in northern New York. While as yet Mrs. Flower's will has not been filed for probate, estimates of the value of the estate place the sum at a figure far exceeding $5,000,000 and possibly close to double this sum. That her daughter Emma will inherit the greater part of this amount is deemed likely.

Mrs. Taylor, who was the wife of John Byron Taylor, of this city, whom she divorced but a few months ago, is already the richest woman in this section and her liberal expenditures of her riches for benevolent purposes have made her, as well, the most popular. Since the death of her father, Governor Flower, in 1899, at which time she inherited a considerable sum, she has devoted her time to philanthropical acts and her charitable deeds, both public and private, have been numberless.

The estate of Governor Flower at the time of his death was valued at $6,575,000. In his will he made bequests amounting to $305,000 and left the residue to be equally divided between his widow and his daughter. By the terms of this will Mrs. Taylor received over $3,500,000, while Mrs. Flower received an equal sum in addition to the fortune which she then possessed.

Mrs. Flower was a daughter of Norris M. and Roxana Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff was one of the pioneer settlers of this section, where he invested a large amount during the early days of the settlement of the country. He also went into land deals elsewhere with John Jacob Astor. Mrs. Flower upon the death of her father inherited no small sum.

Governor and Mrs. Flower had three children, Helen Flower and Henry Keep Flower, both of whom are dead, and Emma Gertrude Flower Taylor, who now becomes heiress to the combined fortunes of her father and mother. What the entire sum will amount to is problematical.

Mrs. Taylor was born in this city March 23, 1870, and the greater part of her girlhood was spent here, although she lived at various times in Albany, New York and Washington with her parents.

Matorman Picks Up Money

Envelope and Roll, Covered With Mud, Big Help in Financial Straits of Worker.

Chicago.—"It is not collectors of old rags alone who find valuables in odd places."

This confession was elicited from a Chicago street car motorman the other day in a discussion of the unusual good fortune of a New York rag dealer who discovered money and diamonds in the old clothes which he had bought for a few cents a pound.

"It's a funny thing," said the motorman, as the car whizzed by Diversey boulevard. "Running past this corner reminds me of what happened here about a year ago. I was especially hard up that month and was wondering how I'd be able to raise enough money to make payment on a mortgage coming due.

"I needed about $25 more than I knew I could spare from my pay check and I was at a loss to discover how I'd arrange it.

"Well, one morning I was running by this corner and I saw what looked like an old envelope, all covered with mud, in the street. It looked as if it might contain almost anything except money, but something led me to stop the car, get out and pick it up. After brushing off the mud I put it into my pocket and forgot all about it until that evening. When I reached home I opened it. In the envelope were three five-dollar bills. I knew then how I'd meet the payment.

"Three days later," he added, "while crossing this same corner one rainy evening the searchlight of my car fell on something that looked like a little roll of bills and I stopped again to pick it up. I examined my second find and discovered that it was a two-dollar bill. That evening at home I unrolled it and prepared to clean the mud off as before. To my surprise I discovered a five-dollar bill and another two-dollar bill wrapped up within the outside bill! I guess that's luck for you, eh? And I wasn't looking for 'paper' like the rag dealer in New York, either."

Strange Varmint Is Loose

Wild Animal of Ferocious Mien Roaming About Section of New Jersey State.

New York.—Caldwell, N. J., a community in which mystery has always been held to be a thing abhorrent, is puzzled about almost to the point of hysteria by the appearance intermittently in its environs of a predatory animal of which nobody knows the name. The good folk of the pleasant countryside near Caldwell, Pine Brook, Clinton and Fairfield have been hunting the strange beast, but, while the animal has gone right on killing hens, calves and dogs, none of the huntsmen has got close enough to end its life.

Oh, yes! Charley Rollins got close enough, but he had no gun. There was a tree handy and Mr. Rollins in placing himself in the topmost branches did some gymnastic work equal to any performance on the horizontal bars ever seen in the circus.

The other men, who had guns, never saw the animal. Mr. Rollins, whose eyesight is about as good as his agility, says the animal is about four feet long over all, that it is two and one-half feet high, has a generous tail, and is yellow. Were it not for the dimensions given it might be a cat, but Mr. Rollins is sure it is as big as he says it is.

Some persons think it is a panther, although what a panther would be doing at large in peaceful New Jersey with the menagerie business in full blast all over the country, is another of those things that no citizen of Caldwell can find out.

The alien has been seen on many occasions without the assistance of Jersey applejack, the effect of which on the gift of vision is proverbial, and until it is slain there will be more excitement in the vicinage of Caldwell than there has been since last circus day.

GET LARGE CROP OF APPLES

Washington Has More Fruit Than Last Year and Values Are Higher Than Ever.

Seattle, Wash.—Reports of growers and handlers indicate that the production of apples in Washington this year will be between 3,500,000 and 4,700,000 boxes, but while the yield promises to be the largest yet grown, orchardists and buyers say there will be no cheap apples. The cause assigned is the late frosts in the other apple growing states.

The yield in Washington is estimated at around 4,000,000 boxes, against 2,414,000 boxes in 1909, when the average wholesale price was $1.40 a box. Oregon is second in the northwest this year with about 2,000,000 boxes, and Idaho and Montana follow.

Buyers have been active over the state the last two months, and it is probable that half of the crop has been sold, but many apples will be held in anticipation of increased prices at holiday time. No prices are made public, but it is believed the wholesale price this year will be above two dollars a box.

Several growers will send large consignments of apples to England and Australia this season, while others will market their fruit in the orient, Hawaii and South America. One grower has already arranged to accompany a shipment of 3,600 boxes to England.

Kiss Cure for Woes.

Chicago.—The Rev. E. L. Williams, pastor of Grace Methodist church, has found that a good-natured kiss is the panacea for all domestic ills, and, if properly applied, would cut down the business of the divorce courts immensely, he says.

"In the homes of the laboring men and in those of the rich there is a noticeable lack of sentiment that expresses itself in terms of endearment," he said at the Des Plaines camp meeting. "The hand of toil gets hard and unappreciative. The rich man neglects his wife, goes to Europe and only too often is accompanied by some fascinating actress. Attention to the courtesies of home life would save disaster."

French Submarine to Cruise Far.

Paris.—The Archimede, the largest submarine boat in the world, will start soon on a 500 mile cruise from Cherbourg to Toulon, Bizerta and Oran. Lieutenant Trochot wished to take the Archimede to New York, but the minister of marine would not consent.

Big Gobbler Catches Frogs

Tears Up Hired Man's Red Flannel Shirt, Thereby Furnishing Owner With Dinner.

Cedar Brook, N. J.—Squire Hake Baldwin and a party of friends were furnished with a frog-leg dinner by Obadiah, a turkey gobbler the squire is fattening at his home for Thanksgiving.

Obadiah, like all turkey gobblers, is incensed at red. The family for this reason kep red out of sight. The hired man, Hans Oleson, however, washed out his red flannel shirt and laid it out on the grass to dry.

In the evening the squire and a party of friends were surprised to see nearly 100 large and small bullfrogs, hopping about, unable to croak, with a small fragment of flannel in their mouths. They weer caught and killed and eaten.

Obadiah was responsible for the catch. He had torn the red flannel shirt of the hired man to ribbons. The wind had carried the pieces to the swamp and the frogs had consumed them.

America Has 400,000 Autos.

New York.—Inquiry shows that there are 400,000 automobiles in the United States of an approximate value of $600,000,000. It is estimated that one-half of this vast sum is invested for automobile vehicles for commercial purposes and of actual utility to replace the work of horses, but the other $300,000,000 is invested in autos for pleasure.

Money Without Germs.

Washington.—To the old National Bank of Spokane belongs the distinction of circulating the first antiseptic germ-proof national bank notes.

Fifty thousand dollars in bills just put out by the bank were signed with an ink which consisted largely of carbolic acid. The result is the bills are saturated with an agency which means death to the most vigorous germ.

"UGLY" CASHIER IS WANTED

Real "Frights" Are Told They Are Too Good Looking—Contest Narrows to Three.

St. Louis.—Three of the prettiest of 25 applicants in answer to an advertisement for an "ugly" cashier were selected by Vincent J. Gorley, of Grimm & Gorley, florists. One of the three finally will be chosen for this job. Mr. Gorley said that some of the applicants were "frights." Others were beautiful, and nearly all declared they had overlooked the word "ugly" in the advertisement.

"We didn't want a 250-pound cashier," said Mr. Gorley, "and we really didn't care for any with all their teeth gone. We had several applicants who filled both descriptions. My idea in advertising for an ugly cashier was to get one who did not have such great personal charm that she would be proposed to by the first unmarried customer who happened to spy her.

"How did I get by with the impossible ones? That was easy. One must have weighed 250 pounds. I asked her if she was sure she could qualify in the 'ugly' class. She declared she had not noticed the word 'ugly' in the advertisement, and I assured her she was entirely too good looking. That was easy. She went out with a smile on her face. Finding it worked in one case I used that right along."

"I know I don't fulfill the requirements of ugliness specified in the advertisement," said the first applicant, with a flirtatious glance at herself in the mirror, "but I assure you I wouldn't marry the best man living."

A fond mother appeared with her daughter in tow. The latter was tall and lank.

"I'm afraid my daughter will not suit you," said the mother, "because you wanted an ugly girl, but she will never disappoint you by leaving you to marry. She is a confirmed man hater."

PET ANGORA CATS GET AWAY

Three Women Marooned at Long Island Railroad Station Until Pet Feline Is Captured.

Bellport, L. I.—A large pet Angora cat created quite a furore at the Bellport depot. As the 9:52 a. m. New York express pulled into the station a party of smartly-dressed women hurried out of a motor car and made a rush for the train. In the hurry of departure a large basket, carried by one of the women, was dropped, and out of the basket jumped a beautiful specimen of the Angora cat.

Frightened beyond reason the cat made a dive for shelter, and crawled under the station platform, to the consternation of his mistress and her companions. Cries of "Teddy! Teddy!" proved of no avail, and finally one of the women, dressed in immaculate white duck, went down on her hands and knees in an endeavor to coax the pet out. Teddy wouldn't budge.

In the meantime the train proceeded on its way, leaving the women behind. When the train had disappeared well toward Patchogue Teddy was still occupying his easy berth under the station platform. The next train for New York left Bellport at 4:25 p. m., and it's pretty certain that Teddy and his fair companions took plenty of time to connect with this train.

Singing Makes Fish Bite.

Winsted, Conn.—Do fish like music? That is a question fishermen are trying to solve. Every pleasant Sunday 150 cottagers assemble in boats of every description on Highland lake and listen to a sermon by an able preacher who has his pulpit on the land. It is a very noticeable fact, fishermen declare, that the fish bite better during the period of the sunset services than at any other part of the day.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

We Have Over Half of the New World

WASHINGTON—The indications being that the census will show the population of the United States to be over 90,000,000, it seems assured that the republic contains more than half of the inhabitants of the New World. It is quite probable that all of the remaining countries of this hemisphere have fewer than 80,000,000 inhabitants.

That point can never be settled definitely until conditions change radically in many extensive regions of Latin America. Now most of the states south of Mexico and north of the Argentine either make a farce of their census taking or else do not attempt it at any time.

Recent estimates, partly based upon census records, which have been made in South America and Central America, indicate that there are about 70,000,000 people living between the Rio Grande and Cape Horn, including the West Indies. Canada has perhaps 7,000,000, allowing for rapid growth since the census of 1901, and Newfoundland adds less than 250,000.

Unless the estimates, which seem most intelligently made, are very wide of the mark in several countries where there are no authentic and exact statistics of population, the total for the New World, outside of the United States, cannot exceed 80,000,000.

Brazil, much the largest country of South America, is the most populous in the Western Hemisphere, except the United States. It is probable that a full and careful enumeration of the Brazilians would show about 20,000,000 of them.

Mexico, only about 25 per cent of the size of Brazil in square miles, is safely established in third place among all the nations of the New World, as far as numbers go. In other respects the Argentine surpasses Mexico, and so does Canada. Their industrial output is greater and their foreign commerce is larger in every way.

Argentina and Canada are alike also, in growing so fast and with such assurance of continued swift expansion that they may overtake and pass Mexico. Their chief cities already surpass the largest civic centers in the country which Diaz makes his footstool. But now neither is within 6,000,000 of the Mexican total.

From these rivals, so unlike in many things, but so similar in their high hopes and their rapid development, down through countries like Peru, Columbia, Venezuela and Bolivia, the experts guess their way to the many small states which maintain a separate existence in Latin America. Costa Rica is probably the least of them all in numbers, counting but 350,000 residents. Cuba is fairly well filled up, ranking in density of population with several of the Southern states.

As a rule, with comparatively few exceptions, Latin America is rich in unsettled country. A very large part of the vast expanse of land south of the Mexican frontier, all the way to the southern end of South America lies open to settlement.

Some day such wealth in unused natural resources must cause great growth, but that is a matter of the indefinite future. For the present it is certain that the United States will hold its lead over the other countries of the New World, counting all of them together.

Gives No Money for Road Building

AS regularly as the sessions roll around, congress sidesteps, smothers or overrides all propositions which would embark the government in the business of road building. The logic and importance in the outcry for "goodroads" is universally admitted; but everybody's business comes perilously near having nobody's attention.

Some communities, townships, counties and a few states have made more or less real progress towards improving the highways locally. Where the states take a hand a beginning is made towards obtaining "through routes." But, despite all that has been said for a revival of road building, notwithstanding editorial support from publications of all partisan shades, the movement as yet has no central organization which presses the work along broad lines.

The federal government thus far cooperates only by giving advice. It maintains a small bureau in the department of agriculture devoted first to the propaganda of the good roads idea and secondly to the maintenance of a limited corps of experts, who, when their assistance is solicited, will make suggestions as to the best methods for road building under given circumstances, and to a certain extent experiments in the use of materials are conducted by the specialists of this bureau. Here the government stops, for the reason that dominant view in congress has been that this properly delimits the government's function.

Representative Anthony of Kansas introduced a bill in the house last winter for the construction of a military highway between Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, 100 miles, by convicts in the two federal penitentiaries at Fort Leavenworth. The bill was lost after a debate that developed into a general discussion of the good roads movement.

The measure had the indorsement of President Taft, the chief of staff of the army and the quartermaster general. General J. Franklin Bell, then chief of staff, stated in a letter to Representative Anthony that the proposed road would unquestionably be of great military value and convenience." Farmers of many townships through which the proposed road would run offered to supply all the rock and other material to be used in its construction.

Like others of its kind, this measure was wrecked upon constitutional rocks. The opponents of the bill contended that General Bell did not claim the road to be a military necessity, and that, if not done for this purpose, the government could not build it, because the constitution authorizes the construction of only such roads as are required to meet military necessities and post roads.

Capital Boys Are to Be Suppressed

REGULATIONS to protect children from danger of injury and to have them looked after for violations of the regulations are to be enforced by the Washington police.

"The danger to children who make playgrounds of the streets," says Maj. Sylvester, "has been long since established. Now that there are public playgrounds in different sections of the city the children should use them rather than risk their lives."

Complaints against children playing on the streets sometimes cause a peck of trouble to the police.

Children jump upon moving streetcars. Others stand upon the streets. Others are loud and boisterous.

In past years Maj. Sylvester has favored the enactment of a limited curfew law. He still thinks something should be done for the better protection of children's morals.

"Death and accident have been caused by street cars and other vehicles," the superintendent of police says. "On the other hand, children playing on the streets have caused destruction to property.

"Ball playing on the streets," he continued, "has resulted in complaints on account of noises and broken windows. The same hue and cry is raised when vacant lots are used for baseball and other games. At times, in certain localities, large and noisy gatherings are attracted."

Maj. Sylvester wants the members of his command to deal gently with boys who cause trouble. While he wants the youngsters to get what enjoyment they can, he does not, however, want them to violate the law.

Street corner gatherings are to be broken up, the superintendent says. Indulgence in profanity and other bad language is to mean punishment. All offenders who are caught will be prosecuted. The police think that keeping boys off the streets at night would accomplish much good.

Government Has No Hall of Records

AS the country has been told about once a day for the last 20 years, the United States Government has no place of records, no place where it can store the valuable documents which from time to time it is necessary to clear out of the departments and put some place for safe keeping. This being the case when a fire broke out the other day under the offices of the geological survey there was wild excitement. In the basement of the store that got on fire are the records and archives of the geological survey. These are invaluable and if destroyed could never be replaced, but the United States Government is obliged to use its different departments in old buildings all over Washington, in constant danger threatens the destruction of valuable archives whenever a fire breaks out, and there is not any reason why a fire should not break out in a non-fireproof building.

The loss of government property in this fire is thought to be less than $1,000, but in the library over the fire was a unique collection of geological literature containing more than 65,000 volumes, 85,000 pamphlets and 36,000 maps, the most complete collection of geological works and maps in this country if not in the world.

What the United States Government needs is a magnificent hall of records, where all the valuable archives of the government might be stored in absolutely fireproof vaults. Some day after a few hundred million dollars' worth of these valuable records have been destroyed congress will give us a hall of records.

'Fess Up!

Why are you so indignant because people talk about matters that do not concern them? You do it.—Atchison Globe.

On Leaving Eden.

Eve—"Shall we take the snake with us?" Adam—"Well, I guess not; people will think we are going into vaudeville."