

SAYS COOK'S IN GERMANY.

Brother of Brooklyn Explorer Receives Letter From Him.
Port Jervis, N. Y., Jan. 8.—Theo. Cook of Callicoon, Sullivan county, brother of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the arctic explorer, was in this city a short time on his way home from Brooklyn and made a statement concerning his brother, who has several relatives here.

He says he has just received a letter from Dr. Cook, in which the doctor wrote that he was living in a secluded place in Germany and that his wife was with him. Both are happy to get away from the public, and the doctor is having a much needed period of rest, during which he hopes to recover his shattered health.

Brother Theodore explains that inasmuch as Dr. Cook is not an astronomer he cannot furnish astronomical observations, which is all that is lacking in the Copenhagen reports.

Questioned as to the place in Germany where Dr. Cook is staying, his brother declined to divulge it.

DONOHUE'S STRONG PUNCH.

Squire Donohue, the Wilkes-Barre dispenser of justice, who gained a reputation in days gone by for taming wife beaters by thrashing them, is again in the limelight as the result of a pugilistic encounter. Abram Elkins was his victim and that Abe did not land in a hospital for repairs was due more to his own good fortune than to the squire's lack of a strong punch.

While the trouble was on some of the spectators giggled, but their levity was turned to soberness when the doctory squire shook his fist and yelled that he'd throw them out of the office one at a time if they didn't act the way they should in a court room.

Elkins wasn't a wife beater. He had been arrested with other men who comprise the Wilkes-Barre Kosher Beef Co., for selling unwholesome food and had been held for court with them. The others took their medicine quietly, but Elkins became obstreperous and the alderman imposed a \$5 fine for disorderly conduct. Elkins said he would go to jail before he would pay it.

The squire didn't try to make him change his mind, but retired to his private office to listen to another case there. No sooner had the testimony been started there than Elkins knocked at the door and said he was ready to pay the fine. Nettled by the interruption the squire jerked the door open and planted his fist squarely on Elkins' jaw. (Laughter by those present.)

After picking himself up Elkins paid and got out.

IT WON'T COST MUCH.

Hens Can be Made to Lay at One Cent Per Day.

A message to the effect that the high price of eggs in the winter can be done away with through the application of scientific methods, such as are taught in the Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture, was delivered Thursday by F. G. Wile, a Montgomery county poultryman. He told the audience at his lecture before the attendance at the fourth annual farmers week at State College that he kept the majority of his hens laying from the first of October until the last of February and that he accomplished that fact at a cost of only one cent an egg. Most farmers say it requires an expenditure of 5 cents for them to obtain a chicken egg in December, Mr. Wile told how he did it.

"It cost me 5 cents a day to feed twelve hens, and now I am obtaining on an average five eggs from each dozen hens daily. You appreciate that it cost me just as much to feed those chickens when they are laying eggs as when they are not, and, therefore the more eggs you obtain daily, from twelve chickens the less is the single cost of production."

"Now the secret lies in how to produce the greatest number of eggs from the same number of hens. To obtain that end proper breeding, feeding, housing and care are essential. The ration I feed my laying hens, and which costs me only 5 cents daily for twelve chickens, is chosen because of its ready assimilation, and consists of sprouted oats, beef scraps, cross-cut bones and a variety of wheat, barley, corn and a little buckwheat. I am very careful to keep the chicken house well ventilated and the floors littered with clean straw or leaves. I believe any careful and observing person can also get five eggs daily from twelve hens at a cost of a cent an egg at this season if they follow the method which I employ."

BLAME THE FLEA.

War on the modest, unassuming, but industrious flea, which has come forward as a new disseminator of deadly germs, is occupying the attention of the Marine Hospital Service and Biological Survey.

The flea is accused officially of carrying the bubonic plague, and it is stated that the United States is seriously threatened by the spread of that dread disease. The scientists figure that ground squirrels spread the epidemic and fleas infest the squirrels. They also nibble at rats.

A crusade against ground squirrels, rats and fleas is now on, and the public health officials have arranged a conference at which plans for stamping out the plague will be prepared.

Nine persons in California have been attacked by the plague, seven dying.

DARIUS OGDEN MILLS DEAD.

Left a Large Fortune and Was a Map of Great Energy.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 4.—Darius Ogdan Mills, philanthropist and financier, father of Mrs. White-law Reid, wife of the Ambassador to Great Britain, grandfather of the Countess of Granard and director in many corporations, died at his winter home, near here, of heart disease. He was eighty-four years old.

Mr. Mills' fortune is estimated at from \$25,000,000 up. He made it entirely himself, having begun life as a poor boy.

Death came almost without warning, after a period of better health than Mr. Mills had enjoyed in several years. Mrs. Reid was the only child at his bedside when the end came, his son, Ogdan Mills, and his wife having started for New York yesterday, believing the aged financier to be in excellent condition.

Mr. Mills' health had been feeble and Dr. Hertzstein was summoned hurriedly when his patient was suddenly attacked. He arrived shortly after Mr. Mills' death.

Dr. Hertzstein said that Mr. Mills' death was due to aneurysm perioris, the form of heart trouble from which he had suffered for many months and which compelled his retirement from all active engagements. He appeared feeble when he arrived in San Francisco a few weeks ago, but his ailment had shown no alarming symptoms. His daughter, Mrs. Reid, has been his constant companion since he left New York.

Mr. Mills was born in West Salem, Westchester county, N. Y., in 1825. He was educated at North Salem and at Mount Pleasant Academy, Sing Sing, New York.

Starting his business career as a clerk in New York city, he became cashier of the Merchant's Bank of Erie county, at Buffalo, in 1847. When the gold excitement arose Mr. Mills came to California, arriving in 1849, to take from the start a large part in the development of the Golden State.

He first founded the D. O. Mills bank in Sacramento, and, in 1864, became president of the Bank of California, which post he held till 1867. When this institution became insolvent in 1878, Mr. Mills again took the reins and placed it once more on a sound basis.

The greater part of his time since 1880 was spent in New York City, where he built a system of hotels and lodging houses for the poor, founded a training school for male nurses and was active in many other charities.

Mr. Mills had a prominent hand in as the owner of the Mills building, paid for, as alleged, by the profits of a big speculation in Lake Shore, and the teeming hive of scores of millionaires. He was constantly engaged in large operations, which he conducted as quietly as possible, but which usually became more or less familiar to Wall street.

Mr. Mills had a prominent hand in the building of the Southern Pacific, and for many years was a member of its directorate.

When the first sign of the falling of his remarkable energy came two years ago, he resigned from the Southern Pacific and Erie directorates. His holdings in upwards of thirty corporations in whose affairs he once took active part, are said to total many millions of dollars.

Mrs. Mills is survived by two children, Mrs. Elizabeth Mills Reid, wife of Whitelaw Reid, United States Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and a son, Ogdan Mills. His granddaughters, the twin daughters of Ogdan Mills, are both married. Gladys Mills is the wife of Henry Carnegie Phipps, of Pittsburg, a member of the wealthy and exclusive family of the "steel millionaire" group. Miss Elizabeth Mills is now the Countess Granard, having married the Earl of Granard last year.

ENUMERATORS ARE SCARCE.

Public-Spirited People to Apply at Once.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 8.—Census Director Durand stated to-day that, as a result of his conferences with the supervisors of census throughout the country he finds that in many sections, especially in the large cities, there have not been as yet sufficient applications for the positions of enumerators. It looks, he thinks, as if the country is so prosperous that people are not as anxious to get these responsible places as had been expected.

The scarcity is giving the Director some concern, as only a few weeks remain before the date for closing the consideration of applications. It will be impossible generally to extend the application time limit, as to examine the "test" papers, with the necessary care to insure the designation of qualified persons, will consume every moment of the time allowed for this phase of the work of selecting the enumerators, leaving nothing for an extension of the date for shutting down on application.

The Director therefore urges all persons desiring places as enumerators to make application as quickly as possible, and he hopes that, in order to help get a perfect census, public-spirited and energetic people throughout the country will offer themselves for these positions, even though they may not care for them from the standpoint of the pay involved. He also trusts that employers will deem it their duty to give leave of absence to their employees who may desire to act as enumerators. Some slight sacrifice of this sort will be amply repaid by the improved quality of the census re-

turns. Continuing, the Director said:

"Although the actual work of taking the census will not begin until April 15, it is essential that those who wish to act as enumerators should apply immediately. Except under unusual circumstances, no application received after January 25th will be considered. About 68,000 enumerators will be required. Each will work in his own locality. Any competent person is entitled to apply for this position, and will be fairly considered for appointment."

"Political recommendations are not necessary. The supervisors, to whom application must be made, have been instructed to consider all candidates and to select solely on the basis of efficiency. For the purpose of aiding the supervisors in determining the competence of the candidates, a written test will be prescribed, and any person between the ages of 18 and 70 who is a citizen of the United States will be permitted to take it.

"The test will be of a strictly practical character, substantially the same as was used in 1900. It will consist of filling out a sample schedule of population, and, in the case of rural districts, filling out also a sample schedule of agriculture, these schedules being precisely the same as will actually be used by the enumerators in their work later on. In order to assist candidates in preparing for the test, copies of the blank schedules and general instructions regarding the manner of filling them will be furnished to each candidate in advance. Any person of ordinary common-school education and good judgment should have no difficulty in passing.

"This test is not a civil-service examination. It will be conducted under the direction of the supervisors of the census, and the papers will be examined only by the supervisors and by the Census Bureau. In order that convenient examination places may be provided for all candidates, local civil-service examining boards and postmasters will be called upon to preside at the actual taking of the test in certain cases, but in this respect they will act merely as the representatives of the supervisors of the census.

"It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of obtaining a correct census of the population and agriculture of the country. The correctness of the returns depends wholly upon the competence of the enumerators."

The enumerators will earn about \$60 each. Those in the rural districts must complete their work within thirty days, and those in cities of 5,000 and more population at the preceding census within two weeks, from April 15, 1910.

Hour Glasses for Pulpits.

The twenty minute sermon is a purely modern invention, as is proved by the number of pulpit hour glasses that are still to be found in many old churches. In the register of St. Catherine's, Aldgate, the following entry, dated 1584, occurs: "Paid for an hour glass that hanged by the pulpit, where the preacher doth make a sermon, that he may know how the hour passeth away, one shilling."

A modern pulpit glass—probably the only one of its kind—is to be found in the Chapel Royal, Savoy. It is an eighteen minute glass, and was placed in the chapel on its restoration in 1867.—Westminster Gazette.

England and India.

Nothing is more depressing to those who really care for India than the ignorance and indifference of English people concerning the major part of their fellow-subjects. When it is remembered that more than half the King's subjects are Hindus, and that in India and Burma, out of every 29 people, 21 are Hindus, 6 Christian, native or European, it seems hardly necessary to insist upon the importance of knowing something at least about Hindu life and ideas; yet few there be that realize it.—London Athenaeum.

Successful Woman Farmer.

Mrs. Ida Webster of Pratt County, Kan., has harvested 8,000 bushels of wheat and 3,000 bushels of corn from her 800-acre farm this fall. The place was cultivated under her personal supervision, and 12 men work for her all the year around, with many more in harvest time. Her husband died 12 years ago and left her the place and its mortgage. Since then she has paid off the mortgage and is now supposed to be worth \$50,000.

Disliked by the Old.

To elderly people London is no longer a pleasant place of residence. The streets have become a labyrinth of horror and difficulty, a region of hideous sounds and foul smells. With motor buses topping over on the sidewalk and private motors knocking down lampposts and impinging on the shelters the unfortunate citizen knows not whither to wend his trembling steps.

Masculine Women.

Women are growing more like men in appearance. They are taller, stronger, have wider shoulders, bigger hands and feet, and are gradually losing the charm of a petite and graceful individuality. I notice, too, that their voices are deeper and stronger, the tone of woman's chatter is less shrill and more virile.—The Graphic.

Tall Queens and Short Kings.

It is a curious fact that nearly all the present Queens of Europe are taller than their consorts. The most graceful woman among European royalties, Queen Alexandra, would perhaps come an easy first; our Queen is six inches taller than King Edward. The Czar is also much smaller than his beautiful consort, and according to the same authority, the German Emperor has a greater height than the Emperor. The King of Italy is known as one of the smallest rulers of his time, and scarcely reaches to the shoulders of the truly regal Montenegrin Princess whom he married about seven years ago. The Queen of Portugal also, we are told, is taller than King Carlos, and likewise the Queen of Denmark. Queen Louise is a Swede, and belongs to a nation of big people. The Queen of Rumania and the Queen of Spain also equal, if they do not exceed, their consorts in height.—Westminster Gazette.

Ghost a Bookworm?

One of the most curious "hauntings" occurs in a northern castle of great antiquity, where Mary Queen of Scots rested when she was being conveyed a prisoner through England. It is manifested in the library and takes the form that the books cannot be kept in order. They move about, or are moved about, from shelf to shelf. If you arrange the works of Shakespeare in correct order on one shelf by next morning the volumes are scattered anyhow on different shelves. This has gone on for years. At different times the library has been searched, and locked, watches have been set all night, servants have come and gone, but the mysterious occurrence goes on, and is vouched for not only by the family but by the guests who have stayed in the house. There is no legend to account for it.

Appeal to Force.

In 1817 one Richard Thornton, called to the bar of the King's Bench in England, charged with the murder of Mary Ashford, in open court threw down the glove and defied his accuser. Whereupon there was a pretty to-do. Wager of battle, it was supposed, had died a natural death in the dark ages, but Lord Ellenborough, after much consultation of precedent, held that it was still the law of England and ordered a field to be prepared. Thornton's accuser thereupon declined combat, the prisoner was discharged. Next year Parliament passed an act abolishing this privilege of appeal to the strong right arm.

Medical Training.

As a school of character it is doubtful if any better could be devised than the routine career of a medical student. It is not claimed that every medical student at the end of his five years' curriculum will be found to have become a saint. But if he has not developed many qualities of self-restraint, courage, gentleness, and forbearance it is not for want of opportunity of practising these virtues.—Lancet.

Research Workers.

In some German factories more than a hundred university graduates who are specialists are employed in research work. Concerning this policy, Professor Ostwald says: "The organization of the power of invention in manufactures on a large scale in Germany is as far as I know unique in the world's history, and is the very marrow of our splendid triumphs."

The Graft Instinct.

A business man of New York City, with broad experience, calls attention to a marked difference that exists between Federal and city employes. "While you find the graft instinct at a minimum among the Federal employes," he says, "it is at a maximum among the city servants, whose minds and methods at once reach for it at the first opportunity."

School Fund of Texas.

The permanent free school fund of Texas amounts to more than \$50,000,000 in value, and the revenue derived comes in large part from interest on bonds of the various counties, and much of it from rent or lease of school lands for grazing purposes and from interest on notes taken for deferred payments or land sold.

Towns Named Alike.

There are 27 cities and towns named Troy in the United States, 19 named Athens, 16 Uticas, 16 Alexandrias, 15 Romes and 12 Carthagages, not to speak of seven Atticas and seven Spacuses. Only two States, Indiana and New York, contain towns bearing all eight of the names. Ohio and Missouri contain seven each.

C Major for Indigestion.

Where the trouble is physical, such as failure of an organ, indigestion, congestion of the liver and so on, strong, firm, martial music will give best results, according to Dr. Lataun, editor of Health Culture. For this class of treatment the key of C major is particularly recommended.

Shark Migration.

Submarine explosions in the war in the Far East are supposed to have driven sharks to European waters. The sharks have passed through the Buss Canal into the Adriatic, and may even invade the Black Sea.

THUMB OFF AND ON AGAIN

Man Insisted on Doctors Sewing It to Stump and It's Going to Stay for Good.

South Plainfield, N. J.—When William Waldron of this town accidentally cut one of his thumbs off, his relatives and friends thought he must go through life with a maimed hand. Waldron, however, knew a game worth two of that. He picked up the thumb and carried it to the Muhlenberg Hospital.

"I've just cut my thumb off and would like to have it put on again," he said as coolly as if he simply were ordering the repair of a broken strap.

The surgeons looked at the severed thumb and the stump and decided to try it. Antiseptic solutions were sent for and the wound was cleaned thoroughly. The severed thumb also was immersed in the solution, and then the surgeons did more. They put the thumb on the stump and sutured it there, warning Waldron to be careful and not dislodge it. Bandages were applied and developments were awaited.

To the surprise of many persons the operation is a success. The bandages were removed and the severed bone and flesh are knitting. Even the severed veins have made new connections and are sending enough the thumb to keep the tissue alive and ward off all danger of blood poisoning. Waldron is happy and the surgeons feel they have done a good piece of work.

TO PLANT 9,000,000 ACRES.

English Royal Commission's Plan to Solve Unemployed Problem.

London.—The Royal Commission appointed to consider the question of afforestation as a palliative for unemployment has issued its report. It recommends a plan for the planting of 9,000,000 acres in Great Britain and Ireland over a period of eighty years, about 150,000 acres to be afforested annually and the work to employ 18,000 men in the winter months. The report says that Parliament could be asked to grant the necessary powers, and that the scheme should be financed by a loan, the interest of which would be defrayed by taxation. It is estimated that the forests would be self-supporting after the fortieth year, and after eight years the income from them would reach \$7,500,000. The commission included among its members H. Rider Haggard, the author.

It is understood that the government, probably at the next session of Parliament, will take steps to obtain approval for the scheme laid out by the Royal Commission. This is called editorially by all the morning newspapers as an important and businesslike proposal especially in view of the great advance in the price of timber in recent years and the fact that Great Britain in 1907 imported timber to the value of \$160,000,000, of which twenty varieties could be grown in Great Britain.

AUTOGRAPHS OF ELIHU YALE.

University Gets the First That Have Come Into Her Possession.

New Haven, Conn.—Yale University has just received the gifts of two autographs of Governor Elihu Yale, its patron, these being the first that have ever come into her possession. The first of these is the signature of Governor Yale, sent on by Dr. Edgar Thurston, Governor of the museum at Madras, India. It is cut from the consultation book of the Council of Fort St. George, Madras, when Elihu Yale was Governor of that body. The second memento of Governor Yale is an autograph letter, said to be the only one in America. It is given to the university by L. S. Whipple of the class of 1881 of Boston.

WOMAN A POULTRY STUDENT.

Mrs. Saare, Owner of Large Catskill Estate, Feeds Chickens at Cornell. Ithaca, N. Y.—Mrs. Olive Brown Saare, past middle age, was the most interesting figure in the short courses in the Cornell College of Agriculture. Although she has a large estate known as Yama-no-Achi in the Catskills, with a retinue of Japanese servants, she came to Cornell to study poultry, and every morning in company with fifty husky young farmer boys she went out to the poultry house to feed the chickens and study them.

Mrs. Saare is an authority on Japanese architecture. Her chicken houses on her estate are patterned after Japanese pagodas and her home is of Japanese architecture.

SLOW WORKING CONSCIENCE.

After Forty-one Years, Man Sends \$10 to Its Rightful Owner.

Pennsburg, Pa.—A letter has been received by Abraham Benfield, of Huff's Church, in which the writer asked whether he remembered missing \$10 from a \$100 roll of bills forty-one years ago, when he wanted to pay a bill to Jacob Bausman at the Bechtelville store.

Mr. Benfield readily recalled the incident and replied in the affirmative, whereupon he received a check for \$10, presumably conscience money.

Coal Under Yellowstone Park.

Helena, Mont.—Cleveland Hilson, manager of the Montana Coke and Coal Company, of Eldridge, says a large deposit of coal lies under Yellowstone Park. "There is no question," he says, "that millions of dollars' worth of coal and other materials are located on the national reserve, and I look to see them opened one day."

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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Livery.

LIVERY.—Fred. G. Rickard has removed his livery establishment from Corner Church street to Whitney's Stone Barn.

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