

EDISON READY TO MOLD HOUSES

Great Inventor Says \$1,200 Will Build Homes Ordinarily Costing \$30,000

HE USES REINFORCED CONCRETE

New York Plumbers are Doubtful—Wizard of Menlo Park May Have Overlooked Wage Scales in Estimating on Concrete Structures.

New York City.—Thomas A. Edison has announced that he has completed his scheme for building a concrete house for \$1,200, which, if constructed of stone in the same design, would cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

He also says that figure is dependent upon the houses being built on soil which yield sand and gravel from the excavations.

The Edison housebuilding plan calls for a one-family house, on a lot 40x60 feet. The floor plan of the house is 32x30 feet.

The entire house will be of reinforced concrete. That includes the walls, roof, floors, porches, bathtub and the laundry tubs.

Cast-iron molds will be used in building the houses, and they will vary in design. After the concrete foundation has been laid and has hardened the molds will be set up upon it.

Edison says it will take four days to set up the molds. The liquid concrete can be poured into them in six hours.

Edison has George E. Small and Henry J. Harms, Jr., engineers, working with him now. They designed the use and molds and made the experiments.

Madison, Wis.—All persons are prohibited from using profanity in public by a bill passed by both houses of the Wisconsin Legislature.

TRAINED COCKROACH MISSING

Alonzo, the Pride of Harvard Seniors, Disappears from Holworthy Hall—Played Baseball, Cambridge, Mass.—Alonzo, the trained cockroach, pride of Holworthy Hall, is missing and there is regret in the hearts of fifty Harvard students.

Other seniors taught Alonzo various tricks. One was to stand on his hind legs upon the edge of an unlighted pipe without falling in.

Capt. Currier of the ball team laid out a small baseball diamond and taught Alonzo several tricks on it. The one which provoked the most comment was the one in which Alonzo took his stand on the home plate.

THE SUFFRAGETTE COCKTAIL.

Minneapolis, Minn.—The suffragette cocktail is the newest American drink. Any other kind of a cocktail makes a man want to go home and beat his wife.

THE HOPE OF FRENCH MONARCHISTS

Paris, France.—The strike of the public servants in France is hailed with joy by the Bourbon Royalists who are loudly proclaiming in their subsidized newspapers that the downfall of the Republic is at hand.



The head of the movement to restore the monarchy in all its splendor and extravagance is the Duke of Orleans. He has immense wealth and is using it lavishly in a propaganda to place himself on the throne.

Farmer Ploughs Up Whale. Seaside, Ore.—While John Garitte, a small farmer down by the water, was building a bulkhead back of his home on the Necanicum, his plough caught in some hard substance.

TREATED TOWN TO FREE BEER A YEAR

Millionaire Banker, to Spite the "Drys," Kept a Liberty Hall With the "Lid" Off

AIMED TO SPITE PROHIBITIONISTS

Fancied He Could Educate People to a Spirit of Resentment Against Laws that Restricted Their Appetites—Found Them Spineless Slaves.

Glasgow, Mo.—To spite the Prohibitionists, who voted this county "dry," John Morrison Fuller, a millionaire bank president, opened a Personal Liberty Hall and for twelve months served free beer to all who came and as much of it as they desired to drink at any time except Sundays.

"I must admit that my experiment was somewhat of a failure," the millionaire banker said. "I fancied I could educate the people to a spirit of resentment against the laws that were depriving them of their liberties to eat and drink what they chose.

HEN CARRIES EGGS TO MARKET.

Makes Daily Trips to Nearby Stores and Then Reports Home. Trenton, N. J.—New Jersey chickens, now that the scarce season has passed and the price of eggs has dropped to a reasonable figure, are developing freakish tendencies that may, perhaps, be attributed to a lazy fever.

WESTERN HANDS ARE BIGGEST.

Expert Testimony from a Glove Man on Women's Sizes Here and There. Jersey City, N. J.—H. S. Hall, a glove manufacturer of Jersey City, in a suit before Circuit Court Judge Benjamin Vail to recover \$1,000 on a contract to supply gloves to J. Lisauer, a garment dealer of 693 Broad street, Newark, stated that when orders are received from Chicago and St. Louis gloves for women are shipped two sizes larger than to dealers in New York and Newark.

EYES OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

Man Who Couldn't Close Eyelids for Twenty-five Years is Dead. St. Louis, Mo.—After keeping his eyes open for more than twenty-five years, John Anderson died here from tuberculosis, his eyes remaining open even after death.

This strange affliction of the eyelids was contracted while he was working in a limestone quarry. The dust so irritated his eyelids they became raw and grew to the eyeballs. When he desired sleep it was his custom to place his hands over his eyes to exclude the light.

Convicts Want to Play Dice. New Orleans, La.—Convicts in the State Penitentiary have made formal application for permission to play dice on Sundays. It is not likely that it will be granted.

YOUTH BIRTHDAY, "BIG EATS"

Doughnuts, Bacon, Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Hot Biscuits on Aged Mrs. Sprague's Menu. Chicago.—Mrs. Dinah F. Sprague, the oldest living member of the Women's Relief Corps—the women's adjunct to the G. A. R.—celebrated her one hundredth birthday by eating four big meals.

Breakfast. Two cups of strong coffee. Three doughnuts, bacon and eggs. French fried potatoes. Dinner. Hot water, milk. Roast beef, well done. Boiled potatoes, asparagus. A piece of birthday cake. Doughnuts. Supper. Fried chicken. Hot biscuits, baked potatoes. Strawberries, doughnuts. Coffee. Night Lunch. Pot of tea. Piece of cold fried chicken. Bread and butter, preserves. Doughnuts.

"Always eat what you want and as often as you want," said Mrs. Sprague, "and you will be healthy. I've done it all my life and never had to call in a doctor but once, and that was in my ninety-first year, when I fell down on the ice and broke my arm."

"HECKLING" JEROME

New York City.—When William Travers Jerome, District Attorney of New York County, appeared before the people of New York at Cooper Union to answer for his stewardship, he passed through an ordeal unique in the city's annals.



The District Attorney's account of his stewardship was received with varied sentiments on the part of the crowd, which fluctuated repeatedly from hisses to shouts of approval and back again.

Hundreds of questions were literally hurled at him, and after a turbulent meeting the 2,000 or more persons who packed Cooper Union declined to register a vote of confidence.

One individual wished to know if the District Attorney investigated the rumor long current that William C. Whitney came to his death by being shot after a quarrel over a woman. Mr. Jerome replied that he had traced this story to its foundation and found it to be absolutely untrue.

TIGER KILLS A HUNTER.

Tragic Story Brought in by Party from Mountains of Chihuahua. Monterey, Mexico.—Five hunters of a party of six have returned to their homes to tell the tale of the death of Jose Reyes, the sixth man of the party. Two of the hunters live here and three in Chihuahua.

They were hunting for big game in the mountains close to the border of Chihuahua and Nuevo Leon and Reyes and a companion wounded a tiger. The animal attacked the men. It is said to have crushed Reyes's head in the first assault and to have dragged his body off into a cañon, while his companions fled.

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PUT THE TORCH TO UNIVERSITIES

Millionaire Crane, Who Began Life Without Chance to Study, Decries Higher Education

THEY DEMORALIZE OUR YOUTH

Make Them Despise Labor—"Every One of These Institutions is a Fraud and Imposition on the Public"—Are a Positive Curse.

FOUR YEARS' PLAYGROUND SAYS PRESIDENT WILSON.

"Men go to college now for association and sentiment. It is a four years' playground." This is what President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton University, said to Princeton alumni in Louisville. President Wilson spoke of the American college under the present system of education and said that within a decade it will have been determined whether it shall stand or fall.

Chicago.—Richard T. Crane, multi-millionaire, like Robert Louis Stevenson, author, believes more men are spoiled than made by college educations. The multi-millionaire, who spent his early life chiefly in labor, "having little time for study," feels much more strongly on the subject than the famous graduate of the University of Edinburgh, for he favors putting the torch to the universities supported wholly or partly by the various States.

The occasion for this latest expression of the views of Mr. Crane, who made his millions in building elevators, is that members of the Legislature asked his advice on the question of increasing the appropriation for the University of Illinois. The university was organized in 1867. This year's appropriation was \$2,300,000. For fifteen years the appropriations have averaged \$2,000,000.

"I have given a great deal of thought and study to the subject of higher education, and have conducted several systematic investigations with regard to this and many other institutions engaged in advanced lines of education. In fact, as far as I know, I am the only one who has ever taken up this subject in a businesslike way, and the conclusion I have reached is that practically every one of these institutions is a fraud and an imposition on the public.

"In trying some years ago to find out the utility of an academic education for young men who have to earn their own living, inquiries were made not only of graduates from the college and universities, but also of those who had engaged these graduates in a business way, and the result as shown was anything but creditable to the university.

"I am prepared even to go much further than this, for I maintain that instead of being a benefit, such institutions as this are a positive curse and are doing a vast amount of harm by demoralizing the youth of this country.

LAZY MAN IN BED TEN YEARS.

Mumera Not Sick, But Refuses to Get Up—Lives at County Farm. Jerseyville, Ill.—The laziest man in the world lives in this village. His name is John Mumera, and he has been in bed ten years because he is unwilling to comply with the rules of the Jersey County Farm, which say that every one living there shall rise at 5 a. m.

Mumera is not sick. He eats regularly and is in perfect health. "I am ready to hold up my hand and swear that he has kept his word," said Superintendent Mournings of the County Farm. "John has been in bed ten years, and he says he will stay there the remainder of his life."

Coughs Up a Tack. Chardon, Ohio.—Elton Parker, 6 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Parker, coughed up a carpet tack that had lain imbedded near his lungs for three years.

INDIAN MOTHER'S SACRIFICE

Cut Flesh from Her Body for Bait in Order to Feed Her Starving Children. Port Arthur, Ont.—William McKirdy, who has returned from an exploring expedition in the wilds of the Hudson Bay region, confirms a thrilling story of an Indian woman's devotion to her children, which filtered down from the northland a few days ago.

The woman and her children were starving, having eaten their last scrap of food several days before the mother determined upon her almost unparalleled sacrifice. The snares remained empty and all the traps set for wild game were un sprung. Not a living creature could be seen, although the woman, spurred by the cries of her children for food, hunted until her strength was spent.

HAL, A MULE, KILLS HIMSELF.

Plain Case of Suicide, Say Police and Stable Watchman. New York City.—Hal, a mule, killed himself by jumping from a window of the stable at No. 245 West Nineteenth street into the basement of the tenement house at No. 232 West Twentieth street. His neck was broken. The police say he committed suicide on account of grief for a team mate.

Mrs. Kate Hyland, who owns the stable, also was the owner of Hal. The mule was used for trucking purposes, and until six months ago was hitched alongside Daisy. After Daisy died, Hal never went to sleep, according to James Wilson, the night watchman, who says the mule moaned continually, night after night. Wilson went out to get breakfast. Hardly had he left the stable than Hal started to kick at a brick partition, and finally he made a space large enough to get his body through. Then he went to a large window at the rear of the stable, and jumped. The distance was only ten feet, but he died almost instantly.

"BIG TIM" SULLIVAN UNDER FIRE



He has sailed for a long vacation in Europe without replying to the charges in McClure's magazine that he is the leader of a band of crooks and criminals who control New York City's affairs.

MULE WITH REPUTATION.

Has Killed One Man, and Even Tried for Birds in Trees. Owensville, Ind.—To the great relief of the drivers of a big lumber firm here, a mule known as Maude, an inveterate kicker, has been placed on the idle list until she can either be sold or given to any person who will take her as a gift.

Maude has been known to kick at birds singing in the trees, and her disposition to kick without due notice has placed her on the retired list. Every mule works in this neighborhood but Maude.

TOLD SUICIDE STORY CRUELLY.

Woke Wife at Night to Describe First Wife's Death—She Gets Divorce. Cleveland, Ohio.—"He used to wake me up in the night to tell me how his first wife committed suicide," said Mrs. John C. Hemmeter testifying against her husband in a divorce action in Common Pleas Court. Mrs. Hemmeter said the story was "creepy" and that at its conclusion her husband would twirl a revolver about his finger and say: "One wife is dead, another on her way, but the old general lives."