

## Those who must have Good Food

in order to endure physical labor intelligently directed — locomotive engineers, iron workers, miners, et al.—are the large consumers of bread made from Spring Wheat Flour. And the standard Spring Wheat Flour is Pillsbury's Best Flour.

### STORY OF BOOTH'S BURIAL.

#### Fallbearer Says Red-headed Corpse Was Substituted For Assassin.

Basil Moxley, veteran doorkeeper at Ford's Grand Opera House in Baltimore, who has known all the theatrical celebrities of the last half century, declares positively that the body buried in Green Mount cemetery as that of John Wilkes Booth is the corpse of some other person, says the New York World.

Mr. Moxley was moved to break his long silence by the story that came from Oklahoma that a man who died there recently declared on his death bed that he was really Lincoln's assassin. Mr. Moxley said:

"Certainly the body buried in Green Mount was not that of Booth, for I was one of the pallbearers, and I can safely say to you that there never were any two things in this world which resembled each other less than that body did John Wilkes Booth. I had known Booth all my life and was very close to the family. I saw the body several times. The hair on the dead man's head was of a reddish brown color, while Booth's was as black as jet.

"Mrs. Booth, the mother of John Wilkes, was naturally nearly prostrated with grief at her son's action and the stories of his horrible death in the barn and later the report that the government had taken charge of the body. In order that the affair might become a thing of the past as soon as possible, some friends determined that it would be best to bring the body here (Baltimore) and bury it in the family lot in Green Mount. Through these friends Mrs. Booth applied to the government for the body. This brought matters to a crisis, for I do not believe that John Wilkes Booth was ever killed in that barn, and if any one was slain it was some innocent man who knew nothing of the real assassin.

"At any rate, it was incumbent upon the government to furnish a body to make good its report that Booth had been killed, and it did so. Well, of course we were all very much surprised at first—the four of us who were

selected as pallbearers. We concluded that it was better to say nothing more about it than to raise another hue and cry which might kill the mother, so we kept our discovery secret, consoled the mother and buried the body as that of John Wilkes Booth."

### HARVARD'S BIG CHANGES.

#### Women Barred From the Yard at This Year's Commencement.

There are to be radical changes in Harvard's commencements, beginning with this year, says a Boston special to the New York Evening Journal.

In the first place, women are to be debarred the yard and the alumni are thus to be afforded opportunity to make all the noise and drink all the punch they choose, free from the espionage of wives and mothers who may happen to be members of the W. C. T. U.

Then the distribution of diplomas is to cease. The number of persons entitled to these documents has grown so large that it has been decided to deliver them from several places instead of from the stage of Sander's theater.

Moreover the diplomas themselves are to be very different from the traditional sheepskin, huge in size and not overornamental in contents. A much smaller parchment is now to be the reward of scholarship, and much more art is to be displayed in the getting up.

### NEW COLLEGE ORDER.

#### The "Prezels" Will Organize Throughout the United States.

The first annual banquet of Grill No. 1, the "Fraternity of the American Pretzel," was held in Washington the other evening, says the St. Louis Republic. This, the newest of college social orders, was founded in May and includes members from all parts of the United States.

Its main object is general good fellowship among its members. It is the intention to organize branch orders among all college graduates and undergraduates throughout the United States.

The next banquet will be held in September, 1904, at St. Louis.

## FOREST FIRE PROBLEM

Observations Being Made by the Bureau of Forestry.

AGENTS WORK IN SEVERAL TRAITS

**The Causes of the Fires, Conditions That Favor or Hinder Them, Damage to the Soil and Tree Growth Are Some of the Points Being Investigated—Annual Loss of Timber Enormous.**

In view of the recent forest fires that have been raging in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and Canada, the following article about the forest fire problem is of timely interest:

Last year within two weeks over \$12,000,000 worth of timber and other property was destroyed by forest fires in Oregon and Washington, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial. This enormous loss occurred upon a restricted area and represents only a very small part of the annual loss from this source. Every timbered region of the United States suffers year after year from fire. The annual loss is estimated at from \$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000. Forest fires have been regarded as almost inevitable, and few systematic attempts have been made to prevent or control them except in the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Minnesota, which have efficient systems of fire protection.

The bureau of forestry of the United States department of agriculture has this year undertaken a thorough study of the forest fire problem in several different regions. It has placed men in forest districts to study fires while in the process of burning. Instead of waiting until the fires are over and relying for information on local reports, as has been done heretofore, the fires are now being observed by the bureau's agents, and full data will be obtained as to how they were caused, how fast they burn, what conditions favor or hinder them and just what damage they do to the soil and to tree growth.

Each agent of the bureau has been assigned to a district and is investigating all fires that occur within his territory. For example, one man studies a lumber tract, another a farming district, a third a turpentine orchard, etc. In connection with this detailed study the agents will observe the methods of fire protection practiced by railroads and other owners of timber lands. The fire warden systems of the states which have forest fire laws and the patrol system in use on the federal forest reserves will also be observed closely.

By such methods the bureau of forestry hopes to replace with carefully gathered facts the vague general notions that now exist about forest fires. When the problem is solved for any particular region the bureau will be ready to recommend methods of fire prevention and control for the private landowner and to suggest forest fire legislation for the various states.

The investigation is now in progress in northern Florida and southern Alabama and Georgia under the direction of Ernest A. Sterling, H. J. Tompkins, with a small corps of assistants, has begun the work in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Later in the season a study of forest fires will be made on the Pacific coast.

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### NOVEL BOAT CONTROLLER.

#### Device to Direct a Vessel's Movements From Land.

Charles Aiden of Dorchester, Mass., recently completed a series of experiments by which he is enabled to control all the movements of a boat in midstream while sitting on the bank, says a Boston special to the New York Times.

The device used is similar to the wireless telegraph. The scene of his operations is at Milton, on the Neponset river. Here a long pole would with two large coils of wire is set in the ground near to an eight volt battery, generator and transmitter. The boat, which is seven feet long, is fitted with an elaborate receiving apparatus.

By means of the transmitter on the shore the inventor sends wireless impulses to the boat and is able to make it weigh anchor, cast off, go ahead, back water and perform all other movements of a real vessel.

Alden states that it will be easy to put such an apparatus into operation in a large boat, the only thing necessary being to direct and send the impulse from the transmitter on shore to the receiver on the boat.

The inventor is now at work on a model of a lifeboat to be similarly managed, and he believes the device can be put into practice on big boats.

### Florists Now Ship Fine Dirt.

Since florists of Newcastle, Ind., have made such a success in the growing of roses and other plants, a new industry has sprung up there which promises to assume large proportions, says the Indianapolis News. Outsiders, recognizing the superiority of the Newcastle product and being financially unable to erect ranges, are doing the next best thing—namely, shipping soil gathered from around Newcastle to their plants to a distance as far away as 200 miles. Within the past few days several car loads of soil have been shipped to Indianapolis, Chicago and Cincinnati firms for the growing of roses.

### Novel Suits For Polar Expeditions.

The Duke of Abruzzi has prepared suits for use in his next polar excursion which are heated by electricity through a network of asbestos covered wire in their lining. Bedding will be warmed in like manner.

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### NO MORE PINK TEAS.

#### Paris Sets a Fashion in Simple and Seasonable Dining.

Drop the pink teas and the yellow dinners and all such colored fads. They are no longer the style in Paris, says the Chicago Tribune. Those who give dinners and teas there have returned to the normal and sane ideas of eating naturally. Freak foods and freak decorations have been brushed aside together, and things of the season must be eaten in season.

It is now the fashion to have everything in season, the flowers as well as the food. Forced hothouse plants and vegetables are to be avoided as well as imported meats. Spring flowers are chosen for spring luncheons and dinners, just as summer flowers are chosen to decorate summer tables with the vegetables that are in season and consequently at their best.

The elaborate ribbon and lace accessories which formerly adorned tables are entirely dispensed with. The tablecloth is of rich damask handsomely embroidered, with the napkins to match, and decorated with a centerpiece of seasonal flowers encircled with a wreath of green foliage or vines. Masses of silver and gold plate are left on the sideboard.

Only one knife and fork are placed for each person and changed for others with each course, but the rows of knives and forks on each side of the plate are scrupulously avoided, together with all kinds of specially shaped knives and forks invented by the jeweler to create a want, but which are to be dispensed with. Even the oyster fork is made to resemble the ordinary fork as much as possible, and many smart hostesses do not even use a special fork for oysters.

As for the finger bowl, it has completely disappeared from all smart tables and is caricatured even in the salon under the title of "Julie's Bath," a picture by Jean Weber showing a big fat woman washing her hands in a large finger bowl after dinner.

### SLENDER WAIST SECRET.

#### Gymnasium Work Improves Figures of Girls at Michigan University.

The makers of stays may as well go out of business, says a special dispatch from Ann Arbor, Mich., to the New York World. The secret of a slender waist is discovered, and the corset has nothing to do with it. The gym's the thing to make willowy the feminine form. All you have to do is to train as the girls now do at the University of Michigan and the waist grows smaller without squeezing.

The thing has been proved. Freshmen girls are compelled to do gymnasium work. Their measurements are taken upon entrance, and at this time of the year they are measured, the figures going upon the original chart. Six charts taken at random show a decrease in measurements of waist, hips, biceps, thighs and calves, with a considerable increase in shoulders, reach, chest, lung capacity and strength. One girl's waist has decreased an inch, while her shoulders have broadened half an inch. Dr. Allee Snyder, director of the gymnasium, explains the matter thus:

"The changes are due to systematic training. We teach the girls the more correct position in standing, and the exercise with the dumb bells and wands broadens the shoulders. The flesh becomes firmer, and in fact there is a loss of superfluous weight in the big majority of cases. The arms become better rounded, and the systematic and thorough exercise makes the more perfect woman."

### Large Crops in Argentina.

The harvest of Argentina is unprecedented. There will be 2,500,000 tons of corn for export. The figure for wheat is 5 to 10 per cent higher and the crop of linseed will be about 1,500,000 tons.

### American China For Our War Ships.

Rear Admiral Bradford, chief of the bureau of equipment, has decided that china of American manufacture shall be used in the United States navy hereafter, to the exclusion of that of English and German manufacture, says a Washington special to the Chicago Record-Herald. American china is just as good and generally cheaper than the imported product. Whether it is any tougher is an important feature, for the item of breakage on war ships, especially small ones, is substantial, and the officers have to pay for all breakage above 15 per cent each year.

### Another New Air Ship.

At the establishment of M. Louis Godard, near the Pont de Saint-Ouen, in Paris, work will soon be begun on a new air ship to be known as the Santa Cruz, designed by Senor Jose de Pa-trecoino, to whom the Brazilian government has accorded a subsidy for this purpose, says the Aeronautical World. The new air ship will be forty-five meters long, twenty-one meters wide and nine meters high. Its capacity will be 3,900 cubic meters, and, all dimensions considered, it will be the largest "dirigible" ever built.

## The Times' Daily Short Story.

### THE GRAVE IN THE CELLAR

[Original.]

Tom O'Neill was a fool and a mason. He had married Jenny Come, the girl of his choice, before he had put by any ready money and since he could not always get work was not prosperous. There is an old saying, "A fool for luck and a poor man for children," and Tom certainly illustrated the last part of the adage.

One night after Tom and his family had gone to bed there came a rap at his door. On opening it he saw a man who looked more like a rag picker than anything else standing at the door. He asked Tom if he was not a mason. When Tom replied that he was the man asked him if he would do a job of work for him that night. Since there was nothing in the house for breakfast and the stranger agreed to pay him \$2 if he would work until morning, Tom agreed, whereupon, taking his tools, he went out with the man, who after blindfolding him led him about in a tortuous course and into a small cellar, where he removed the bandage. The place was lighted by a candle.

"I want you to take up a portion of the cement floor and dig a grave," said the man.

Tom set to work, took up an oblong portion of the floor and dug a grave 8 feet by 2. Then the rag picker mounted a flight of steps, opened a door and showed the end of a pine coffin shaped box through the opening. Tom took hold, and the two carried the box and lowered it into the grave.

A barrel of cement stood ready, with everything needful for mixing it. Tom was directed to lay the floor, smoothing it so that when the cement had become old no one would notice that the floor had been disturbed. Tom, who was suspicious that a murder had been committed, looked about him to discover something by which he might identify the cellar, though there was no probability of his ever coming into it again. There was absolutely nothing unusual in the place, and all Tom could do when the rag picker's back was turned was to make a cross on the newly laid cement with the sharp blade of his knife. When the job was finished the rag picker blindfolded Tom again and led him out of the cellar. After taking him over a winding course finally the rag picker said:

"I am going to leave you now, Count 500, and when you have done so take off the bandage. If you remove it before you have made the count you will be a dead man. You will find on the ground something worth much more to you than the sum I agreed to pay you."

Tom counted 500, then, after considerable delay, removed his bandage. On the ground before him was a piece

of paper on which was written in pencil:

"Always get at least a portion of your pay before doing work."

Ten years passed. Tom remembered the rag picker's advice and would have profited by it, but there was so little work to do that he was obliged to take his chances for pay. He was turned out of one house after another till he brought up in a deserted hovel on a lonely road. It was an autumn day when the family went there, and Jenny sat down on a stump and began to cry.

"Never mind, dear girl," said Tom cheerfully; "fools are usually cheerful under misfortune. It's darkest before day. Maybe something will turn up."

"Or down," added the wife, with a fresh burst of tears.

Tom, who was never idle when there was work to do, set about gathering the fallen wood lying about, which he carried into the cellar. After carrying in the first load he came out with a singular expression on his face and asked his wife for a small hand magnifying glass that his youngest boy had used for a plaything. The glass was given him, and he returned to the cellar. Presently he went upstairs and told his wife that they were in the house where he had helped make a burial.

Jenny was depressed anew at having, to live over a corpse and declared that she would not go to bed that night till Tom had taken the horrid thing up and buried it in the wood. Tom, who was a patient fellow, first prepared a new burial place, then opened the grave in the cellar and after much difficulty (for Jenny could not be bought to help him) got the box, much rotted, out of its resting place and carried it part way up the steps to the cellar door. There it slipped away from him and fell with a crash to the floor, breaking to pieces.

Tom turned round, expecting to see a ghastly corpse, but instead saw several coins rolling over the floor. Seizing an ax, he completed the destruction of the box and found that it was full of gold pieces.

"Jenny," he cried, "come here. The coffin's broken, and the corpse is rolling about on the floor!"

Jenny gave a shriek, but a morbid fascination which impels people to look at awful sights led her to the cellar door, and the sunlight shooting through a small window showed her the shining gold.

Inquiry revealed to Tom that the house had once been habited by a rag picker who was suspected of being a miser. But the man was dead, and no one knew who he was or whether he had any relatives.

Tom bought the house and gradually replaced and enlarged the space it occupied. His wife and children were well dressed, and general prosperity reigned in the family. No one knows where Tom got his funds, and no one can find out, for he is his own banker, and his bank is a grave in his cellar.

F. A. MITCHEL.

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