

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

The People's Rights—A Representative Democracy—The Union and the Constitution Without Any Infractions.

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NATURAL GAS LOSS

Government Document Shows a Deplorable Condition.

Situation Has Improved Since the Operators Have Learned to Close the Wells, but the Waste is Still Immense in Places.

Washington.—The history of the natural gas industry of the United States is an appalling record of incredible waste, according to Ralph Arnold and Frederick G. Clapp, authors of technical paper 28 of the United States bureau of mines on the subject, "Wastes in the Production and Utilization of Natural Gas and Means of Their Prevention." In this technical paper, which has just been issued by the bureau, are the following statements from the authors:

"There was evidently no great waste of gas in this country before 1873, as no large gas fields had been discovered, although gas was always wanted in oil production. In 1873 a well of great volume and pressure was struck at Murrayville, Pa., 29 miles east of Pittsburgh, and the gas from this well was allowed to flow to waste for three years, with no effort to check it. Up to this time the belief that natural gas was inexhaustible seemed to be universal, just as in later years a similar opinion prevailed regarding the forests, coal and many minerals, and hence it was not until 15 or 20 years after the first utilization of gas that the pronounced decline of production caused the truth to dawn upon producers and consumers—that the supply was indeed limited.

"The waste of natural gas has drawn the attention of the entire country, and because the waste threatens the life of gas fields it has prevented many investors from building plants in the various fields, thereby depriving the localities of increased population and wealth. In considering the question of waste it must be understood that the geologic occurrence of the gas in the sandstone, sand or limestone reservoirs is such that the flow of gas from one well causes a decrease in the flow of others and a reduction of the supply throughout the entire field.

"Instances are common where carelessness and indifference in drilling have resulted in waste of gas from formations penetrated above the regular sand.

"In other instances, if the formations are loose, the gas sand fairly shallow, the pressure great, and the proper precautions are not taken in setting the casing, the gas may escape around the casing, loosening the ground rapidly, and ultimately gaining sufficient volume and pressure to blow the casing from the well. Such 'blow-outs' have happened a number of times in the Texas and Caddo fields. They are likely to occur in the first wells drilled in any field before the conditions attending the gas pockets are generally known. Some expense may exist for the occurrence of one such blow-out in a new field, before the presence of the high-pressure gas pocket is known, but there is usually little reason for a second or a subsequent blow-out in a field, because precautions can be taken to prevent it.

"Waste in drilling is not so great as formerly, because at the present time drillers have usually every facility at hand to close a well as soon as completed. By proper preparation most wells can be packed, tubed and shut in within two hours. According to the conservation commission of Louisiana, the waste from the two principal 'wild' wells in Louisiana has its beginning more from a lack of knowledge of what precautions would be effective than from negligence or indifference. The waste from the first big gas well encountered in drilling for oil in the Buena Vista hills field of California was due to the unexpectedness of the great flow and to local inexperience in handling such pressures. This well was controlled only after a Texas operator had been engaged to do the work.

"The most notorious waste at present is in Oklahoma, Louisiana and California. The commission on the conservation of the natural resources in Louisiana, after an exhaustive examination of the situation in the Caddo field, found that the waste approximated 75,000,000 cubic feet per 24 hours, an amount equal to 20 times what the city of Shreveport uses now in the same space of time, and equal to one-twentieth of the amount consumed by the entire United States.

"It also found that the value of the gas wasted from a single 'wild' well in that state was in excess of \$2,000 per day."

DOUBLE BARRELED.

Carter Glass, representative in congress from the sixth district of Virginia, had his picture taken in his office not long ago. While the photographer was arranging his camera Mr. Glass remarked that he hoped the picture wouldn't flatter him too much. "I had some taken once," he said, "to give to my friends. One I gave to a neighbor down in Lynchburg, who placed it on the mantelpiece in the parlor.

"Not long after it had been placed there, Aunt Hannah, an old colored woman, who had known me since I was a boy, was called in to help with the housecleaning. She was working away in the parlor when the mis-

stress of the house came in to see how the work was progressing.

"Aunt Hannah, resting on her broom, pointed toward the picture on the mantel and asked: "Missey, who am de gemman in de photograph?"

"The lady replied that it was Mr. Glass.

"Does ye mean Marse Ca'tah Glass?" inquired the old woman.

"Yes, of course," replied her mistress.

"Well, fo' de lan' sake!" exclaimed Aunt Hannah. "Ah guess Ah never seen dat side ob his face befo'."

By this time the camera man had his apparatus arranged and the pictures were quickly made. When the finished product came to the office Mr. Glass glanced at them hastily and hurried down the hall to show them to his colleague, Representative Jones. Mr. Jones looked them over carefully, but passed no comment.

"What's the matter? Don't you like them?" inquired Glass.

"Why, yes, I like them," replied Jones, "but who sat for them?"

HOME LIFE OF CONGRESSMEN.

In Congress Hall hotel, located near the Capitol building, eighty congressmen are domiciled. They are of all parties and beliefs, but on Sunday evening the neighborly spirit of all men of all climes is manifested. The program follows no order, and is limited to no special number of "artists." There is no lack of volunteers, however, and the piano is kept going with song and music. Congressman Falconer of Washington walks bravely to the piano and sings, followed by other colleagues, and down through the corridor ring the voices of the people's representatives in Sunday evening song. There is hearty and enthusiastic applause, and little groups gather all about the lobby, having a good old-fashioned time.

Later in the evening the singing naturally drifts to the old-time songs; there is a hush, the chairs cease rocking, and the conversation softens as the old heart songs are sung, awakening memories of the folks at home—for there are congressmen who get homesick in spite of an attractive salary and the honor of serving the government under the Capitol dome. The heartfulness of the home life of the American people as indicated in these gatherings of congressmen is one of the most fascinating and charming aspects of American democracy.—National Magazine.

CAPITAL'S PURCHASING BUREAU

By the establishment of a communal warehouse and the creation of a bureau which will supervise the purchase of all supplies, the local government of the District of Columbia expects not only to save thousands of dollars annually in the operation of the capital, but to point a way for other cities to improve their systems. A special committee has been at work for some time past mapping out the plan.

The main advantages that will accrue, the committee believes, will be the prevention of "leaks" in the acquisition of supplies through a coordination of the various purchasing offices.

Equipped with a central warehouse, advantage also could be taken of prices when the market is low. Another function of the bureau will be its supervision of property acquired, and it will be given full authority to demand an accounting from employees for the condition of municipal property.

Inquiry into the proposed reform was made by Alfonso Twardale, auditor of the district; W. A. McFarland, superintendent of the water department, and M. C. Hargrove, purchasing officer. The district commissioners have authorized the adoption of the plan.

CROP PRICES LOWER.

Producers in the United States were receiving for their staple crops 25 per cent less on June 1 than at the same time last year, 5.1 per cent less than in 1911, and 9.2 less than in 1910. The average price for corn on June 1 was 60.6 cents, against 82.5 last year; for wheat, \$2.7, against 102.8; for oats 36, against 55.3; for barley, 52.7, against 91.1; for rye, 64.1, against 86.1, and for potatoes 55.2, against 119.7.

Prices paid for meat animals on May 15, according to the department of agriculture, averaged about 10.7 per cent higher than at the same time last year, 27.7 higher than two years ago, but 4 per cent lower than in 1910.

The average price for hogs per 100 pounds on May 15 was \$7.45, against \$6.73 last year; for beef cattle \$6.01, against \$5.26; for veal calves, \$7.17, against \$5.23; for sheep \$4.91, against \$4.74, and for lambs \$6.66, against \$6.16.

Wasted Telephone Talk.

Those who have made a close calculation of the minutes that from one-quarter to one-half a minute is wasted by the average telephone user just in getting under way in talking. The necessary talk on the average could be condensed to one minute. The "goodbyes" and the "don't forgets" that exceed in time just the saying of these words once consume another full minute. This divides the average call into three parts, only one of which is indispensable. Cases are known where women subscribers call up a regular circle of friends every morning just for a chat. They have nothing important to say, but treat the matter as if they had met their acquaintance or friend on the street and had stopped to "pass the time of day."

HOUSTON SAYS RURAL SCHOOLS INEFFICIENT

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"The rural school is the most neglected and the most inefficient of all American institutions today is the rural school," said David Franklin Houston, secretary of agriculture, when asked the other day to talk on the most urgent problem faced in the work of improving country life conditions.

"All persons who have the slightest acquaintance with the average country school know the result of the inadequate financial support and the general neglect of these institutions. The teachers are poorly paid, and usually inexperienced and badly trained. There is a lack of supervision from top to bottom; equipment is almost always inadequate; surroundings are often insanitary and work in the school is lacking in efficiency and is usually unsuited to the life of the community. Frequently there is the baneful influence of politics. School teachers' salaries in rural sections range from \$300 to \$400, and in the cities from \$500 to \$1,500 to \$2,000 or more. Rural school teachers get less than street laborers in cities, and in one place the superintendent reports that the pay is less than the average earnings of convicts.

"We cannot hope to better conditions in rural education until teachers are paid a living wage, and until more money is put into equipment. Little can be expected from untrained, poorly paid girls, or men either, working with little or no supervision or assistance, without proper facilities, having many recitations from pupils of widely different ages each day during a few months of the year. The problem of a country school teacher are many, I know, for I served as the head of a typical one-teacher school when I was seventeen years old."

"The enrollment of the rural schools is more than 65 per cent of the total enrollment, but the annual expenditure for rural schools is less than 40 per cent of the total, and the in-

MRS. MENNINGER TEACHES THE BIBLE BY MAIL

Topeka, Kan., is to be the home of a unique religious institution, "Mrs. Menninger's Bible Class." That's the title and the class is known among Bible students throughout the world and there are students now taking the course in cities from Oakland, Cal., to Battle Creek, Mich., and there have been students in practically every state of the Union.

The course of study requires 120 lessons, covering a period of four years, and the eighth graduating class held its commencement exercises in Topeka recently. There were 100 graduates this year, the largest number having ever received diplomas in cities from Oakland, Cal., to Battle Creek, Mich., and there have been students in practically every state of the Union.

Almost four hundred women and girls have been taking the Bible study work this year. There were 91 in the Tuesday classes for married women; 131 in the Y. M. C. A. classes and 19 in the Sunday, or high school, class. Then there are classes in Laramie, Wyo.; Spokane, Wash.; Clay Center and Cottonwood Falls, Kan. There are persons also taking the work in Oakland, Cal.; Portland, Ore.; Battle Creek, Mich.; El Paso, Tex.; Kirkwood, Mo.; Sheridan, Wyo.; Chicago, Santa Paula, Cal., and many Kansas towns, including Hutchinson, Manhattan, Ottawa, Cottonwood Falls and Bazaar.

Fifteen years ago Mrs. Menninger began teaching the Bible, first in the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian church, but her success was such that there was not sufficient time to carry on the work in the school, so she arranged a special four-year course of study for week-day classes, and in addition has the normal training work for the Presbyterian Sunday school. She has graduated eight different classes which have completed the four-year course.

HOW YOUNG MILLIONAIRE PROVED HIS WORTH

Papa Longyear of Boston is satisfied. He wanted all his children to be able to earn their own living despite the many millions he had piled up in mining and other fields of finance. They have all made good and John Longyear, Jr., has so far followed the parental edict that even his wife can do the same and poverty has no fear for the two.

Miss Elizabeth Barrett, the daughter of an electrical contractor at Houghton, Mich., is the immediate cause of the Longyear happiness.

Papa Longyear has four children. Three of them are girls and all have been taught some useful occupation. Even the youngest has cultivated her voice and it is of the kind that is

GAVE UP HER TITLE FOR LOVE OF LIEUTENANT

Romantic Archduchess Eleonore of Austria gave up her title to marry a naval lieutenant.

Her father the Archduke Charles Stephen, second cousin of the emperor, had Lieutenant von Glass assigned to the command of his yacht. On board he met the Archduchess Eleonore, and they fell in love, although there is no strictness of rank.

But Emperor Franz Josef is a soft-hearted ruler, and when he learned of the attachment of the two young persons he promptly gave his consent to their union, stipulating, however, that the archduchess give up her rank and become simple Frau von Kloss.

While the handsome archduchess has lost her right of precedence at court, she has not chosen poverty as her lot, for upon her wedding day she came into a great fortune, and she and her lieutenant-husband ought to have many causes for happiness if their romance continues. Von Kloss is the son of a poor harbormaster at Trieste.

BRING DEAD TO LIFE

New York Doctor Claims to Have Performed Act.

Blood Transfusion Revivified Pneumonia Victim After Respiration Had Ceased—Dr. Soresi Talks of Operation.

New York.—The miracle of bringing the dead back to life, Dr. A. L. Soresi of Fordham university thinks, will be a scientific achievement of the future. Dr. Soresi, attached to the staff of Flower hospital, has for five years conducted experiments of transfusion of blood, with results, he says, that are amazing.

Professor Soresi told of saving the life of a patient stricken with pneumonia by transfusion of blood to the left side of the heart after respiration had entirely ceased in the patient and the body was apparently moribund. After explaining his experiments with transfusion of blood in animals, Professor Soresi said:

"An experiment with a pneumonia patient was perhaps not as spectacular. This patient was entirely without respiration from all known tests applied, and therefore actually moribund to all human knowledge, when I made a transfusion of blood from a normal man through the jugular vein of the patient. The return to life was prompt and recovery followed in due course.

"If such transfusions could be made promptly the loss of life could be materially lowered.

"In a recent test at Flower hospital I pumped all the blood from a dog until the animal lay absolutely lifeless. For fifteen minutes I allowed the animal to remain without a spark of life. The heart had stopped beating and every function of life had ceased.

"I connected the blood vessels of the dog with those of another dog and permitted the blood to flow. Inside of five minutes there was a complete return of life, and the dog soon was yelping in an entirely normal way. Other experiments with dogs have yielded results as amazing.

"When the way has been found to connect directly with the left side of the heart medical science will be able to restore human beings to life after all animation has been suspended, provided there is no organic trouble. The resuscitation will be effective if cases of gas or drug poisoning, hemorrhages, and such diseases as typhoid fever and pneumonia. Sudden deaths, by accident, when no vital organs have been crippled, will fall within the scope of the transfusion method.

"Under the new science it will be possible to restore life after it has been extinct for half an hour. I am devoting most of my time to these experiments and hope before long to be able to make an important announcement to the world of science."

BUY TIMARCHUS SILVER COIN

British Museum Acquires Relic of Babylon—Is Very Rare and Highly Prized.

London.—The British museum has just acquired a silver coin of Timarchus, Satrap of Babylon, part of the Syrian empire. Timarchus on the death of the reigning king of Syria, Antiochus IV., in 162 B. C., usurped the throne, refusing to acknowledge Demetrius and his wife, Laodice, the legitimate successors. Timarchus reigned only one year, during which time he struck a few coins, which are now very rare. Of these one is a unique gold coin now in the Berlin museum; another a unique silver coin of one drachm, which is in the British museum. Until recently no specimen of the larger four drachm silver coin was known to exist except one, which had been taken by the legitimate ruler, Demetrius and his wife, and re struck with their portraits. Last year a coin bearing the effigy of Timarchus was sold at an auction in Germany, and another example, taken to the British museum a short time ago, has now been secured for the national collection.

IS PROTOTYPE OF "OLD ABE"

Kentucky Farmer May Serve as Model for Sculptor in Making Lincoln Statue.

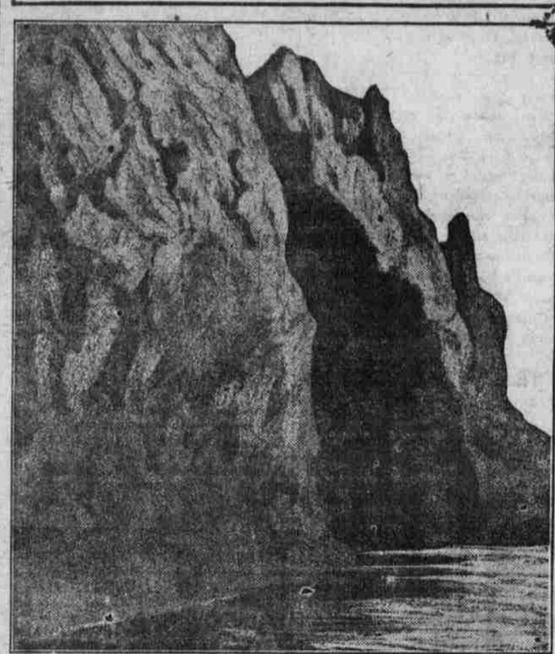
Louisville.—There is a possibility that George Grey Barnard, the New York sculptor who has come to Kentucky in search of a living model for the statue he is to make of Abraham Lincoln, will find his man in Ben A. Lee of Lebanon, Ky.

L. Bernard Thompson of Lebanon having seen Mr. Barnard's advertisements, addressed a letter to him, saying that Mr. Lee, who is fifty years old, is so like the martyred president in form and features that he is familiarly known as "Abe Lincoln."

Of Mr. Lee Mr. Thompson writes: "He is a farmer by occupation and strictly of the Anglo-Saxon type with the physical features of centuries ago."

Locates Sweetheart at "Movies." Craig, Cal.—While watching a moving picture here, Norman E. Lowe recognized one of the actresses as his sweetheart, Miss Thelma Lumsden from whom he was separated three years ago by the wrecking of an excursion boat in the Hudson river. Lowe wrote to her in care of the producers of the film and received a request to come at once.

St. George and the Dragon



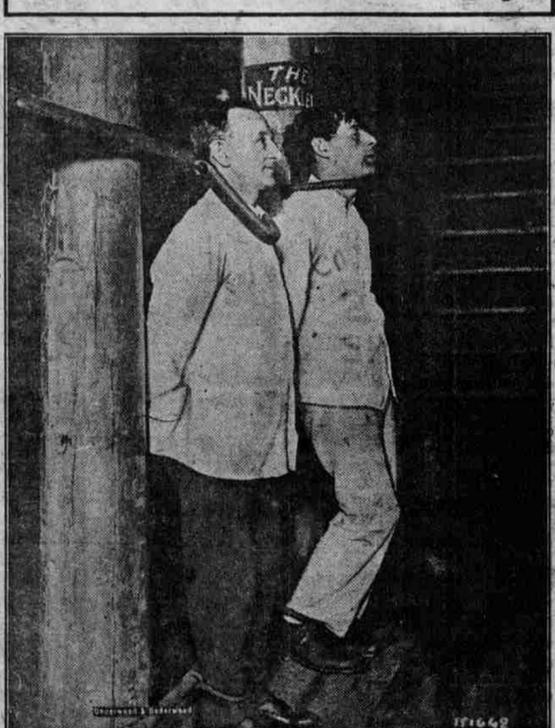
Among the rocky hills on the left bank of the Danube, where it divides Hungary from Servia, are a number of great caverns, one of which is named the cavern of Galamboc, and in it, according to one tradition, the mighty fight between St. George and the dragon took place. After having slain the monster, St. George left the carcass in the cave, where it has lain ever since, putrefying and providing a breeding place for a poisonous fly which kills oxen and horses. Every summer these flies appear in such swarms that they resemble a volume of smoke and sometimes cover an area of several miles.

GRAFT FROM DYING MAN STRIPPED BY LIGHTNING

Grafting flesh from a dying man to the body of a living person has been successfully carried out in a Michigan hospital. Three months ago Jacob Kulem, an employe of the Kalamazoo Paper company, was caught in a paper making machine and the flesh from his right shoulder torn away. Afterwards a victim of a railroad accident was brought in a dying condition to the hospital, and 360 square inches of flesh was taken from his leg and grafted to the shoulder of Kulem, says the San Francisco Call. He is now out of the hospital and entirely restored to his usual health.

WORLD WONDERS

Necklets on Convict Ship



An idea of the treatment meted out to prisoners in the days before humanitarians took up the work of bettering the conditions of convicts may be seen on the "Success," anchored at New York. Down in the hold is the torture chamber, called the "bilboes" or necklets, where refractory prisoners were jacked up against a beam with an iron bracelet around the neck and another pair around the ankles. This punishment proved an infallible means of breaking the spirit of the most unruly prisoner. Total darkness and the pitching and heaving in the heavy seas as the sailing vessel plowed her way through the turbulent waters added a good deal to the discomfort of the unfortunates who were sentenced to the "bilboes." The "Success" is now used as a museum.