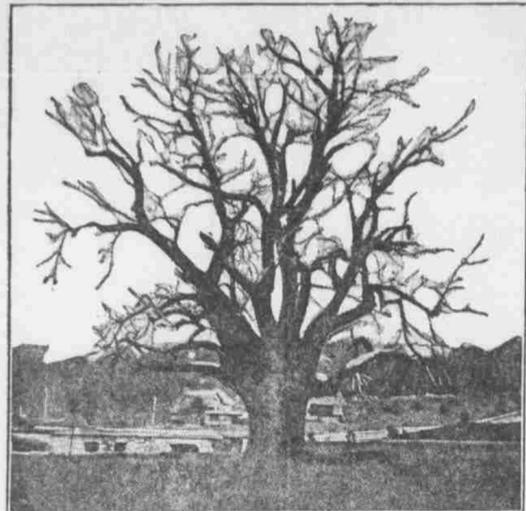


# CURIOUS PLACES AND EVENTS

## Ancient Indian Treaty Tree



This great chestnut tree at Phillips Manor, near New York, is being carefully preserved, though it is dying, for under it was made the last treaty between the whites and the native Indians. It is said, too, that in its shade Washington Irving wrote "The Headless Horseman." The tree is more than twenty feet in circumference at its base and before long will be covered with trailing vines.

## NEW SECT IN AN OLD TEMPLE FORCED TO DINE ON BOOKS



A sect called the "Sons of Men," said to be of Tibetan origin, has been worshipping since 1906 in the prehistoric stone-circle of Stonehenge, England, generally believed to be a temple of the sun. This fact is thought by some archaeologists to corroborate the solar temple hypothesis of Sir Norman Lockyer, the day of the summer solstice having been chosen by the new sect to pay their homage to the great luminary. (The pilgrims to this ancient temple are mostly Hindus, Arabians and Persians and their sect is increasing rapidly in numbers.

## ACCIDENTS AND THE WEATHER

A certain railroad has made an interesting investigation which shows that on its system the number of accidents was greater in the summer months than in winter. It was also discovered that the number of engine failures was affected in like manner. On this railway special efforts had always been made to prevent failures during the severe winter season, and the men were kept up to a high pitch in their efforts to reduce them to a minimum. When the warmer weather set in and the elements were more favorable it was found that these efforts were relaxed, with the result that failures and accidents followed. Special steps were made to overcome this tendency, and it is now the practice as early as January and February for the officials of the mechanical engineer's department to put in hand a campaign guarding against failures when the warmer weather sets in and the operating conditions become more favorable. It is said that the results of this action have been remarkable; the failures and accidents now recorded being much fewer than for the corresponding period of previous years before anything was done in the matter.

## ANIMALS DON'T NEED EYES

Animals do not depend upon their eyesight in the same way as human beings. Cats and dogs could get along very well without eyes. A cat can find her way with the aid of her whiskers. These are the same width as her body and connected with nerves which cause her to feel the slightest touch.

Dogs can be entirely guided by their sense of smell. Blind dogs have been known to scent and find their way to almost inaccessible places. Their hearing is also preternaturally sharp.

Hats can see very little, and depend chiefly upon their noses, muscles, touch, and hearing. In the case of most animals the senses of smell and touch are more highly developed than that of sight, and they do not require to depend upon their sight nearly as much as do human beings in regard to safety.

## CAVERNS OF THE SHENANDOAH

Among the most famous caverns of the world rank the grottoes of the Shenandoah in the famous valley of Virginia. These caverns with their wonderful formations stretch for miles in Augusta county, in the vicinity of Mount Meridian. Just within the entrance is a group of human-like stalagmites called the "Sentinels." Passing these one comes to the "Cataract," "Solomon's Temple" and other wonders.

## WHY OUR CLOTHES WEAR OUT

The answer is given as follows in a recent issue of the Outfitter (London): Most people would reply through friction when in wear, but these are not the main causes, according to advanced ideas. It is believed the greater cause of the damage done by dirt is due to minute plants called bacteria. The acid in the perspiration gets much more than its due amount of credit. An American writes: "The real destruction comes from the fact that the grease from the fat glands of the skin, together with the perspiration rubbed off on the clothing, form a fertile soil in which these microscopic bacteria flourish." Some of the bacteria develop powerful acids—that class that makes sweet milk sour and converts wine into vinegar. These fibers of wool and silk, or the vegetable fibers of linen and cotton, and weaken them so that the fabric falls to pieces. Of course, clothing can be, and is, destroyed by laundries that use chemicals too strong, which act upon the fibers of the cloth. Clothes that cannot be washed should be brushed and aired frequently, as this tends to keep the germs out to a certain extent. If clothes are allowed to accumulate dust in a shop or fixture they get rotten and tear easily, owing to the acid-forming bacteria getting in with the dirt. They should be frequently brushed, and exposed as much as possible to the air.

## RAINCOATS MADE OF GRASS

In certain provinces of both the Philippines and Mexico grass raincoats are commonly worn by the natives. In both countries the volume of the rainfall from the tropical showers is difficult of comprehension for people in the United States. The rain descends in almost solid sheets and ordinary umbrellas are of no use whatever. These rains sift through the best umbrellas in a fine, dense mist and soak the user as effectively as though he were uncovered. Not so with the grass raincoat. Although apparently light and airy the grasses are so cleverly woven that the water never penetrates to the inside of the mesh. These grass coats give the native wearers a shaggy appearance, which baffles description. By reason of their "natural" color and appearance they also enable the hunter to successfully stalk game, while if he assumes a stationary position most animals and birds will unhesitatingly approach within easy range of gun or of the bow and arrow of the wilder tribes.

## OLDEST CHURCH IN ENGLAND



The Church of St. Laurence, Bradford-on-Avon, was founded in the seventh century by St. Aldhelm, a bishop of Sherborne, and a service is held annually in it on the anniversary of St. Aldhelm's death. The sacred character of the building had been forgotten, but was traced by a former vicar of Bradford. This is the oldest place of Christian worship in England.

## DREAMED OF PEARL; GOT IT

E. D. Wermuth, camping near La Crosse, Wis., dreamed he saw a large pearl lying on the bottom of the river. He was so much impressed by the vision that he dived into the water at the point where he had seen the pearl in his dream and brought two large clams to the surface. In one of them he found a pearl worth \$500 and in the other one worth \$50.

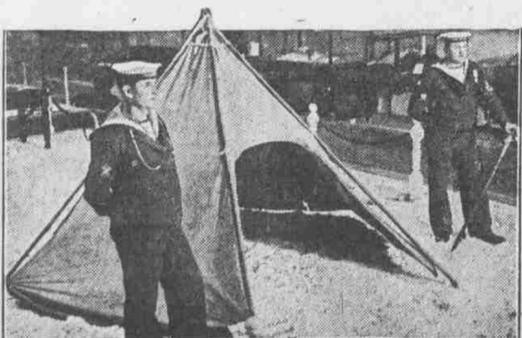
## Poor Praise.

When the best that people can say of a man is that he is a "good fellow," it is a waste of time to ask what he is good for.—Youth's Companion.

## For the Piano.

Place a small bag of unlacqued lime inside the piano; it will keep the strings and metal from rusting.

## Tent in Which Scott Died



The survivors of Captain Scott's tragic expedition to the South Pole are being feted and honored in England, and the public is crowding to see the relics, which have been put on exhibition. The illustration shows the actual tent in which Captain Scott and two companions died. Guarding it are two members of the exploring party.

# NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



## Autos for the Cabinet a New Topic at Capital



WASHINGTON.—The requisition of Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson for three automobiles, two for personal and one for departmental use, has brought up the subject of the private use of government conveyances. The demand for automobiles by the secretary of labor is based on the claim that "it is just as cheap now to purchase, maintain and operate a motorcar as it is a horse and wagon or buggy."

When bills come in, there is an extended debate over the "misuse" of the government vehicles by army and navy officers and others connected with the various departments. It is annually charged that government automobiles and horses and carriages and army mules are used for private calls. It is alleged that army officers and others attend social functions at the expense of the government. Sometimes, when there is a dance at one of the big hotels, visitors from Fort Myer come over in a wagon behind army mules. Several years ago in an effort to stop the promiscuous use of government teams, Uncle Sam had all of his vehicles marked, and that did not prove a success. The old practice continues.

The wives of cabinet members are entitled to the use of government vehicles for shopping or calling. With the horses and carriages goes a liveried driver.

The request of Mr. Wilson, coming as it does from the most modest department of the government, has caused much comment about Washington. On Sundays, especially when the weather is fine, it is not unusual to see most of the cabinet teams out in Connecticut avenue, going to or from church. The member of the cabinet and his wife ride in one carriage and the children and other members of the family in another. In the case of a bachelor, like Attorney General McReynolds, the carriage is used for night riding around the Speedway, where the gentle breezes from the river circulate.

## Cabinet Officers Are Patrons of Lunch Rooms

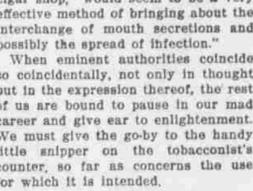
"SOME of the members of the cabinet have solved the problem of reducing the cost of living to figures within their incomes," said Col. Richard Ryan of Denver the other day. "In my trips to Washington in the last 20 years I have observed that I can get a pretty good quality of buttermilk at some of the dairy lunch-rooms, but I was somewhat surprised recently to find at my elbow in one of these lunch rooms the secretary of the treasury, Mr. McAdoo, and two days ago I stood shoulder to shoulder with Secretary of War Garrison. 'I wonder if the people of Washington know that the milk and pie lunch room is peculiarly a Washington institution and that a former secretary of the treasury, more than any other person, was responsible for its popularity?' In the seventies, the late Frank Ward opened the first of these lunch rooms in the Corcoran building on Fifteenth street. It was not a big success at first, but one day John Sherman, secretary of the treasury in



President Hayes' cabinet, happened to notice the lunch room and went in to investigate. He drank a mug of milk and ate a sandwich and returned to his office. Thereafter he became a regular customer. It didn't take long till it was noised about among the treasury clerks that the secretary was a patron of the Ward lunch room and the business boomed.

"Frank Ward has been dead many years. He was killed by a trolley car on Georgia avenue, but the dairy lunch so modestly started by him in Washington, I think in 1879, is now to be found in every city and good sized village in the United States.

## Health Service Warns Against Cigar Clipper



## Beware the public cigar clipper

Such was the warning sent out the other day by the public health service of the United States.

"This," read the statement, referring to the automatic clipper of the cigar shop, "would seem to be a very effective method of bringing about the interchange of mouth secretions and possibly the spread of infection."

When eminent authorities coincide so coincidentally, not only in thought but in the expression thereof, the rest of us are bound to pause in our mad career and give ear to enlightenment. We must give the go-by to the handy little snipper on the tobacconist's counter, so far as concerns the use for which it is intended.

## Just Smiled, Shook Hands and Let Them Go

THERE is no doubt that George Uhler, supervising inspector general of the steamboat inspection service, department of commerce, closely resembles in appearance William Howard Taft, now a professor at Yale and formerly president of the United States.

General Uhler, as the general supervising inspector general is called, frequently found it embarrassing during the Taft regime to visit any of the executive departments. No sooner would he enter the building than the messengers of ebony hue would turn white and in their salams almost knock their heads on the floor.

The neat and prompt contrivance will still be of some use. In its ever ready self-cocking, hair-trigger way, it can still snip slices off inquiring fingers, as of yore. It will still subserve the useful purpose of chopping superfluous members into small bits—a favorite pastime in the temperance pool room of our mispent youth. The cigar store man will doubtless keep it wound up and waiting for what it may devour, for the cigar store business is founded on habit.

But we must ignore, avoid, eschew, shun, evade, elude and otherwise escape it and its peril. Be advised and chaw off your cigars, unless you carry a pocket clipper or a jackknife or—and this is considered very knowing—you may squeeze the tip of a good ten-center between your thumbs until the wrapper bursts. But on no account insert in the sock of the public clipper any filthy weed you intend putting to your lips. For whatever may be your ideas on the subject of interchanging mouth secretions you surely don't wish to be promiscuous about it.

Close on their heels a couple with a Washington guidebook in their possession timidly stopped, shook hands and said how pleased they were to meet him. Then the procession of handshakers became continuous.

General Uhler didn't want to hurt the feelings of any of them—so he just smiled, shook hands and let 'em go. Instead of transferring at Seventh street for the wharves, he rode away past the capitol so the remaining staring passengers wouldn't wonder why he—the supposed Mr. Taft and former president of the United States—was going down to the river front on a Sunday morning, with no boats leaving until night.

Would Be Waste of Time. "Why don't they let women make wills in some places?" "Because they think it is waste of energy. Women have wills already made."

# HOME OF MAD KING

Place the Most Enchanting of Fairy Castles.

Residence of Prince Ludwig of Bavaria in Grand Court But Withal is a Very Sad and Lonely Place.

Berlin.—Neuschwanstein is a dream tale, a fairy tale castle of the most faultless kind, the only thing lacking in the memories of the beautiful princess, the knights and ladies and the court fool, for no one ever lived here but a lonely, sad prince, Ludwig II. of Bavaria, called the Mad King.

Although he was so lonely, he loved solitude and it was very seldom that he ever had guests and then they were mostly men, for Ludwig hated all women except two, one his cousin, Elizabeth of Austria, who was shot in Geneva a number of years ago, and the other was Marie Antoinette, to whose memory Ludwig was devoted.

We left Munich early in the morning and we arrived at Fussen at noon. The distance was not great, but the train goes in a circle instead of on a direct line. It was a wonderful ride and all the way along we saw the Bavarian Alps sometimes on one side of the car window and sometimes on the other, for they switched about like magic.

Fussen is a funny little village situated at the foot of the mountains. Here we hired a rig that was to take us to Hohenschwangau, where the castles of Hohenschwangau and Neuschwanstein are situated. Our driver was a mountain peasant with a huge golter on his neck. This disease is very common in all the highland regions of Bavaria and Switzerland, and comes from the water of the country. Our rig was not exactly dashing. It was intended for two horses, and as our driver only possessed one horse he hitched it on one side and the horse had to walk sideways to keep the rig from tipping over.

The country from Fussen to Hohenschwangau was perfectly flat, and we



crossed over several little streams and passed several beautiful lakes. The driver explained everything to us in a language that even a northern German could not understand, and he flourished his whip around and tossed the feather in his Alpine hat.

When we came near Hohenschwangau we caught our first glimpse of Neuschwanstein, standing white and dazzling against the green of the mountains. It is a much smaller looking castle than one would think from its pictures, but it looked so complete, so compact that it seemed exactly the right size.

We lunched at the inn before starting up the mountain and our waiter told us that he did not think we could get into the castle as it was an off season. However, we determined to try and we started up the little zig-zag foot path up the mountain. After we had climbed and climbed we came to a fine boulevard, which led directly to the castle gate.

Looking over the wall built at the castle gate we got a splendid view of all the surrounding country. It was a flat country dotted over with shining lakes and small villages. The castle of Hohenschwangau looked old and faded besides the glory of Neuschwanstein. Away in the distance we could see the faint outline of the Alps.

We sounded the castle bell several times before we got an answer, but finally a spruce looking young German opened the gates and explained that we could not be admitted. But a five mark piece made him change his mind and he said that he would show us part of the castle, the part that Ludwig occupied during his three years' residence there.

We went through one splendid room after another, and everywhere we saw swans, and nearly every room was done in blue—royal blue. This blue was Ludwig's favorite color and he always had his bed chamber hung in it no matter where he lived. It is so rich a color, it affects the senses like the sound of music. The swans were woven into the most intricate patterns, on the ceiling, on the drapery, and carved on the chairs. In the center of the state dining table was a great white swan, that was meant to hold fruit and flowers.

## COFFIN TOO BIG FOR DOOR

Body of an Enormous Man Is Left Outside the Church During Mass Inside.

# Write to Smith

When your shoes wear out what do you do—kick and go barefooted? No, you get new ones.

If your land's played out, growing about it won't help. Look around and see where you can do better. Maybe you're just in a rut and don't know it.

Some of the best land in this universe is along the lines of the

# Union Pacific

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The interest this great system has in this country is to settle it with people who will be a credit to the country and to see that those people have a full and complete knowledge of conditions before they go out. That's why it appointed Smith.

After you have found out all you want to know, go out there and see it. The Union Pacific has made

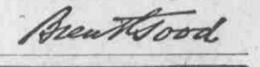
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