

LABOR LONG ON BEETLES

NOTED ENGLISHMEN BEGIN FIFTEEN YEARS' TASK.

Get Great Collection of Bugs—British Museum Secures Over 300,000 Insects, Some Never Yet Classified.

London.—Two distinguished English entomologists, with several assistants, are about to undertake the indexing, classification and arrangement of the largest collection of beetles in the world—a work which will occupy no less than fifteen years.

The British museum, which already has the largest collections of about everything of human interest in the world, has purchased from Dr. David Sharp, curator of the museum of zoology at Cambridge university, a collection of 150,000 beetles. This enormous collection is to be added to one still larger, formerly belonging to Alexander Fry, and for some time in the possession of the natural history department of the British museum at South Kensington.

Enormous Price Paid.
Dr. Sharp has spent many years and much money in acquiring by personal search and by purchase these 150 specimens of beetles from every quarter of the globe. The price for which he has sold them to the nation is understood to be in proportion to the enormity of the collection. The authorities at the museum say that the combined collections now in their possession are priceless. It was explained that other large collections were in the Smithsonian institution in America and in the museums of Paris, Vienna and Berlin, but there was little doubt that the British museum now surpassed them all.

The addition of Dr. Sharp's collection is especially valuable on account of his specimens of the water beetle and "cocktail" beetle. Naturally a majority of the specimens come from the tropical countries where all kinds of insects are more abundant, and Dr. Sharp's collection is especially rich in rare varieties from the Hawaiian islands, Central America and New Zealand. Among the specimens, in fact, are many unknown to entomologists and it will be the duty of these experts and the museum to give these specimens names and to establish their relationship to the known branches of the great beetle family.

Popular Varieties of Bugs

The average visitor to the British museum sees what he considers a large collection of "bugs" on one of the upper floors, but these are only of the more popular varieties and are as nothing in numbers compared to those in the basement of the building, which, however, only students of entomology are allowed to inspect. Here, in endless rows of compartments, each compartment containing many small drawers and each small drawer divided into many small sections, are arranged hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of insects of every description—and some which defy description. The 300,000 or more beetles occupy about 1500 drawers and the beetle is only one branch of the insect family. Flies which have ruined the wall paper and tickled many a man's bald head, mosquitoes which have caused many a sleepless night, moths which have eaten holes in winter garments, ants that have made invasions into the pantry, hornets that have left their mark on naughty boys—here they all are, every guilty member of the whole insect tribe mounted in a lifeless and graceless manner on pin heads and arranged as painstakingly as can be done by men devoting their entire lives to the work.

Bugs Used for Food

Bugs are utilized in many civilized parts of the world for food. In Europe the common wood ant is much used in the manufacture of cinegar, and south of France the same insect is used by cooks as a flavoring for pastry. A guide also quoted Livingstone's report that mosquitoes swarmed in such multitudes on the Nyassa lake in Africa that natives gathered them in bags and pressed them into cakes an inch thick and eight inches in diameter, making a delicious "breakfast food."

AUTHORIZES BRIDGE ACROSS MISSISSIPPI.

Washington.—Two bills of considerable importance were passed today in the house, among a number of measures which were considered by unanimous consent.

One authorizes the city of St. Louis to construct a bridge across the Mississippi river at that point, if the actual construction of the bridge shall be commenced within one year from the approval of the act and completed within three years from the same date. The other measure empowers local inspectors to license and classify masters, chief mates and first and second mates of vessels if in charge of a watch, engineers, pilots of all steam vessels and the masters of sailing vessels of over 700 gross tons, and all other vessels of over 100 gross tons carrying passengers for fare.

TAKE MILLION DOLLARS OWNED BY CHURCHES.

Versailles.—When the local authorities took possession of the churches under the church and state separation law bonds and other securities amounting to \$1,000,000 were discovered in the institutions. The securities have been taken possession of by the municipal authorities of Versailles and will be devoted to charitable purposes.

PERMIT FIRE WOOD GATHERING.

Butte, Mont.—A special to the Miner from Twin Bridges states that the forest rangers have received advice to permit the free gathering of wood on the forest reserves. The temperature here remains at about twenty degrees below zero.

MINING MAN TELLS OF QUEER LAWS

Recital of Ocean Trip Sounds Like Cruise of the Rover, But Victims Deny They are Special Commissioners.

Walter Vick, a prominent young mining man who has been straightening out tangles in some properties in Mexico for the Douglas Lack company of New York, and C. H. Landers, arrived at the Alexandria after an exciting and not altogether agreeable trip.

In a thirty-five foot steam launch they left Ensenada at 4 o'clock Friday morning for the eight-hour trip between that point and San Diego. When they were out at sea a strong northwester came up and the little boat which should have landed at San Diego at noon did not get in until Friday night.

"I am afraid to speak about our trip for it savors so much of the early history of the Rover. I am afraid of being accused of 'looming up in the fog' or doing something else equally bad," said Mr. Vick.

"The fact of the case is that we were none of us in any condition to do any looming up anywhere. The wind came up and the rain came down and our little boat rocked and tossed until we began to think there would not be any 'when Jack comes home from sea.' We started out with Capt. Goddard, expecting to be out only eight hours. We were not prepared for the trip and we were drenched to the skin by the rain and spray from the waves.

Old Whaler Seesick.
The captain is an old whaler and if ever there was a sea dog he is one, but he followed the example of the rest of us and submitted to letting the rocking and tossing of old Neptune lay him out. He said he had never been seasick in his life, but he made up for it on this trip."

Mr. Vick brings news of a British Mexican law as it is hitting British Vice Consul J. H. Packard of Ensenada. Mr. Packard is well known in Los Angeles and was formerly general manager of the Lower California Development company. A Mexican was in debt to the company \$30,000 and he crossed over to the United States and left the debt unpaid. Mr. Packard learned that the Mexican had \$7,000 worth of grain in his barns and this he took. He expelled the Mexican, to bring a civil suit against that, but instead of that he instituted criminal proceedings.

"The day before we left Ensenada," said Mr. Vick, "the district attorney advised that Mr. Packard be given twelve years in the penitentiary and that his employee who helped him get the grain two years."

"When Mr. Packard was arrested he refused to be arrested as a British vice consul and insisted that he be booked as a private citizen.

"He has maintained this position all along and though it is believed that half his time will not be served, his friends do not hope to see him out of jail for six years."

NIGHTMARE BREAKS HIS ARM.

Sioux City, Iowa.—After a fierce battle with the nightmare Emmett Calley, a Morningside college student, awoke this afternoon to find his arm broken.

Calley is fond of mince pie. His mother sent him a number from the farm and after eating heartily last night Calley fell asleep in a window seat. Incredibly the animal appeared, tramping Calley under his cruel hoofs and kicking him viciously.

The student awoke with a cry of pain and found his arm hanging helplessly at his side. It is supposed that he got his arm twisted under him in the awful effort to escape the nightmare.

INDIANS TO RECEIVE LARGE SUM FOR LAND.

Washington.—By the sale of the pasture lands of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indian reservation in southern Oklahoma a greater sum has been realized than any sale of public lands ever before bought.

About 300,000 sealed bids, covering 375,000 acres were received. A bidder was permitted to bid on as many quarter sections of lands as he desired, but each bidder will be awarded only one quarter section. The average price received for the land is \$12.19 an acre. Thus the Indians will realize from the sale \$4,574,000, or an average of about \$1,200 for each Indian interested.

CALIFORNIA MILLERS ADVANCE THE PRICE OF DAILY BREAD.

San Francisco.—The price of flour was advanced \$2 a ton, or 20 cents a barrel, by all millers in California today. The new price took effect this morning, when the price advanced from \$4.75 to \$5 a barrel for first grade to the trade, and was sold at retail for \$1.40 a sack. The millers say that this is the first advance in the price of flour since March, 1906, and is caused by the advance in the most of material, labor and freight, which have carried the prices of all other commodities upward.

ATTEMPTS SUICIDE BY DRIVING NAIL IN HIS HEAD WITH SHOE.

Ukiah, Cal.—Pedro Roggi, an Italian, who is confined in the local jail to await trial for murder, made a novel attempt at suicide this week.

Being unable to secure any other weapon he found a ten-penny nail in one of his pockets and using one of his shoes for a hammer was trying to drive the nail into his forehead when one of his fellow prisoners interfered.

He pleaded to be allowed to continue and wept when the nail and shoe were taken from him.

FIVE INDIANS BURN TO DEATH.

Pendleton, Ore., Jan. 20.—Five Indians were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the jail at the Umatilla Indian reservation agency early today.

TO REPAIR SALTON BREAK

SENATE COMMITTEE MAKES FAVORABLE REPORT.

Flint Bill Provides for Repair of Colorado River Damages—New Idea Suggested.

Washington.—The senate committee on arid lands today authorized Senator Flint to report favorably, with modifications, his bill providing for the repair of damage caused by the diversion of the waters of the Colorado river in Southern California into the Salton Sea.

The bill authorizes the expenditure of \$2,000,000 for improvements, including reservoir and waterways and other works necessary to confine the river within its banks and prevent its further diversion.

The bill also authorizes the construction of such reservoirs and ditches as may be useful for the irrigation of the Imperial Valley and other valleys in that vicinity.

It directs that such proportion of the cost shall be returned to the treasury as may be of direct benefit to any irrigation projects, the money to be repaid when received from the water users.

The bill does not complicate the government work with that of existing irrigation companies.

It further provides that in case it becomes necessary to do any work in Mexico it may be done when the consent of the government of that country is obtained.

Has New Dam Project.

New York.—Captain Albert F. Eels, of Rockport, Me., who is the contractor building the diamond shoal light-house off Cape Hatteras, has been in consultation with government officials and also with engineers of the Southern Pacific railroad company concerning a new method which he has proposed to turn the Colorado river back to its old channel and thus save Imperial Valley from the Salton Sea.

The plan which Mr. Eels has in mind is to build water gates near the break in the river's bank, which will be connected with sluices to carry the water into the lowlands which are now being inundated. These gates, he said, should be built to drain the river at a lower level than the break. When they are opened the water, instead of rushing through the break in the river's bank as at present, will flow through the gates.

"This makes the water more stagnant and enables the railroad to fill it in by running trains of dump cars over trestles and dropping stones and sand boards. At the present time this process has been rendered futile because the current carries away the waste as fast as it is dumped.

"When the break has been mended by a strong solid wall of earth and rock, says Captain Eels, the gates may be closed and the Colorado will again be confined to its old channel and flow into the Gulf of California instead of the Salton Sea.

Captain Eels said that the cost of carrying out his scheme ought not to exceed \$500,000.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT FOREIGN COMMERCE MEET.

Washington.—President Roosevelt addressed the delegates to the national convention for extension of the foreign commerce of the United States tonight.

The president's speech was devoted to a discussion of this government's policy in putting San Domingo on her feet, reform in the consular service and extension of the nation's trade into South and Central America and the Orient. He made a general plea for a larger navy and for the merchant marine.

Speaker Cannon, in his address, said that the house is making an honest effort to pass at this session a merchant marine bill that will be satisfactory to all concerned. "While we are not going to give you ask for," he said, "it is better that you accept a half loaf than none at all."

He said that the committee's recommendation for the maximum and minimum tariff was "only a journey of one day toward free trade and for one I am opposed to it."

A minimum tariff that would protect every industry and every American laborer was the only compromise he would accept.

Secretary Root thanked the delegates for their sympathy and commendation and declared that "the people's servants in the government service work hard, are not overpaid and are often misunderstood and subjected to much unjust criticism."

ILLNESS OF PRINCE HENRY IS DENIED.

Berlin.—The Associated Press learns that the Morgenpost, which in its issue of today said that Prince Henry of Prussia was in a sanitarium at Charlottenburg, suffering from a severe sore throat, confused the emperor's brother with Prince Frederick Henry, son of the late regent of Brunswick, who is in a sanitarium under treatment for a throat affliction. Prince Henry of Prussia is at Kiel, following his naval duties.

SIGN TREATY WITH MEXICO.

Washington.—Secretary Root and Senator Davalos, the Mexican charge of embassy, today signed a treaty regulating the disposition of the waters of the Rio Grande. The basis of the treaty is the recognition by the United States of the right of Mexico to use a certain impounded by the waters of the Rio Grande for irrigating purposes on the Mexican side of the boundary. The precedent set will, it is understood, have an important bearing on the negotiations which are in progress concerning the vexed questions of international rights to the use of streams on the border.

URGES MORE ARMY PAY

BRIGADIER GENERAL DRAWS STRONG CONTRAST.

"Hod Carriers and Bricklayers Receive More Pay Than Officers of Twenty Years' Service," He Asserts.

Washington.—"In San Francisco a bricklayer, plasterer or plumber receives more pay than a captain in the army of twenty years' service stationed at any of the posts near that city, even considering the latter's quarters at the commutation of his grade. A hod carrier in the same city receives more pay than a second lieutenant."

This statement is made by Brigadier General Funston, commanding the department of California, in his annual report to the secretary of war. He made a strong plea for an increase of army pay; not for the officers just entering the service, but for those who have served long. He says:

"No one believes that army officers should attempt to compete in display with persons of wealth, but they should be able to live decently without being continually harassed by fear of debt."

Continuing, he says: "Of even greater importance than the question of officers' pay is that of the enlisted men of the service, for the army will always have all of the officers authorized by law, regardless of pay, but the very existence of the army is threatened if wages in civil life continue to rise unless steps are taken to increase the pay of the rank and file."

Soldier Is Most Poorly Paid.

"The statement that the United States soldier is the most poorly paid man in the country today cannot be refuted. A 50 per cent increase in the pay of non-commissioned officers and a like increase for privates after their first enlistment should work a revolution."

General Funston recommends that all construction work on the army posts be carried on by the labor of federal prisoners, as was done on the barracks on Alcatraz island.

General Funston does not wish any more big guns in San Francisco bay. He says that the crying need is rather for auxiliaries, such as searchlights, fire control systems, adequate submarine defenses and ammunition reserve.

He says that it would be suicidal for the most powerful navy in the world to engage the sea-coast defenses of San Francisco, or to run by them if they were adequately manned, and the auxiliaries mentioned were restored.

"As a matter of fact," he says, "there are not nearly enough men to man the existing defenses. Even the pending artillery bill would not provide a sufficient number."

He urges the creation of a reserve composed of men returned to civil life from the army.

SAYS CHINESE GIRLS ARE SOLD DAILY IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Washington.—"Chinese girls are sold in the San Francisco market every day like horses and mules," was one of the statements made by Representative McKinley of California before the house committee on foreign affairs which is considering the Perkins bill to modify the Chinese exclusion act.

Mr. McKinley urges that only a few great companies which brought such young Chinese to this country in practical slavery would profit by the modification of the exclusion act and said the majority of Californians are opposed to tampering with the present law.

He expressed the belief that any changes would indicate to the Chinese that this government is weakening in its position toward the Chinese boycott against American products and might result in a renewal of the boycott.

The idea that the anti-Japanese and anti-Chinese movement is the work of labor agitators is erroneous, said Mr. McKinley.

ROBBERS STEAL ALL RECORDS OF SCANDAL.

Peoria, Ill.—The safety vault at the public library was blown open last night and all records of the N. C. Dougherty case were stolen and afterward burned in the furnace in the building.

Dougherty, who formerly was superintendent of schools, is now in the penitentiary and the destruction of these records may be the means of releasing his bondsman.

The police have no clew to the perpetrators, but believe it to have been the work of expert cracksmen, assisted by some one familiar with the building.

Only documents which bear on the Dougherty scandal were taken.

DOESN'T LIKE CHECK; BIG ENGINE IS ATTACHED.

Bakersfield, Cal.—Because the Santa Fe would not pay him his wages in coin O. M. Watts, a track man, began suit against the company and has attached one of the big compound freight engines. Watts was paid yesterday, and when he was given his pay, \$44.12, in check form, he refused it, demanding coin instead. He commenced suit immediately.

SWEDISH SOCIALISTS URGE REVOLUTION.

Copenhagen.—The young Socialist party has embarked upon violent revolutionary and anti-military agitation. Some of the members recently entered the barracks here disguised as peddlers and distributed inflammatory pamphlets to the troops. A procession of this party was broken up yesterday afternoon by the police.

MANY KILLED BY POWDER CAR EXPLOSION

List of Victims of Appalling Disaster on Big Four Railroad Grows—Story of the Tragedy.

Terre Haute, Ind.—Twenty-seven charred and mutilated bodies have been taken from the smouldering ruins of passenger train No. 3 on the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis (Big Four), which was destroyed by the explosion of a carload of powder as it passed a freight train at Sandford, nine miles west of here, last night. The number of injured will reach at least thirty-five.

The entire train was blown from the track and demolished, and the engine hurled fifty feet. The passengers were either blown to pieces, cremated or rescued in a more or less injured condition.

The injured, some of whom are fatally hurt, are at the hospitals in Terre Haute and Paris, Ill., and at Sandford.

The full extent of the disaster was revealed at daylight, but the death list will not be complete until the workmen have cleared the debris away.

Have Many Theories.

According to trainmen of the freight, the powder was exploded by the concussion made by the passenger train, which was slowing down for the station at Sandford. Another theory is that gas escaping from an oil pipe line near by entered the powder car and a spark from the passing engine ignited the gas. Others express the belief that the disaster was due to a tramp or intoxicated man firing a shot into the car.

Cars were smashed to pieces by the force of the explosion. Huge pieces of iron were found hundreds of feet away from the track. The tank of the engine was hurled nearly a hundred feet. Two passenger coaches and one baggage coach were consumed by fire.

The freight train in which was the car of powder was demolished. Windows were shattered, dishes and furniture broken and doors torn from their hinges.

The night was dark and heavy rains had rendered the streets of Sandford almost impassable. As the passenger engine went by the powder car explosion came without warning.

The entire train was blown from the tracks and crashed, pinning under it forty human beings.

Fire broke out and before the eyes of citizens who rushed to the rescue many persons were burned to death before aid could be rendered them.

HEADLESS GHOST IS A WRAITH WITH A THIRST.

Winsted, Conn.—Four young women burst hysterically into a citizens' house here last night and wailed that they had just seen a headless ghost disappear down an alleyway. The ghost, they said, wore white attire and carried a straw-colored demijohn.

They were soothed and escorted home and no more was thought of it until shortly afterwards, when a Norfolk man clamored at the front door of Constable Bresnahan that he had been robbed.

"Of what?" asked Bresnahan. "Of a jug of thundering fine liker that was sent me from the folks at home. Somebody lifted it off my wagon while I was driving through town."

Taking his dark lantern and his six-shooter, Bresnahan slithered into the night. He encountered the ghost rumor at a street corner and trailed it to an alleyway back of the express office.

There he found John Bailey, an Afro-American, superlatively happy, but incapable of resisting arrest. The demijohn was beside Bailey, but had grown lighter. Bailey had on white overalls and jumper.

After he had placed Bailey safely in a crib, Bresnahan went to the homes of four frightened young women and explained to their folks that the village ghost was only a white clad man on a dark night trying to steal some whiskey.

HEROIC MOTHER MAKES TERRIBLE SACRIFICE.

Portland, Ore.—An Oregonian special from Wenatchee, Wash., says:

Forced to leave one child to perish in the snow, while she pushed on with another little one to the nearest house after her own home had burned to the ground, Mrs. C. M. Jacques, living on Lake Wenatchee, finally reached shelter in a terrible condition.

She was so badly frozen that one of her feet was amputated. The child she rescued was also badly frostbitten, but will recover.

The mother, who escaped from her burning dwelling clothed in little more than her night apparel, had wrapped nearly all of the scanty garments that poorly protected her from the cold about the child she left in the snow, hoping the little one would survive until aid reached it. The rescuing party found the child dead.

PROFESSOR CAN JERK NITRIC ACID FROM ATMOSPHERE.

London.—Prof. William Crookes, as a result of his own researches and experiments conducted by Profs. Growski and Mosicki of Friborg university, Switzerland, has discovered a process of extracting nitric acid from the atmosphere. The announcement is made by the Chronicle, which adds that the process is available for commercial, industrial and agricultural purposes and that it will revolutionize the nitrate industry and the world's food problem.

MANY CASES OF BUBONIC PLAGUE IN RIO DE JANEIRO.

New Orleans.—In Rio de Janeiro, during the week ending December 6, there were thirty-two cases of bubonic plague and eight deaths, according to the bill of health of the steamer Dublin, which arrived here today from that port.

In the same week there were three cases of yellow fever, with one death and three deaths from leprosy.

REFUGEES INSULTED

SUFFERERS TELL STORY OF BRITISH BRUTALITY.

Refused Permission Even to Sleep on Open Decks of Ships—Unite in Condemning Jamaican Officials.

New York.—American refugees from Kingston, Jamaica, arriving here today on board the steamer Prinz Eitel Fredrick, which sailed from the stricken city on Thursday afternoon last, the third day after the earthquake, were unanimous in condemning what they termed "the inactivity and utter inefficiency" of the English authorities on the island during the first days of the disaster. For three days, they said, there was no semblance of order and nothing definite was done in the matter of relieving the sufferings of many of the wounded.

It was asserted that men and women who sought shelter on board the British steamship Port Kingston, which was chartered for Sir Alfred Jones' party from England, were put ashore and that the plea of the American refugees that the women of their party be allowed the privilege of sleeping on the open decks of the Port Kingston was refused "with great incivility."

The wounded who had been taken on board the same steamer for an asylum were put ashore the day following the earthquake Tuesday, and were left on the railway wharf until cared for by the American naval authorities.

The Prinz Eitel's passengers told of the great relief the arrival of the American squadron brought to the terror-stricken people and were amazed to hear of the rupture which had occurred between Governor Swettenham and Admiral Davis.

The Americans had to wait for the arrival of the Prinz Eitel at Kingston, and during that time all of them slept on the Hamburg American dock.

"We lay down on the planks and on sacks, piles of which reached almost to the ceiling," said A. D. Hallman of Norristown, Pa., who was one of the 112 passengers on the Prinz Eitel.

"The men were glad enough to get any shelter, but with the Port Kingston lying near by, her decks clean and empty, we think the captain might have taken the women on board. He refused, however."

Washington Will Take No Official Notice.

Washington.—From official sources it is learned that no attention will be paid by this government to the action of Governor Swettenham of Jamaica in asking Admiral Davis to withdraw his forces from Kingston. It is held here that the action of the government is that of a single individual, for which the British government is in no manner to be held responsible.

Mr. Esme Howard, charge d'affaires at the British embassy, tonight called on Acting Secretary of State Bacon and presented a letter from Earl Grey, principal secretary of state for Great Britain, regarding the Davis-Swettenham incident. In his message Earl Grey says he is causing an official inquiry to be made to determine the authenticity of the letter purporting to have been written by Governor Swettenham to Rear Admiral Davis.

GET 13-CENT BARGAIN "KNOT."

Chicago.—The number 13 has played a remarkable part in the romance of four couples who have been married by Justice J. F. Boyer of Evanston. Frank O. Ulrich of Hagerstown, Ind., and Miss Louise J. Shultz, daughter of W. G. Shultz, 993 Osgood street, were married by his yesterday, and their bargain in matrimony cost only 13 cents. The romance began on September 13, 1903, when Justice Boyer married Miss Matilda Peterson and Walter A. Ransome in the cabin of the steamer Eastland on a trip to South Haven. The occasion was an excursion participated in by thirteen couples from Court Sedgwick No. 13, United Order of Foresters.

The recurrence of the number thirteen and the fact that the date fell on Friday suggested an opportunity to "hoodoo" the popular superstition. In order to carry out the program an agreement was made with Justice Boyer whereby he promised to marry the thirteen couples whenever they choose for 13 cents each. Yesterday's wedding was the fourth ceremony of the number promised in the agreement.

W. G. Shultz, father of the bride, witnessed the ceremony and told the justice he intended to see that every couple of the original thirteen lived up to the contract.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS MAY BECOME TEA DRINKERS.

Washington.—Tea will replace coffee in the army subsistence if the recommendation of Col. Vallery Harvard, assistant surgeon in the United States army, be adopted.

This is the result of his observations while with the Russian army in Manchuria. It is the practice of the English, Russian and Japanese armies. Col. Harvard found tea superior to coffee because it is easier to transport, preserve and prepare and can be drunk without any disagreeable after effects.

OYSTERS ARE KILLED BY LOWEST TIDE OF YEAR.

Tacoma, Wash.—The lowest tide of the year occurred last night. This exposed the oyster beds of Puget Sound to the cold, 14 below zero, which was sufficient to freeze the oysters so that all are dead. New beds have to be planted, and it will be five years before the so-called "Olympia oyster" will again be on the market. The loss amounts to several hundred thousand dollars.