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LIVE NEWS OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD

REPORT OF THE MINERS' EXAMINING BOARD.

It is for the First Lackawanna District and Was Filed with the Court Yesterday—Make-up of the D. L. & W. Board for Today—An Immense Snow Plow for the Lackawanna Company—An Addition to Be Built to the Lackawanna Mill of South Scranton.

The following report of the miners' examining board of the First Lackawanna district was filed in court yesterday:

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 19, 1900. To the president Judge of Lackawanna county:

The following is the report of the miners' examining board of the First district of Lackawanna county:

Examined—January, 23; February, 29; March, 16; April, 23; May, 29; June, 30; July, 21; August, 25; September, 29; October, 25; November, 25; December, 16; total, 318.

Refused—January, 3; February, 5; March, 2; April, 4; May, 4; June, 4; July, 2; August, 4; September, 8; October, 4; November, 3; December, 3; total, 46.

Granted—January, 29; February, 24; March, 14; April, 29; May, 25; June, 26; July, 18; August, 21; September, 31; October, 21; November, 26; December, 16; total, 272.

Registered—January, 27; February, 25; March, 25; April, 19; May, 22; June, 22; July, 23; August, 22; September, 22; October, 21; November, 21; December, 21; total, 222.

Receipts—January, \$26.75; February, \$29.25; March, \$29.25; April, \$33.75; May, \$36.50; June, \$41.50; July, \$43.75; August, \$28.50; September, \$37.25; October, \$28.25; November, \$31.25; December, \$21.25; total, \$340.25.

Expenses—January, \$58.90; February, \$45.90; March, \$48.90; April, \$42.40; May, \$33.40; June, \$45.60; July, \$36.60; August, \$45.60; September, \$45.60; October, \$36.60; November, \$36.60; December, \$36.60; total, \$478.50.

Other expenses books, rent, etc., \$14. Total expenses, \$492.70; total received, \$340.25. Due board for salaries and other items, \$152.45. Number of days board met, 167.

Thomas B. Birtley, Secretary.

The D. L. & W. Board. Following is the D. L. & W. board for today:

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 1900. WILD CATS SOUTH.

1 a. m.—A. E. Ketchum.

3 a. m.—D. Kearney.

5 a. m.—P. Giblin.

7 a. m.—J. McCue.

9 a. m.—James Glinley.

11:30 a. m.—J. Staples, with W. H. Bartholomew's men.

12:30 p. m.—F. Hillert.

1:30 p. m.—D. Wallace, with A. Polhamus men.

1 p. m.—H. V. Colvin.

1:45 p. m.—L. Bar, with O. Miller's men.

4:45 p. m.—G. Rafferty.

SUMMITS.

1:30 p. m., south—G. Frounfelker.

1:57 p. m., south—McLane, with Warwick's men.

1 p. m., south—M. Madigan.

10 a. m.—Peckins.

PUSHERS.

1 a. m., south—M. Moran.

1 p. m., south—M. Murphy.

10 p. m., south—C. Cawley.

PASSENGER ENGINES.

1:30 p. m.—Macgovern.

WILD CATS NORTH.

1:45 p. m., 2 engines—E. Kingsley.

1 p. m., 2 engines—J. E. Masters.

1 p. m., 2 engines—J. Hennigan, with S. Carmody's men.

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Big Snow Plow.

Lackawanna employees are anxiously waiting for a deep snow in order to try their new Russell snow plow. If it does all that is claimed for it the terrors of a night on the Pocono will not be so feared by section men as formerly.

"Those who have never been on the Pocono during a blizzard have little or no knowledge of the terrible hardships suffered by the railroaders," says the Stroudsburg Times. "The wind blowing biting blasts at the rate of forty miles an hour completely numbs the men's bodies and with the thermometer below zero it is a miracle that the men are not frozen to death even while they ply their shovels."

"There's nothing a railroader dreads more than a blizzard on the Pocono," said Train Dispatcher Frank Smiley to a Stroudsburg Times man the other day. "It generally means an all night job. The snow is driven by the wind into the cuts and packed hard, so that as fast as the men clean out one another is filled up. Frost-bitten? Well, I should say so. No man works long before it gets him. I've seen men so numb that they could not raise their hands. No, sir, none of us relish a blizzard night on the mountain."

"It is expected that the Russell plow will do away with a great deal of the terror. This huge affair certainly looks as if it had the power, but the men are afraid that in the cuts the plow will not do good work. Time alone will tell and that is why the railroaders are anxious for a snow to try it."

This Russell plow is thirty-four feet in length, ten feet one inch in width, stands about twelve feet high and weighs 49,200 pounds. It looks like a great box built of light wood, the front being reinforced by heavy iron. The plow was built especially for double track work and is to be permanently attached to the southern division. The machine is to be pushed from the rear and does its best work when run at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour. The number of this plow is 95 and was built by the Russell Snow Plow company, of Boston, who hold patents on it dating from 1884.

An Additional Mill.

Contractor Conrad Schroeder yesterday morning broke ground for the construction of a new addition to the Lackawanna mills in South Scranton. This addition is to be 40x50 feet in size and four stories high. It is to be completed by June 1, and will be used for the manufacture on an extensive scale of cotton underwear.

The cotton mill has always manufactured cotton underwear, but this business has so increased lately along this particular line that the new building came to be an absolute necessity. It will have a capacity of 500 dozen pieces of underwear a day, and a large extra force of employees will, of course, be needed.

WILD HORSES DYING OUT.

Fencing Big Texas Pastures Has Greatly Reduced the Herds.

From the Galveston News. The wild horses which used to roam the Texas prairies are about all gone. I asked an old resident what had become of them and he told me that only a very few remained, and that they were in the large pastures, and that they were being killed as often as a she could be had at them. I asked him the reason for this destruction, and he said that they were worthless, in the first place, and in the second they stole other horses which were good and carried them off with them. He informed me also that of all the wild animals a horse or mule which had formerly been under the dominion of man was the wildest when once it became a part of a wild herd. The stallions of the wild herd were always ambitious to keep their "hunch" filled, and would steal a mare or horse, or even a mule, from the settlements or cow ranches, when the occasion presented itself. When once a tame horse or a mule got with a wild herd he became the wildest and most cunning of them all. As the wire fences went up the territory of the wild horse contracted. Finally all that remained were in the large pastures.

I was told that before the pastures came it was the custom to "walk down" the wild herds and reduce them to servitude. One man I met here told me how this "walking down" was done. He said that the wild herd which one was determined to capture always had a certain range. This range was known from men who scouted on the prairies. For instance, one man may have seen the "hunch," for that is what the herd is called, up near some particular point in the northwest of the Panhandle. Another ranger may have seen the same "hunch" fifty miles southeast of where the first man saw it. Others may have seen it along the route between the two points. Thus it would be concluded that the range was between the two points mentioned. Forces of five men to enter the expedition to walk down the "hunch." A man would be stationed every twenty or thirty miles along the range; route, and then the "hunch" would be started. For the first day the wild horses would scamper off, thinking their manes flying in the breeze, making a sight that would whet the desire of those pursuing them to capture them, for there is nothing prettier in the world than a troop of wild horses at a distance. They look perfect when they throw up their heads and snort, and when they scamper away. I have seen one or two bunches myself. The man who starts them on their trips follows them for a day on a pony, taking his time. His place is taken by the second man about nightfall, presuming that the bunch is already on the march. The second man follows them all night, for the hunt is made when there is a full moon, so that the bunch can be tracked at night as well as during the day. On the morning when the third man takes the trail, the stallion, or mule, is started, and is behind the herd, biting and kicking the lagards in it. The third day, or even the evening of the second day, finds the bunch strung out in a straight line, each following the other in Indian file. They are getting very tired then, and they are almost too tired to eat or drink. The pursuer, knowing that they are tiring, forces them, and thus the chase continues for about five days, when the whole herd is so tired that it is easily taken.

But, so said my informant, when the work is done and every horse taken, the pursuers are always unanimous in their verdict that the game was not worth the labor expended, for the horses taken are a measly set, and never good for anything. "Cresting" means shooting the animal just beneath the mane, not low enough to break the neck, and yet low enough so that a shock sufficient to bring down the animal will be inflicted. It requires the best marksmanship to do this, and as the distance at which the shooting must be done is usually great, very few animals have been taken in this way.

HOW TO CURE A COLD.

From Tit-Bits.

What our forefathers must have suffered from the rigors of women's togues may be partly gauged by the drastic measures they devised to tame them—the ducking stools and muzzles, of which several still survive in different parts of England, rusting in disuse.

It was not many years since one of these "instruments of reform" was discovered in the tower of old Hackney church. It was a ducking (or, perhaps, more correctly, a "cucking") stool, consisting of a stout framework of iron hoops, with a bottom of iron lattice work, on which the scolds of a century or more ago took their seats for their enforced baptism in river or pond; probably in this case in Hackney brook, which used to flow within a few yards of where Mare street now stands.

Warwickshire is especially rich in these survivals of eighteenth century "home rule" methods. There is one at Kenilworth which did good service to the husbands of Queen Elizabeth's days; and another is to be found in the crypt of Beauchamp church. But though England in these days of gallant husbands and amiable

wives has no use for such barbaric methods, there is a rumor that "ducking" is to be revived in New Jersey, where certain ladies' tongues refuse to yield to moral suasion; and muzzles are in constant use for refractory women in the provincial penitentiary at Cologne. Not long ago a girl who was wearing one of these muzzles was found dead, and the chief officials of the prison were charged with manslaughter. It could not be proved, however, that death was due to suffocation from the muzzle, and the officials were acquitted.

In the statute books of Virginia is to be found this quaint and amusing law: "Whereas many babbling women slander and scandalize their neighbors, for which their poor husbands are often involved in chargeable and vexatious suits and costs in great damages. Be it enacted that in actions of slander occasioned by the wife, after judgment passed for the damages, the woman shall be punished by ducking, and if the slander be so enormous as to be adjudged to be preferred by him, and if when the wife had had an experience of cold water she gave her husband an experience of hot water, at least it was preferable to paying a heavy fine."

It is sad to record that very few husbands were so complacent enough to pay the tobacco; and in Virginia to this day a prudent man never ventures to speak of any woman as a "little duck." The term of endearment is too painfully reminiscent.

Time was in England when the milder methods of Rome was tried; and a woman whose tongue was a source of vexation to her husband or neighbors was haled before the magistrate, and given the option of a fine or a ducking. As, however, the payment of the fine usually fell to the lot of the husband, it is, perhaps, little wonder that ducking was preferred by him; and if when the wife had had an experience of cold water she gave her husband an experience of hot water, at least it was preferable to paying a heavy fine.

It is interesting, at the end of the nineteenth century, to conjure up a picture of the third or fourth who was as penitent a woman as the village contained, and was allowed to proceed home a sadder and wiser woman—until the next time. The chair end of the plank was then pushed far over the edge of the pool, and at a signal it was tilted deep into the green water until the scold was completely immersed. When the dripping, half-drowned woman was raised to the surface again, to the jeers and laughter of the onlookers, it can be imagined that her tongue wagged to some purpose. After a second dose she emerged more subdued, and after a third or fourth she was as penitent a woman as the village contained, and was allowed to proceed home a sadder and wiser woman—until the next time.

An alternative to the ducking stool was the muzzle, or "scold's bridle," a helmet with rings and knobs for the head, and which was provided with a gag which insured silence as long as it was in position. Another favorite method of "taming a shrew" was to carry her through the village seated on a plank, to the accompaniment of the old songs and ballads the village could muster. How well for some of us that we were not born a century earlier!

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