

Montour American.

FRANK C. ANGLE, Proprietor.

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ABOUT THE YEAR 1906

It is usual at this season to review the year just closing, noting the more important events, so they may be preserved for future reference.

In the long list of accidents and disasters three of nature's convulsions stand out in calamitous relief—namely, the fiery eruption of Vesuvius, April 7, and the Pacific coast quaking, which resulted in the tumbling down and burning of the greater portions of San Francisco, April 17, and of Valparaiso, Chile, August 16. A storm September 27, swept the Gulf coast, taking over 100 lives and doing a million's damage. It is too soon to know the total fatalities and losses from the various railroad, mine, fire, flood and shipwreck accidents.

Death's harvest included Christian, King of Denmark; Harper's educator; Dunbar, poet; McCall, financier; Arthur, playwright; Swift, packer; Brill, car builder; Shaler, geologist; Martin, Jesuit leader; Curie, scientist; Schurz, reformer; Anthony, suffragist; Ibsen, dramatist; Mulvaney, painter; Davitt, reformer; Gorman, senator; New, journalist; Seddon, New Zealand premier; H. W. Ward, naturalist; Jules Breton, painter; Garcia, singing teacher; Beit, diamond king; Craigie, novelist; Rosewater, journalist; Hitt, congressman; Catter, poet; Ketchum, congressman; Henderson, former speaker of the house; Langley, scientist; Scofield, soldier; Richter, German radical leader; Sage, financier; Kodama, head of Japanese army; Jones, evangelist; Mrs. Jefferson Davis; Shafter, soldier; Brunetiere, French critic; Baroness Burdett-Cuttis, philanthropist.

President Roosevelt made a notable fight on the Beef Trust, and is now engaged in seeking control or curbing the greed of the great financial octopuses. A Pure Food law went into effect Tuesday; also denatured alcohol will benefit the nation. Organized labor entered politics. Secretary Taft made a visit of comity to the South American republics. The final decision to make the great ship waterway across the Isthmus of Panama in the form of a lock canal as definitely announced by the canal commission January 7, and in November President Roosevelt broke a precedent by a chief executive setting his foot on foreign soil, visiting Panama and Porto Rico.

An executive order, September 19, extended the eight-hour law to all public works, whether conducted in government shops or otherwise. The civil service rules also were extended to include all laborers in the government employ.

The examination of Pennsylvania railroad officials shocked the public by its disclosure of numerous official holdings of stock in coal companies, which was open to no other construction than that of bribery to secure railroad favors.

Several railroads, sugar and other corporations were fined for rebating. The life insurance scandals was the greatest sensation of the year.

Additions to the navy during the year included the battleships New Jersey, Georgia and Vermont, and the cruisers Washington and Montana. Several midshipmen were dismissed from the academy at Annapolis for laziness. The dry dock Dewey reached Manila safely July 4. On April 24 the body of Admiral Paul Jones was buried at Annapolis with fitting naval and civic ceremony.

Lieutenant General Chaffee retired, and was succeeded by General Bates, February 4, and September 20 MacArthur succeeded Corbin as lieutenant general.

The situation which developed in Cuba when the Palma government failed to check the rebellious elements placed upon President Roosevelt the necessity of making a momentous decision for or against armed intervention and occupation of the island. General Magdon is provisional governor supported by an American army. Three companies of colored infantry were discharged by the President, for complicity in a riot at Brownsville, Texas.

Secretary Hitchcock ordered the withdrawal of all public coal and oil lands from sale or settlement, October 8.

Cabinet changes were: Bonaparte to be attorney general; Moody to the supreme bench; Metcalf to the navy; Oscar S. Straus, the New York merchant, commerce and labor; Ambassador Von L. Meyer to be postmaster general; Cortelyou to the treasury; Garfield, secretary of the interior. Hitchcock and Shaw retiring.

Oklahoma and Indian territory became the State of Oklahoma on June 16.

It remained for the world of 1906 to see the first mechanical navigation of the air from a standing start in a screw-propelled aeroplane. This was achieved by M. Santos Dumont, at Paris, September 13, in his airship, the Bird of Prey.

Lieutenant Robert E. Peary carried the American colors over the treacherous Polar ice fields in the long Arctic night to the farthest point ever reached by man, or to the 87th parallel. Captain Amundsen, returning from his navigation of a Northwest passage, announced that he had located the North magnetic pole.

Dr. Oswald of Germany, confirmed Loeb in the chemical creation of life. Beebe of Cornell, found a cure for Grave's disease, and Ballahona of Italy, identified the germ of tetanus. At John Hopkins matter was found to be synonymous with electricity. Navy of Michigan, found the germ of sleeping sickness. Ernest of Harvard, photographed live disease germs. Cobalt was disclosed as the

basis of Edison's revolutionizing electrical battery. Simplified spelling was taken up by President Roosevelt. The Nobel peace prize was awarded by Norway in December to President Roosevelt, and the \$40,000 proceeds was devoted by him to the creation of a permanent Board of Labor Arbitration at Washington. The nation's statue of McKinley was unveiled at Columbus. The American people showed a lot of interest in the marriage of the President's daughter Alice to Representative Longworth, which took place at the White House February 17.

The soil gave us an output valued at \$6,794,000,000, a total of \$324,000,000 bigger than last year's. In the crop realm, corn was king at a valuation of \$1,100,000,000. Agricultural reports reached the high water mark of \$976,000,000.

The railroads did the biggest business in their history, increasing dividends, and making vast improvements. The coal operators and miners came together and made a three year's truce. Wages were increased by the big railroads, steel and oil trust, cotton and other manufacturers. The Simpson tunnel, under the Alps was in operation January 25. The Steel Trust bought land for the erection of the greatest plant in the world on the lake shore in Indiana, the place to be known as Gary. Lines were laid for the Lake Superior and Hudson Bay canal; Chicago inaugurated its new freight subway August 15. The New York Central ran its first suburban electric train October 1, and started the system December 11.

Any anxiety that exists in the borough as to the condition of the fire plugs resulting from the recent cold wave would seem to be without any good foundation. The water commissioners explain that the fire plugs from one end of the borough to the other, as is customary, were carefully inspected before the advent of winter and are known to be in good condition. An inspection was also made after frost.

Nothing, it is urged, could be more advisable than to open the fire plugs at this season of the year. It is unfortunate enough at this season when the plugs have to be opened in case of a fire and thus be exposed to the danger of freezing.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dread disease that has been able to cure in all the stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surface of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in her work. The proprietors have secured faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for its cures. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

The New Year's season was celebrated at Pottsgrove by a delightful surprise party held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Young. Music and games helped to pass a very pleasant evening.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Roomsberg, Mr. and Mrs. Keefe, Mr. and Mrs. John Messersmith, Misses Anna Robinson, Jennie Dewalt, Cora Heddens, Anna, May and Sara Young, Nettie Boyer, Lizzie, Orgie and Maed Winterstein, Dora and Emma Young, Rebecca, Irene and Mabel Roomsberg, Master George Winterstein, Charles Young, Edward Keefe, Earl Fisher, Wilbur, Auten, Charles, Hemminger, Robert Wertz, John Shilly, Norman Heddens, George Miller, and Jacob Snyder.

New Year's evening was very pleasantly celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Leighow, Honey moon street, with a birthday party given in honor of Mr. Leighow. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. James P. Rishel, and daughter Viola, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Redding, Mrs. Elizabeth Thatcher, Mrs. Reuben Boyer, Mrs. Charles Askins, William Rishel and Mrs. Mary A. Stricker, of Catwissa.

A very pleasant family reunion was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bowman, near Pottsgrove on Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Boyer, Mrs. Norman Bowman and daughters, Helen and Idyl, of New Columbia; Mrs. James Kaiser and daughters, Hilda and Gladys, of West Mill; and Misses Mina, Nettie, Catherine, Elizabeth and Jennie Boyer, of West Mill.

Mrs. Grant Huber received the turkey disposed of by the P. O. A. of diverside a few days ago. She held ticket No. 278. Abram Rosenstein received the pair of chickens. His ticket was No. 154.

Thomas M. Huff, of Svendtorp, enlisted in cavalry branch of the United States army at Williamsport, Saturday. He was sent to Fort Slocum, N. Y., for an examination.

Harry Quinn, son of William Quinn, Cooper street, met with a fall at Keim's brick yard, Monday night, and sustained a fracture of his right arm. Dr. Newbaker set the broken bone.

William Sheehy, whose death was noted in our last issue, was consigned to the grave in St. Joseph's cemetery yesterday morning. The funeral took place from St. Joseph's Catholic church at 9 o'clock and was largely attended. Rev. Father M. J. O'Reilly officiated. The pall bearers were: William Murphy, Michael Reilly, P. McGaffrey, John Manning, Michael Ryan and John McCleod.

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An Autocrat of The Poultry Farm

By Otto B. Senga

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Josiah Preston always had been of a despotic disposition, but his natural tendency in this direction seemed to strengthen after his remunerative experiments in poultry raising.

Josiah's mind apparently held but one thought—his hens. The earth was made for the sole purpose of providing them with a scratching ground. The sun rose to give them light and warmth; night followed that they might have time to rest.

When Flower Preston, Josiah's only daughter, came home from boarding school, and her father discovered by diligent questioning that the war in color, brooder, trap nest, bone cutter elicited no answering enthusiasm, he grunted sarcastically, "A gal that's been to boarding school for three years and don't know a leg band from a bone cutter."

"You must learn about things as soon as you can," he whispered the nothing, nervous, "if you can't talk poultry talk with your pa you might just as well be in the desert of Sahara."

"There's one comfort," continued Josiah; "I ain't raised the only fool there in this county."

"Squire Curtis' boy got home from college Father day, and what do you think, instead of studyin' law so's to help his pa, he's been studyin' bugs. Four years in college, and don't know a thing but bugs."

"Maybe his pa wanted him to," remarked Mrs. Preston pacifically. "Waal," harshly, "I can't crow over Squire Curtis none. His boy don't know nothin' but bugs, and as near as I kin figure out, that gal don't know nothin' at all. The only advantage is it took her a year less to learn it."

When young Curtis began calling at the farm, which he did with suspicious promptness, Josiah's cup of misery was full.

"For the land's sake," he exclaimed testily to his wife, "can't you go in there and see what she's doin'?"

"You don't need to," he gasped. "Mrs. Preston nodded.

"Don't take it so hard, pa," she murmured soothingly. "Jim Curtis is one of the likeliest young men, and—"

"I could stand it better if 'twasn't for the bugs," he moaned feverishly. "If he didn't want to be a lawyer like his pa, why didn't he take up something sensible? What good is a bug? Bugs—millions on 'em—couldn't hatch out one chicken!"

"He's studyin' bees now, pa, and they're good for honey," appeasingly, "he has ever so many hives—new-fangled ones—in his pa's back yard."

Josiah only groaned.

And, pa, it's all arranged, only I said he'd have to be an old-fashioned enough to ask your consent, and Flower, like a good girl, said she'd never marry anybody without her pa's consent. That's a good deal nowadays, pa."

"Perhaps it was because of Josiah's reputation for irascibility, perhaps because the young man felt that he could express himself more satisfactorily in writing, that his formal application for the consent of the autocrat reached Josiah by mail.

The old man read the letter several times, growling and grunting. When he rose there was a grim smile on his face and a look of determination in his beaming eyes.

"This was on Tuesday. In the evening Mrs. Preston reminded him, "Aren't you going in to see Jim, pa?" "Dunno, he's callin' on me," testily. "But you—his letter!" "I ain't in no hurry to answer it. I'm makin' up my mind."

He might put the cold storage while he builds the incubator."

"On Tuesday of the third week the autocrat remarked sarcastically: "I saw Jim this morning, Flower. I told him if he brought the chickens I'd announce the engagement in the county paper an give you \$200 for weddin' flowers."

"Flower set her red lips in a firm, straight line. She had not inherited all her characteristics from her submissive mother.

"Lead me your pencil, pa. I want to make out a list of weddin' folders for the house."

"Saturday evening came, but Mr. Curtis did not appear.

"Where's the bug professor, Flower?" asked her father tauntingly.

"He's wrapping the chickens up in cotton so they can't take cold," retorted Flower spitefully.

"That's not the usually smiling and amiable Edith out of temper, and long before the first trial on the programme had been called she was in a captious mood and wishing she had not come."

Miss Daws, on the contrary, was all enthusiasm and anticipation, and her exclamations finally brought forth the remark from Edith:

"What a stupid thing to waste our time over. These so-called athletes are not worth the trouble."

"There are eighteen," remarked Jim earnestly, "four more than you asked for, but I put them all in for good measure."

"Then chicks didn't come out in the shell today," he declared with conviction.

"No," answered Jim quietly. "They came out Thursday."

Josiah gazed at him in actual consternation.

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His Hour of Triumph

By SIDNEY AVRES

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It was an interstate contest and 15,000 spectators had assembled to witness the foot race, the long jump, the high jump, the throwing of the hammer and other feats of agility and strength. Among them were Edith Lawson and Isabel Daws, who had arrived upon the grounds escorted by Edith's brother Dick, but he had left them to speak to one of the athletes and had disappeared. This incident had not the usually smiling and amiable Edith out of temper, and long before the first trial on the programme had been called she was in a captious mood and wishing she had not come."

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later was ogling Miss Lawson and making himself obnoxious. The young man, opposite, politely requested the lady to go to the desk and was promptly consigned to a climate that is hotter than this. He didn't go. He simply took the disturber by the neck and dragged him into the smoking car and flung him into a seat with a bang. That was the last of the disturber. He didn't like the atmosphere of a drawing room, Miss Lawson would have thanked the stranger, but he gave her no opportunity. He simply returned to his seat and resumed his reading as if nothing had happened.

"That evening as the passengers left the dining house where they had had their supper, a young man who had come with a couple of guns belted about him and too much liquor within him freshly halted Miss Lawson and pretended to recognize her as a Miss Thompson. It was a lamentable failure. He was picked up some way, somehow, and dropped off the platform, and the young man who did it never even looked back to see if there was to be any shooting. He might have been thanked again if he hadn't been so busy with his own affairs.

Things were coming to a head, however. At midnight that night the train was held up at a water tank. There were five in the party of ruffians, and three of them entered the sleeper and commanded passengers to "shell out."

The command was promptly obeyed in the first two cars, but the man who started to work the trick in the Idaho ran up against a snag. The reserved young man brought out a gun and did some shooting. He went outside and did some more. In fact, he had a bullet or handkerchief, on the ground in front of him. If the procession passes over it it is regarded as a good sign, but if it makes a way round the reverse is believed.

M. Guerin-Meneville, a celebrated French naturalist, said that if the rear portion of this wonderful snake-like procession be brought into contact with the front part and a sort of circle formed the insects will keep moving round of some gathering matter without apparently noticing that they are getting no "forrader" on their journey. If the procession be broken in two, the portions will reunite in a short time. The Norwegian peasants, when they meet one of these trains, will lay some articles of their clothing such as a hat or handkerchief, on the ground in front of it. If the procession passes over it it is regarded as a good sign, but if it makes a way round the reverse is believed.

Go among a crowd of wharfingers or longshoremen or the roughest and most reckless sailors, who have neither home nor principles of any sort, and talk about the things of the head or of the heart, and they will think that you are a harmless but quite futile specimen from crankdom. Try to awaken in their mind a horror of the brutality of their own life, speak in moral terms of the force and beauty of kindness, of the value of any attribute of a polite and civilized society and way of life, and you will be soliciting the wind, talking to a statue, shouting in the desert. But in the most uncouth assemblage and in the vilest haunt in the English speaking world mention the play of your own country, and you will find a ready response.

Corued beef hash was made by Senator Hanna's cook as very popular when the head waiter of the senate restaurant wanted hash prepared very carefully he ordered it this way: "One corued beef hash for Senator Hanna."

One day when the restaurant was doing a heavy business almost everybody seemed to be eating hash. "Corued beef hash for Senator Hanna" had been ordered fourteen times. When the fifteenth order went down to the kitchen the chef shouted: "That's fifteen orders for Senator Hanna! He'd better watch out or he'll founder himself."

There is a curious case in Fortescue's "reports" relating to the privilege of peers, in which the bailiff who many years ago arrested a lord was forced by the court to kneel down and ask his pardon, though he alleged that he had acted by mistake, for that his lordship had a dirty shirt, a wornout suit of clothes and only sixpence in his pocket, so that he could not believe that he was a peer and arrested him through inadvertence—Green Bag.

A shabby necktie or soiled linen or a cheap, well worn hat may cost you a very dear, for it may be a turning point in some one's mind who has been thinking of patronizing you. Business men are keen eyed, very sharp and often influenced by little things. Many a worthy youth has been sent away when applying for a situation because of some telltale in his dress or manner which made a bad impression.

Young men may so far emphasize the matter of dress that their good appearance is almost entirely lost to them. At the same time appearances have much to do with one's advancement, especially in large cities. In New York it is almost impossible for young men to get a start who are obliged to overcome the handicap of an unfavorable impression. It seems as though New York men don't forgive anything quicker than a slovenly or a poverty stricken appearance—Success Magazine.

Another newsmonger brought unsalable plays and high notions of the austerity of the artistic vocation. Three months after his arrival he was delighted to get a commission to write the handbook a utilitarian publisher proposed to sell to visitors seeing the metropolis. This commission brought not only a fair payment but the manuscript on delivery, but involved a vital secondary consideration. The title of the work was "Where to Eat in New York," and its preparation made it necessary for the author to dine each evening for a month in a different cafe at the proprietor's expense—James H. Collins in Atlantic.

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THE TINY SCIARA.

A Procession of Worms Seen in Hungary and Norway.

In some of the Hungarian forests and in the pine woods of Norway there exists a tiny, wormlike insect called the sciara, of the genus of the Protocera. During the month of July or early in August they gather together in large numbers, preparatory to migrating in search of food or for change of location. When setting out on this journey, they stick themselves together by means of some glutinous matter and form a huge serpent-like mass, often reaching a length of between forty and fifty feet and several inches in thickness. As the sciara is only on an average about three thirty-seconds of an inch in length, with no appreciable breadth whatever, the number required to compose a continuous line of the size above mentioned is almost incalculable. Their pace is, of course, very slow, and upon meeting an obstacle, such as a stick or stone, they will either writhe over or around it, sometimes breaking into two bodies for this purpose.

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A shabby necktie or soiled linen or a cheap, well worn hat may cost you a very dear, for it may be a turning point in some one's mind who has been thinking of patronizing you. Business men are keen eyed, very sharp and often influenced by little things. Many a worthy youth has been sent away when applying for a situation because of some telltale in his dress or manner which made a bad impression.

Young men may so far emphasize the matter of dress that their good appearance is almost entirely lost to them. At the same time appearances have much to do with one's advancement, especially in large cities. In New York it is almost impossible for young men to get a start who are obliged to overcome the handicap of an unfavorable impression. It seems as though New York men don't forgive anything quicker than a slovenly or a poverty stricken appearance—Success Magazine.

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