

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

Interesting Notes From Across the Ocean.

HAPPENINGS IN THE FATHERLAND.

Principal Events That Have Occurred in the Old Countries About the North Sea Within a Week or So Just Past.

Verdens Gang, the great Norwegian daily, which never grows tired of finding fault with the Swedish government, recently contained a highly significant editorial, from which the following is an extract: It may be safely said that never before did the most influential newspapers of Sweden manifest such a conciliatory spirit toward Norway, nor express such strong wishes for a settlement of the union differences on the basis of equality. It is openly admitted that the royal family and its individual members ought to assume such an attitude toward Norway as conforms with its standing as an independent and equal kingdom in the union. The time has never been more favorable than now for settling an essential part of the union problem, provided the responsible men of the two countries are somewhat equal to the great task confronting them. A little ability and good-will on both sides will surely lead to a settlement of the consular service question, and it is an open secret that the law relating to consular charges will be enforced in the near future. An agreement on this point will be a great stride toward a settlement of the whole question, toward friendship and inviolable unity. The conviction that Norway and Sweden can hope for a perpetuation of their independence only by means of standing firm, shoulder to shoulder, has never been more profound than now. Calamitous events have taught us this lesson; but they have also taught us that internal unity will insure a prosperous future and the continuation of our peculiar civilization.

Rossija, a great Russian newspaper, recently contained an article in which the complaints of the Norwegians in regard to the union of Sweden and Norway were endorsed, while the Swedes were criticised. The article in question plainly reveals the eagerness of the Russians to aggravate the existing differences between Sweden and Norway. But the article, instead of accomplishing its purpose, serves to impress all thinking Scandinavians with the real designs of Russia.

A course of lectures on ancient history and archaeology will be given to Scandinavians at Rome and Pompeii next summer. The lectures will be delivered in German and the Scandinavian languages, and the attendance must not exceed 30. The tuition will be about \$7, and the total expenses of those who make a special trip from the Scandinavian countries to attend the lectures will be at least \$150.

SWEDEN.

The Knitting shoe manufacturing company is a very prosperous condition, and its capital stock is to be raised from \$20,000 to \$40,000. The city of Lund has 16,656 inhabitants. The increase for the year 1920 was 398.

The authorities of the University of Upsala declared a two weeks' mourning on account of the death of Prof. Alin.

S. P. T. Wistrand, the temporary chief of the patent department since the departure of Andree, has been appointed regular chief on the assumption that Andree will never return from his balloon voyage.

Gefle has a population of 29,394, an increase of 1,035 in a year.

In the first chamber of the riksdag the president, in notifying the members of the death of Queen Victoria, expressed the sympathy of the Swedish people with Great Britain.

The harbor of Klagshamn has been dredged, and now has a depth of about twenty feet.

A committee has reported a complicated laborers' insurance bill to the civil department. The chief object of the bill is to establish an insurance concern in which legally responsible employers may voluntarily insure their employees against accidents. In addition to the main feature the bill also makes provisions for other employers who wish to insure their workmen, and for employees who are not insured by their employers, but who wish to be insured on their own account. It is estimated that 100,000 policies will be issued under the bill within a comparatively short period. The running expenses of the insurance department will be approximately \$20,000 a year.

The central committee of the Public School Teachers' association has resolved to prepare a new textbook for instruction in the Christian religion. It is proposed to use the new book instead of the old catechism. This movement has no connection with the government, but the new book cannot be introduced in the public schools until it is properly sanctioned by the government.

A number of Swedes residing in Berlin are contemplating the organization of a congregation and the erection of a church building in that city. This plan, however, cannot be realized without very substantial aid from Sweden.

The "flying torpedo," invented by Major Unge, is propelled through the air by the gradual combustion of an explosive at the rear end of it, working practically on the same principle as a sky rocket.

The king has appointed Baron G. O. Cederstrom to serve as Swedish commissioner at the Munich international art exposition.

Adolf Hedin, though bedridden and suffering intensely, is busily engaged in drawing up a penal code for the army and navy, and by dint of his astounding will power he expects to appear in the riksdag long enough to introduce his measure.

Five Russian saw fliers had a rendezvous at Lidköping on Jan. 6 for the purpose of celebrating Christmas day, which according to the old style occurs on that date.

The late Alderman Lundberg, of Osthannar, donated his estate, valued at \$15,000, to charitable institutions at Osthannar.

The late Dr. Ehrman, of Eskilstuna, donated \$900 to poor patients at the city hospital.

The archbishop officiated at the funeral of Prof. O. Alin. "The University of Upsala," he said, "has entered upon the new year in sorrow; but this is apt to give the coming days a serious character and new impulses. If our hearts are warmed by the flame that burned in the departed one we shall also be warmed by the sacred fire that never dies." Many of the most prominent men of the country were in attendance.

Nordiska Museet, Stockholm, was visited by 507,883 persons in 1920.

A triple wedding took place at Eda, Skane, Dec. 27. Nils Olsson of Hammargården and his wife celebrated their silver wedding; his parents-in-law, Segol Nilsson and wife, celebrated their golden wedding; and a daughter of the former couple was united in marriage with Nils Gustafsson of Flögren. Many people had been invited to the remarkable wedding, and the festivities lasted for three days.

NORWAY.

Lugne Poo, a noted French actor, recently met Bjornson in Paris and published an interview in the Figaro, beginning his communication thus: "Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the man who, if he would do so, tomorrow could have the republic proclaimed in Norway."

The Oiestad church, not far from Arendal, was destroyed by fire last spring. Being one of the oldest and most characteristic church buildings in the country, it will be rebuilt in the original style.

The crown princess has joined the Norwegian Forestry association as its first honorary member.

One hundred and sixty freight steamers are owned by residents of Bergen.

"Tante Ulrike," a comedy which was written by Gunnar Heiberg 16 years ago, but which was steadily refused by all theaters, has just been presented at the Kristiania National theater. It was very favorably received.

While running on skis down a steep mountain side near Kristiania, a lady ran the point of one of her skis into the abdomen of a gentleman. She succeeded in pulling out the point, but the victim was taken to the hospital in a dying condition.

Immense shoals of herring are approaching the coast at Hvaler. The fish keep themselves at such a great depth that they cannot be caught in very large quantities. In some spots they are so thick that the sounding line cannot reach bottom.

A society of national scope has been organized for the purpose of enabling blind people to earn a living by means of their own work.

Edvard Bull, a brother of the great violinist, Ole Bull, and his wife celebrated their golden wedding at Bergen, Jan. 6. His wife was the first person to open her services to Ole Bull when he fled from his Norwegian theater.

A woman living on Pedersgaden, Stavanger, was born in 1799, and her physical strength is still so great that she takes an occasional walk in the open air.

Thirty-five persons perished in a hurricane at Herro, Jan. 23. Sixty boats were sunk in the harbor and eight houses blown away.

August Konow, who for a period of fifty years was one of the most respected men at Ringsaker, died at the age of 85 years. One of his sons is a member of the present cabinet.

The storming resumed its work Jan. 7, after a three weeks' Christmas vacation. So little was done in two months before Christmas that the present session is expected to last until midsummer.

The hard times have reduced the consumption of champagne 50 per cent in the course of one year.

The present population of Norway seems to be about 2,200,000. If this is correct, the increase was 200,000 during the past decade.

The Bank of Norway has lowered its rate of discount from 6 1/2 to 6 per cent, indicating that normal business conditions again prevail.

Count Tolstov, while attending "Balaleika," or amateurs' concert, near Moscow, said: "Ibsen was much greater and he pleased much better in the first half of his literary career than in the latter half, because he was not so self-conscious and pretentious. The worst that can happen to an author is to think much of himself."

The city council of Trondhjem has resolved to issue bonds in the sum of \$10,000.

Rich and extensive beds of iron ore have been discovered along the Laugen river, a short distance from Larvik.

The Kristiania street railway company now runs freight cars on its lines.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DEVELOPER.

One bad feature of metal is that it is prone to poison the skin.

Hydroquinone should never be used alone, and too much should not be added to metal.

Pyro-soda is an excellent developer for plates that have been properly exposed. From them it will produce soft, rich negatives of fine printing quality. Probably the cheapest developer on the market, says the Philadelphia Press, is rodinal, which is a fairly good developer. It is used in one solution and can be worked on developing paper as well as plates.

Eikonogen is a good developer which is considerably used nowadays, more frequently in combination with hydroquinone than alone. It is a rather mild developer, giving negatives of extreme softness, and with blue-black tint.

One of the most popular of the newer developers is amidol, which is in vogue both for plates and developing paper. On the latter it gives good tones, but they are blue-black instead of pure black.

Nowadays metal is seldom used alone. The usual method is to combine it with hydroquinone. Hydroquinone is a rather harsh developer, whose great speciality is the giving of density rather than detail, so that it is a very good blend for metal, whose weak points it makes good.

The original developer was pyro, which means a developer in which the agent was pyrogallol acid. This is a good developer, but stains the hands and sometimes the negatives as well. The old school photographers all use pyro, which is usually used in two solutions, and claim that the negative can be kept in more perfect control with it than with any other developer.

MAIL FOR FARMERS.

Practical Aspects of the Rural Free Delivery System.

Statements from Every Section of the Country Pronounce It an Unqualified Success in Every Respect.

[Special Washington Letter.]
THERE was recently held in the national capital a very important meeting of about 50 government officials. The daily newspapers have had nothing to say about it because the gathering was unpretentious, and the business men attending the conference did not herald their coming nor their going. The meeting was held in the offices of the rural free delivery system. General Superintendent Machen



POSTMASTER GENERAL SMITH.

had ordered all of the route inspectors and special agents of that system to assemble at the department here on a certain day. They came from all sections and promptly reported at the appointed time.

The general superintendent addressed them for about two hours, giving them clear and specific instructions concerning their work and impressing upon them its vast importance—not merely to the individuals benefited, but its immense importance to the business interests of the entire country. Those who desired to do so were invited to ask questions; and, in a few minutes, Superintendent Machen found himself fairly bombarded with inquiries.

The supervisors of the rural free delivery system constitute a fine body of active men, a majority of them young men, and all of them manifested their interest in the work by stating some of their experiences with postmasters and rural letter carriers. They were all anxious to receive instructions for their guidance in particular matters which had arisen from their peculiar experiences in their localities. It is exceedingly fortunate for this new service that the superintendent is a business man, familiar with the work in hand, so that he was readily able to take up the various inquiries, one by one, and dispose of them without delay.

It had been the intention of the superintendent to hold but one meeting for conference and instruction, but the officials were detained another day for a second meeting, which proved to be as entertaining and instructive as the first. The service is new, the employees are new to the work, and every one of them needed the enlightenment which was given in this informal manner. It would have required hundreds, and may be thousands, of letters to explain to them their duties, and even then they could not have understood them so well as they did after this conference.

Fortunately, and merely by accident, the correspondent of this paper happened to be there and learned facts which will be valuable to some readers, and probably interesting to all. The postmasters, rural mail carriers, their assistants and deputies should find these statements valuable. All readers who would know their rights in our country and demand them should be interested in this subject of rural free delivery.

One of the most important statements made by Superintendent Machen was this: "I want to impress upon you gentlemen the fact that no letter carrier who uses any form of intoxicating liquor shall be retained

their envy of the people in the cities. They have waited until the great republic could be rich enough and prosperous enough to give them the privileges which business necessities compelled the government to give to those who lived in town. I am sorry that this service has been an additional expense in its inception, but that is unavoidable. When this system is completed the country people will write more letters and enjoy closer intimacy with their relatives and friends; and then the income will approximate the outlay. It is a great mark of the advancement of our republic. Although I have heard the gamut of life and have heard their wail, as well as its grand symphonies, I would yet be glad if I might live to see the plain people in the country everywhere receiving and dispatching their mail at their homes."

During the conference mentioned above one of the special agents said: "Mr. Superintendent, the mail carriers are often hampered in their work by the unfortunate condition of the roads, and I do not think that they should be held responsible for occasional failures to make their schedule time, under such conditions." To this the superintendent replied: "I want reports concerning the condition of the roads. I want the addresses of the county supervisors in all such cases. We have the cooperation of the department of agriculture in this matter, and one of the grand prospective results of this service is to be good roads. There is a bureau in the department of agriculture devoted especially to good roads throughout the country."

So it seems that this brand-new departure of postal affairs is to be quite ramifying and every way beneficial to our agricultural millions in various directions. SMITH D. FRY.



A. W. MACHEN.
(Superintendent Rural Free Delivery Bureau.)

"Why do you lynch him?" we asked of the mob.

"Well, he confessed."

This seemed reasonable, but again we asked:

"Why did you lynch the other man?"

"Because he wouldn't confess, consarn him!"—Town Topics.

Two Excellent Reasons.

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"To make sure that she shall have the last word, I suppose."—Town Topics.

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"My wife asserts that she saves my life at least once every year."

"How's that?"

"She won't let me go hunting."—Chicago Record.

In Need of Treatment.

Father—Do you think I ought to have my daughter's voice cultivated?

Absent-Minded Visitor—I should think you ought to have something done for it.—Tit-Bits.

MINNESOTA NEWS.

Whist Prizes.

The tournament play of the Northwestern Whist Association closed after a series of spirited contests.

The Northwestern Times challenge trophy was won by Minneapolis. The team from Minneapolis captured three straight games, winning from St. Anthony by 11 tricks, from St. Paul by nine tricks, and from Superior by four tricks, and St. Anthony won from the same team by two tricks, but these teams did not play further in the match, owing to the fact that the trophy had already been won by Minneapolis.

The St. Paul pair trophy was won by Trenholm and Holmes of Superior. The cup was won last year by Mrs. Paul and Mrs. Rankin, of Minneapolis, who stood well up in this year's contest.

The business meeting of the Northwestern Whist Association was held Friday afternoon, and the following officers were elected: President, C. H. Holton, Duluth; vice president, O. M. Metcalf, St. Paul; secretary, E. A. Montgomery, Minneapolis; treasurer, Harry Wheelock, Fergus Falls.

Saloon Lunch.

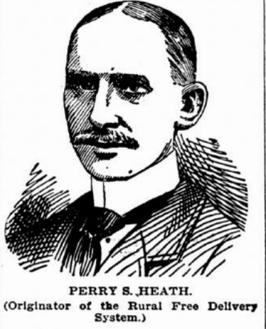
The saloon men of Minneapolis annually expend for free lunches the astonishing sum of nearly seven hundred thousand dollars.

At first glance these figures seem large. There are in Minneapolis 328 saloons, and an average expense of \$5 a day for lunches is not large. This means that the average daily expense for provender is \$1,640. There are 312 "working" days in the year—the lunch does not run on Sunday. This brings the total expense for food up to \$511,000. In addition, each man and woman raised their heads higher than the minimum wage scale is \$10 a week, or \$520 a year. Multiply this by 328 and there is the total of \$170,560 paid for salaries. Then there are the ice man and the gas company.

Millions of Fares.

During the year just closed the gray-coated conductors employed on the Twin City Rapid Transit company's street cars raised their heads higher than their heads, caught a leather cord, brought it down and "rang up" no less than seventy million "fares."

The aggregate of cash fares was, in round numbers, \$6,200,000, and a high official of the company says that the number of transfers was about 25 per cent of the above number, or approximately 1,600,000.



PERRY S. HEATH.
(Originator of the Rural Free Delivery System.)

These figures are astonishing, and show that the people of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Stillwater and White Bear patronize the cars quite liberally. Incredible as it may seem, the cars of the twin cities carried nearly as many persons as there are in the United States, and could have carried more.

Big Appropriation.

A big appropriation is asked of the state for the care of defectives. The institution at Faribault desires to build several new cottages at a cost of \$25,000 each, and the school for feeble-minded asks for an additional appropriation of \$150,000, an increase of \$30,000 over the regular allowance.

The school for the deaf asks \$38,000 for support and \$6,400 for improvements. The school for the blind needs \$22,000.

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Postmaster Kaiser received notice from Washington to the effect that the five new rural mail routes which were laid out in different directions from Faribault last October will be operated regularly on and after Feb. 15.

The supreme court in a decision handed down by Justice Brown holds that the governor has no legal right to appoint election officers on the White Earth reservation. The action of the judges who were appointed is upheld. For a long time the state's executive has appointed officers on the Indian reservations. Last year the appointments for the White Earth reservation resulted in trouble which was taken into the courts.

Edward Johnson, alias O. R. Hildred, and Charles Nelson, indicted together for crooked card games, were given two and one-half years each in the Stillwater prison by Judge Kelly of Ramsey.

The Hotel Buckman at Little Falls was completely destroyed by fire at 3 o'clock in the morning. The guests lost all their personal effects and barely escaped alive. The fire was discovered by the night clerk in the laundry in the northwest corner of the basement. The origin is unknown.

A. K. Teisberg, St. Paul, secretary of the Minnesota railroad commission, discussed before the industrial commission the transportation of grain in Minnesota. He stated that during the past few years there had been many reductions in the state freight rates, and in some cases the charges had been reduced 50 per cent.

Charles Hoppy, of West Duluth, while loading logs at the Merrill Ring landing at the Split Rock, was caught between logs and crushed to death. The number of fatal accidents among loggers has been large this winter.

The 4-year-old son of Otto Alman was killed by being run over with a bobbed several miles east of Mora. He was driving the team when his little son attempted to get on and slipped under the moving load.

Emil Krentzberg, died from injuries received from a lamp explosion in a Minneapolis undertaking room.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

Report of Secretary Hay on the Commercial Relations of United States with Other Countries.

Washington, Jan. 30.—A most important and interesting summary of what has been achieved by the United States in the direction of opening up and extending our markets abroad is presented in the following letter from Secretary Hay, which was laid before congress Tuesday, accompanying the annual publication known as "Commercial Relations of the United States with Foreign Countries."

"Department of State, Washington, Jan. 30, 1901.—The President, in accordance with section 206 of the Revised Statutes, I have the honor to transmit the commercial relations of the United States with foreign countries during the year 1900, being the annual report of the secretary of the annual publication known as 'Commercial Relations of the United States with Foreign Countries.'"

"The object of this report is to give a comprehensive character of the commercial relations of the United States with foreign countries, together with similar reports from some of our consular officers upon the industries and commerce of foreign countries. These reports were prepared under special instructions from this department, with the object of laying before congress, with the least delay, a practically contemporaneous statement of the trade, not only of the United States with the rest of the world, but of the various countries with each other. This object, it is happy to be able to announce, has been accomplished, the date of transmission to congress this year having been advanced over the usual time by a month, and realizing the utmost conditions of promptitude compatible with a proper analysis of the latest returns for the year 1900. So gratifying a result indicates the most commendable in the activity and zeal of our consular officers as well as in the system of publishing and distributing their reports."

"It may be said, indeed, that a wide variety of propositions have been under discussion for the improvement of the consular service, the object of laying before congress, with the least delay, a practically contemporaneous statement of the trade, not only of the United States with the rest of the world, but of the various countries with each other. This object, it is happy to be able to announce, has been accomplished, the date of transmission to congress this year having been advanced over the usual time by a month, and realizing the utmost conditions of promptitude compatible with a proper analysis of the latest returns for the year 1900. So gratifying a result indicates the most commendable in the activity and zeal of our consular officers as well as in the system of publishing and distributing their reports."

"The general conclusion to be drawn from a survey of the conditions in foreign trade, as indicated in the reports here presented, is that the United States is approaching, even more swiftly than was expected, a position of eminence in the world's markets. The quality and greater cheapness of many lines of its manufactures, which must work great economic changes and must be changing the center not only of industrial, but of commercial activity and the money power of the world, is being demonstrated by the reports of our consular officers, introducing American machinery and labor-saving appliances and remodeling their methods and their mode of export, in the near future, a more strenuous competition for which it is important we should prepare ourselves. As an aid to such preparation, the study of the reports of information as to foreign industries and trade conditions, which is to be found in the 'Commercial Relations of the United States' will obviously prove most useful to our manufacturers and exporters, and I therefore recommend that congress be requested to authorize, as was done last year, the printing of a special edition of 10,000 copies of the 'Review of the World's Commerce' and 5,000 copies of 'Commercial Relations.'"

(Signed) "JOHN HAY."

SENDS MINUTE INSTRUCTIONS.

Administration Directs Minister Conger as to What Terms of Indemnity to Exact.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Being obliged by the attitude of the other powers interested to continue at Peking the negotiations looking to a settlement of the Chinese difficulties, in spite of a most discouraging outlook for a favorable conclusion there, the department of state has now sent by cable to Mr. Conger very precise and detailed instructions for his guidance in treating of the questions of indemnity. Realizing that it is easily possible to destroy the Chinese government and bring about the partition of the empire, which all powers express themselves as desirous of preventing, by an ill-judged effort to force terms as to indemnity, the state department, it is believed, has adopted a lenient attitude and will lose no opportunity to influence other powers accordingly.

Naval Veteran Retired.

Washington, Jan. 30.—Rear Admiral Albert Kautz, who has just been retired from command of the Pacific station, was placed on the retired list Tuesday on account of age. He has had a long and distinguished career, of which nearly 18 years was spent at sea. During the Samoan troubles about two years ago Admiral Kautz was in command of the American forces in that quarter, and it was mainly through his firmness and conservatism that serious international complications were averted.

Victory for Pingree.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 30.—In an unanimous opinion, handed down Tuesday, the supreme court sustained the constitutionality of the law taxing inheritances. An order was also granted by the court Tuesday, in answer to Former Gov. Pingree's petition, directing the Ingham county circuit court to show cause why a writ should not issue prohibiting it from proceeding with the contents of a case now pending against Former Gov. Pingree.

Big Fire in Des Moines.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 30.—Fire which broke out early Tuesday morning in Frankel Bros.' department store, corner of Sixth and Walnut streets, destroyed over \$500,000 worth of property. The First National bank building, which is directly across the street, caught fire, but, after a hard struggle, was saved, although damaged to the extent of several thousand dollars.

Prominent Ohioan Dead.

Chardon, O., Jan. 31.—Hon. I. N. Hathaway, one of the most prominent men of northern Ohio, died at his home here Wednesday, aged 73 years. He was an intimate friend of President Garfield, also of Hon. Ben Wade, Joshua R. Giddings and other noted men. He was a delegate to the Chicago convention which nominated Grant.

Bank President Gets \$40,000.

New York, Jan. 31.—Richard Delafield, the president of the National Park bank of this city, received by a vote of the directors the largest salary ever paid to a bank president in this city, and probably in the United States. His stipend of \$25,000 was raised to \$40,000.

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BUFFALO AMONG CATTLE.

Strange Appearance of a Solitary Bull in the Herds of Western Stockmen.

An immense buffalo bull lately put in an appearance among the cattle owned by the Sioux Indians and ranged near the Standing Rock reservation, 60 miles south of this city, says a Bismarck (N. D.) special to the St. Louis Republic. The animal came unheralded, whence nobody knows. For years it has been supposed that every bison was extinct in this state, and the last time any were seen in the state was back in the middle eighties, when Gov. Roosevelt, hunting along the Little Missouri river, killed one at a crossing of the river. The animal that has made its appearance near Standing Rock is unusually wild and fierce, and disposed to attack herdsmen who attempt to get near it. Strict orders have been issued by the agent against killing the animal, in the hope that it will remain and that others may be discovered.

The presence of this lone monarch of the prairies recalls the time when the bison ranged the vast prairies in the western part of the state by thousands, if not millions, when every watering hole was a gathering place for them and the hills and valleys were worn deep with trails along which the animals went from feeding ground to watering places. Even yet all through the western part of the state there are deep trails that were made by the bison and that have not been wiped out in a half century. The suddenness of the extinction of the bison is among the most remarkable features of the development of the west. From thousands and hundreds of thousands, they dwindled away almost at once.

In the early days of steamboating along the Missouri river, passengers were frequently treated to an unusual sight in the fording of the river by bands of thousands of these animals. On one occasion a boat plying up the stream was forced to stop for 48 hours while the immense moving mass of bison plunged into the stream, swam through its muddy waters and emerged on the other side. The water was churned to foam and the river literally black with the animals. They made periodical trips of this kind from one side of the Missouri to the other, always moving in immense bodies. A buffalo stampede was not uncommon, and was to the unfortunates who might be caught in the path.

Then came the buffalo hunters. In the early days of Bismarck, hundreds of hunters armed themselves and sought the feeding grounds of these animals. Thousands upon thousands of them were killed for the hides, the carcasses being left to rot on the prairies. No precautions were taken at that time against their extinction, and the result was that in a few years there was not a bison remaining. The Indians also engaged in bison hunts, riding into the dense herds upon their ponies and slaughtering them by the thousands.

Buffalo coats and robes that were worth a few dollars 20 years ago in the west now command fancy prices. Good robes are impossible to obtain at any price, and coats are eagerly sought after. The government still has a few rough coats in store that are used to the soldiers in the far west. Buffalo heads that were sold for little or nothing 15 and 20 years ago, now bring as high as \$500 when mounted, and are difficult to obtain at that price.

In the hills near Standing Rock the country is rough and broken, and is seldom visited. It is thought, from the appearance of the solitary bison, that there may be small bands of them ranging the inclosed feeding grounds, and every effort will be made to locate and protect them.

THE LONDON 'BUS.

Structure and Cost of the Popular Vehicle and How It is Operated.

A bus weighs 3,200 pounds, and costs \$145. It is made of ash and oak, except the paneling, which is mahogany, and the windows are of plate glass. Before a bus is allowed to earn its £2 10s a day it has to be licensed, or, as they say, "you have to get a number plate for it." This number plate is the white plate with black figures surmounted by a crown, seen at the tail of the bus. It is provided by the police, and costs £2. There is a wheel duty of 15s per annum to be paid to the inland revenue. After making these payments anyone can run a bus in London wherever he likes, subject, of course, to the general regulations bearing upon all vehicular traffic, says Cassell's Magazine.

Attached to each bus is a stud of 12 horses, of which only ten, or five pairs, are worked in any one day, thus insuring a complete day's rest for each pair every sixth day. As a bus runs 64 miles a day, and five pairs of horses are used, it follows that a bus horse's day's work is 13 miles, which he does in less than an hour—less than three hours—the rate at which he travels being between five and six miles an hour. This does not seem a great deal to exact from a horse; still, the work is hard, often involving a prolonged dead pull at the trot, and the crowded condition of the London streets makes it harder by necessitating continual deviations out of the way of obstacles and abrupt stoppages to avoid collisions.

Scientists in the South Sea.

Interesting geological features of our new South sea island possessions are to be made the subject of careful and scientific investigation, it is believed, and it is understood that the inquiry will embrace ethnological and geographical as well as geological subjects. Geologically the Samoan islands are of much interest, and the investigations of Prof. Dana many years ago are about the only scientific work which has been done there with modern methods.—Scientific American.

Identification by Finger Marks.

In the organization of the police department at Johannesburg the system of identification by finger marks is being introduced, and in this way every native is to be registered.—Chicago Chronicle.