INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE CITIES

Adventure of Evanston's Juul of a Policewoman

EVANSTON, ILL.—The adventure of Mrs. Georgiana Juul with the disorderly man on the lake front is probably told in episodes, so to speak. By way of preliminary let it be understood that Mrs. Juul is Evanston's policewoman. Evanston, known far and wide as the "City of Churches," really needs little in the way of police. However, a stranger occasionally enters and misbehaves, so Evanston feels it advisable to have a police department. Besides, women policemen are all the style just now and Evanston is always in the front ranks of the procession.

Well, the occasional stranger appeared in Evanston. He appeared on the lake front at the foot of Davis street. He was deporting himself in a disorderly fashion, according to Evanston standards. Being a stranger, he picked out a singularly unsuitable place for his performance.

Episode 1.—Policewoman Juil promptly arrives upon the scene and puts the disorderly stranger under arrest. In honor of the occasion she is attired in a costume which includes a new hobble skirt.

Episode 2.—The disorderly stranger, after a detailed inspection of the policewoman's costume, laughs and runs. Mrs. Juul undertakes to pursue, but her skirt just will not let her.

Episode 3.—The policewoman pulls her trusty revolver. She aims it. She pulls the trigger. But the trusty revolver refuses to go off.

Episode 4.—The policewoman grabs her police whistle. She puts it to her lips. She blows. But the whistle declines to whistle.

Episode 5.—The policewoman makes her way to the station. She reports the disorderly stranger. She reports the arrest. She reports the revolver. She reports the whistle. And she whispers in the desk sergeant's ear.

Episode 6.—The desk sergeant enters the report and margins it, "Don't give out to reporters." But the marginal note refused to work.

Well, these things happen, even in the best-regulated police departments. Even in Chicago several hold-up outfits may get away in one day.

Grave of Her Convict Son at Her Rainbow's End

HAMMOND, IND.—The Salvation Army found her, on her fifty-seventh birthday, penniless and alone in the railroad station here, hoping to get to Butte, Mont., where her sister lives. Her only treasure was a small photograph of the type used in rogue's galleries. It was the picture of a young man of twenty-two, who had been convicted of burglary. For 18 years the woman had been following a rainbow of hope. She had just come to the rainbow's end—and found the grave of a convict in the cemetery of the New York reformatory at Elmira.

A pretty five-year-old boy, golden haired and sturdy, was playing on the grass in front of a little farmhouse in Athens township, New York. In a buggy, outside the fence, a woman watched him, charmed. Then she called:

"Come here, sonny."

The boy trotted out to the road. The woman helped him into the buggy and talked to him. Finally, after looking closely at the house and seeing no one, she whipped up her horse and sped away with the child beside her.

That was in 1900. Eighteen years later the mother, grown old and gray in unceasing search throughout the country for her son, received a letter from Mrs. Nancy Browning of South Hills, Pa. She got it purely by chance, for she had married again since her boy's disappearance and now was not Mrs. John Kipp, but Mrs. Amos Shoemaker.

"I am dying," Mrs. Browning said, "and I cannot go in peace until I tell you that I kidnaped your boy. When the boy grew up he left me."

Sympathetic strangers took the sorrowing mother to Chicago, gave her a birthday dinner, bought her a ticket and sent her on her way.

Miss Dee Van Balkom: "A Girl Without a Country"

CHICAGO.—Her name is Dee Van Balkom. She was born on her father's tobacco plantation in Sumatra. She was sent to Paris to be educated at an early age, and graduated from the London Conservatory of Music. When she was sixteen years old her father, who was a Hollander, died of fever and Dee came to America with her mother, a French woman. She had been in this country one a short time when the war broke out.

Dee Van Balkom wanted to do something to help. She had traveled all over the world, spoke five languages, and was an accomplished pianist. She could drive a car. She joined the ambulance service of the Canadian army, and sailed for the front. In 1916 the girl veteran returned to America; but not to stay. After a brief rest she sailed for France once more, this time as a wireless operator in the signal corps of the United States army. After the signing of the armistice, Miss Van Balkom was transported back to this country and honorably discharged.

It was not until she had been offered a position in South America and had attempted to get her passports that Miss Van Balkom discovered that she was a "girl without a country."

Then some ingenious person suggested that she go to one of the large base hospitals and be married to a dying soldier. Thus she would automatically assume her husband's nationality.

The idea rather appealed to the "girl without a country" until she happened to wander into the court of domestic relations and remained for an hour.

"But after what I've heard here—no!" she said. "If I married a stranger and he lived to prove like some of these men! No—I'd rather be a 'girl without a country.'"

Denver Discusses the "Evil-Eye" Hope Diamond

DENVER.—This city has talked long and variously about the death by accident of Vinson Walsh McLean, the $200,000,000 baby," at the Washington country mansion of the McLeans—and about the Hope diamond. For Mrs. Edward Beal McLean is the daughter of the late Thomas Walsh, millionaire mine operator of Denver. Walsh was one of the most noted mining men of Denver. He was the discoverer of the famous Camp Bird mine in the San Juan district. He took many millions from it and then sold the control of it to a London syndicate for $10,000,000. At one time King Leopold of Belgium was a partner in the mine; at the birth of Vinson the Belgian ruler sent the child a gold cradle. Evelyn Walsh McLean inherited a large portion of the estate of her father. This fortune was supposed to be vast. But at the time of the probating of the will it was found that there was but $6,210,000 to be divided between the two heirs of the McLean marriage—Vinson and John R. McLean, Jr. So the "$200,000,000 baby" bubble was exploded.

Perhaps, however, the Denver gossips talked most of the famous or infamous Hope diamond. As everybody knows, Mr. McLean purchased the stone for his wife to wear at a ball in 1911. And the superstitious of Denver point to the grim history of the noted gem and speak of its "evil eye."

Death and disaster have followed the stone since its arrival in France from India in 1638.

The WASHINGTON MONUMENT

"BUILD it to the stars; you cannot outreach the loftiness of his principles. Found it upon the massive and eternal rock; you cannot make it more enduring than his fame! Construct it of the peerless Parian marble; you cannot make it purer than his life! Exhaust upon it the rules and principles of ancient and modern art; you cannot make it more proportionate than his character."—From the speech of Robert C. Winthrop at the laying of the corner stone of the Washington monument July 4, 1848.

In the National Geographic Magazine three years ago William Howard Taft wrote of the Washington monument: "Taken by itself, the Washington monument stands not only as one of the most stupendous works of man, but also as one of the most beautiful of all human creations. Indeed it is at once so great and so simple that it seems to be almost a work of nature. Dominating the entire District of Columbia, it has taken its place with the capitol and the White House as the three foremost national structures.

"With a new character for each new hour, a different aspect for every change of light and shade, the Washington monument seems to link heaven and earth in the darkness, to pierce the sky in the light and to stand an immovable mountain peak as the mists of every storm go driving by. With a height of 555 feet, a base of 55 feet square, and walls tapering from 15 feet at the base to 18 inches at the top; with its interior lined with memorial stones from the several states, from many famous organizations and from a number of foreign countries; with its stately simplicity and the high qualities of manhood it honors, it is fitting that the aluminum tip that caps it should bear the phrase 'Laus Deo.'"

"Stately simplicity" is what makes the Washington monument one of the greatest in the world, observes the Kansas City Star.

Original Plan Changed.

The original plan of the designer, Robert Mills, was to have as the main feature of the monument a large columned pantheon to be used as a museum for war relics and statues of great men, and the obelisk was to arise from its center and surmount the whole.

The pantheon idea was abandoned later when the monument came to be built, and everyone feels now that it is a good thing it was so, because a building of any kind at its base would only detract from its sublimity and grandeur.

Washington himself selected the site for the monument, but at that time the intention was to erect an equestrian statue, which congress had voted for in 1783. Nothing was done until 1833, when Chief Justice John Marshall headed a movement called the "Washington Monument society," to solicit funds to build it. It was then the architect, Robert Mills, designed an obelisk surmounting a colonnade of Doric columns.

Some money was collected, but not enough to build it as planned, so the pantheon feature was abandoned and work begun on the obelisk. The corner stone, weighing twelve tons, was laid July 4, 1848, in the presence of 20,000 people.

In 1855 the funds ran out and work was stopped, and for twenty years the partly constructed monument remained an ugly stub. But the centennial exposition of 1876 brought a revival of patriotism and there was a nation-wide demand that the monument be finished. Congress took hold of it, funds were asked for from every state, as well as contributions of stone blocks with which to line the interior.

In 1880 work on the monument was resumed, but on altered plans. The foundations were enlarged and strengthened and the shaft increased in height. In 1884 it was finished at a total cost of $1,200,000.

Lower Walls 15 Feet Thick.

Following is a detailed description of the monument taken from the Rand-McNally Guide to Washington:

"The foundations are described as constructed of a mass of solid blue rock 146 feet square.

"The base of shaft is 55 feet square and the lower walls are 15 feet thick. At the 500-foot elevation, where the pyramid top begins, the walls are only 18 inches thick and about 35 feet square. The inside of the walls, as far as they were constructed before the work was undertaken by the government in 1879—150 feet from the base—is of blue granite, not laid in courses. From this point to within a short distance of the beginning of the top of the roof the inside of the walls is of regular courses of granite, corresponding with the courses of marble on the outside. For the top marble is entirely used. The work has been declared the best piece of masonry in the world. By a plumb line suspended from the top of the monument inside not three-eighths of an inch deflection has been noticed. The keystone that binds the interior ribs of stone that support the marble facing of the pyramid cap of the monument weighs nearly five tons. It is four feet six inches high and three feet six inches square at the top.

"On the 6th day of December, 1884, the capstone, which completed the shaft, was set. The capstone is five feet 2½ inches in height, and its base is somewhat more than three feet square. At its cap, or peak, it is five inches in diameter. On the cap was placed a tip or point of aluminum, a composition metal which resembles polished silver, and which was selected because of its lightness and freedom from oxidation and because it will always remain bright.

Staircase With 900 Steps.

"A staircase of 900 steps winds its way to the top, around an interior shaft of iron pillars, in which the elevator runs; few people walk up, but many descend that way, in order to examine more carefully the inscribed memorial blocks which are set into the interior wall at various places. Within the shaft formed by the interior iron framework runs an elevator, making a trip every half hour and carrying, if need be, thirty persons. As this elevator and its ropes are of unusual strength and were severely tested by use in elevating the stone required for the upper courses as the structure progressed, its safety need not be suspected. The elevator is lighted by electricity and carries a telephone. Seven minutes are required for the ascent of 500 feet; and one can see as he passes all the inscriptions and carvings sufficiently well to satisfy the curiosity of most persons, as none of these memorials has any artistic excellence. An officer in charge of the floor marshals visitors into the elevator and another cares for the observatory floor at the top; but no fees are expected. The surrounding grounds form Washington park.

"The view from the eight small windows, which open through the pyramidon, or sloping summit of the obelisk, 517 feet from the ground, includes a circle of level country having a radius of from fifteen to twenty miles, and southwest extends still farther, for in clear weather the Blue Ridge is well defined in that direction. The Potomac is in sight from up near Chain bridge down to far below Mount Vernon, and the whole district lies unrolled like a map. To climb the Washington monument is, therefore, an excellent method of beginning an intelligent survey of the capital and of 'getting one's bearing.'"

Eats a Thousand Bugs.

A cliff swallow will eat a thousand flies, mosquitoes, wheat-midgets or beetles that injure fruit trees in a day and therefore are to be encouraged, says the American Forestry association, of Washington, which is conducting the nation-wide campaign among school children for bird-house building. This bird is also known as the cave swallow because it plasters its nest on the outside of a barn or other building up under the eaves. Colonies of several thousand will build their nests together on the side of a cliff. These nests shaped like a flattened gourd or water-bottle are made of bits of clay rolled into pellets and lined with straw or feathers. This bird winters in the tropics.

Spray Painting Corrugated Steel.

The corrugated steel used for airplane hangars in this country and overseas was painted before shipment. Owing to the large quantity of steel, it was out of the question to do this work by hand and machines could not be used on account of the corrugations. For this reason, a spray system of painting was employed. First, the sheets were coated with red lead before being corrugated, and after that they received a coating of green on one side and gray on the other side, applied by means of a jet 14 inches wide.—Scientific American.

Every Element in Purchase of Thrift Stamps Contributes to Patriotism

BY THE WIFE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL

The habit of saving by means of Thrift and War Savings stamps is a personal benefit as well as a help to the country, combining patriotism with a good and thoroughly safe business investment.

The person who with his savings is taking a part in financing his country takes up the same relationship to his country as a new investor in any enterprise. Like the investor in an industrial project he has a personal interest in the organization, the management, and the prosperity of the nation. He pays careful attention to public affairs, and a hitherto indifferent attitude is transformed into scrutinizing and critcal thought. He has a new desire to promote in every way the well-being of the country. The well-being of a country, thus looked after, becomes a matter of healthy development, and lends no encouragement to bolshevist or anarchist.

There is a patriotism, too, in the personal gain accruing to the individual from investment in War Savings stamps paying four per cent interest compounded quarterly. The person who is accumulating such a reserve fund is ready to better his condition when the opportunity comes his way; he cannot be shipwrecked by some unexpected storm of adversity; putting his savings into Thrift stamps and War Savings stamps, he is developing the habit of handling his earnings to their best advantage; he is keeping out of debt; he is evolving steady habits of self-development. A nation of such individuals means national stability and ever-increasing growth.

In other words, every element in the purchase of War Savings stamps contributes to patriotism. Even the personal profit they pay makes for national solidity and advancement, for War Savings stamps are constructed in such fashion that they benefit both the buyer and the government.

Mrs A. Mitchell Palmer

Object Lesson: Americanizing Public Schools by Wartime Activities

By HARRIET A. ECKHARDT, Principal Swift School, Chicago

Americanizing the public school through financial war time activities has proved a most illuminating object lesson to the teachers of the Swift school, to the parents of the pupils and to the boys and girls themselves.

The Swift school, established five years ago, and named for George B. Swift, the forty-fifth mayor of Chicago, is an elementary school with about nine hundred pupils. The grades include kindergarten to eighth; the ages are from five to thirteen. It is in the Twenty-fifth ward, on the North side, and in a fairly well-to-do neighborhood. It may be said to be a typical big-city American public school.

The Swift teachers proudly say, "Our million-dollar school." By this we mean that its war activities during the last two years have amounted to over a million dollars. The Liberty loan sales, including the Victory loan sale of $318,000, aggregate $918,150. The Red Cross activities include memberships, $1,252.25; ambulance, $1,795, and Belgian clothing fund of $285 raised by sale of 21 tons of paper collected by children, and the total is $5,923.55. War activities include Y. M. C. A., canteen and library contributions, and total $3,281.61. The sale of War Savings stamps to pupils aggregates $20,027, and the school itself has an investment in stamps of $2,455, the proceeds of entertainments. The grand total is $1,020,837.16.

The nation has therefore been served by the Swift school to no small extent. But the benefit to the Swift school—to the teachers, the pupils, the parents, the community and the school as a school—has been far greater in proportion. This benefit can hardly be set forth in comprehensive detail. It includes, however, outstanding items like these:

Unifying of teachers, of pupils and of teachers and pupils, and development of the school spirit; the Swift motto is "Loyalty," and its banner is blue and white.

Formation of habits of saving and thrift; appreciation of value of money; acquaintance with business methods; knowledge of the power of organization and teamwork; training in individual thinking and in public speaking.

Increased interest in American history and institutions and in national affairs; a splendid spirit of loyalty and responsibility to school, city and country.

Advice to American Disabled Soldiers From Their French "Grandfather"

By DR. MAURICE BOURRILLON, Paris

Since I am director of the National Institute for Disabled Soldiers at Paris and since I have been called the grandfather of the movement for the rehabilitation of disabled soldiers, let me speak to you as I should speak to my children and give you a few words of advice before I leave your powerful and wonderful country. I have just been visiting the first institutions which the American people have organized for giving you assistance in the reconstruction of your lives.

If you have lost an arm or a leg, or even both, or are otherwise permanently disabled, you can still become a skillful workman in a trade which will be carefully chosen for you. Or, if you prefer, you can complete your general instruction, and after education in certain subjects find splendid positions in commercial, industrial or scientific firms. I firmly believe that, just as our French soldiers have done, you will understand that it is your duty both to America and to yourselves to put into the reconstruction of your lives the same ardor and courage which you gave evidence of when you came to the aid of France.

Many of our French soldiers believed that inasmuch as they had been wounded in serving the nation the nation ought to support them for the rest of their lives. France no more than America thinks of quibbling over the right of her wounded soldiers to generous compensation for their disabilities, but she is convinced that she should give a further proof of her appreciation of the valiant defenders by placing them in a position to serve their country again through their work.