

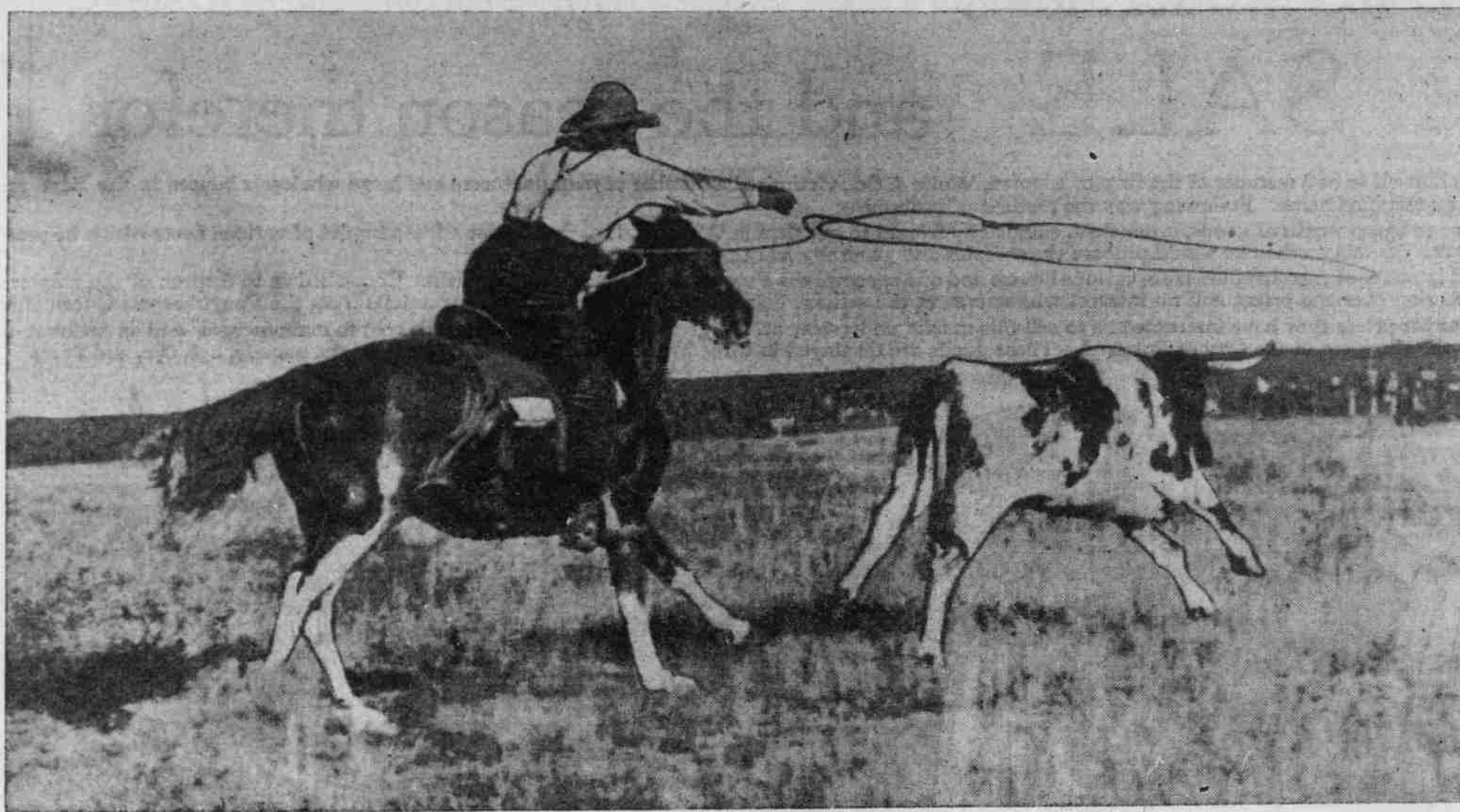
# BUSTING STEERS FOR AMUSEMENT PURPOSES

## WYOMING WILL SOON PASS A LAW FORBIDDING A BRUTAL BUT SPECTACULAR CUSTOM

BY F. H. BARROW.

THE State of Wyoming—that Western commonwealth vehemently protesting against the specter of "wild and woolly" attached to it by the average Easterner, and proudly boasting of its advanced civilization—has at last found the beam in its own optic and taken steps looking toward its early removal. It has just been discovered that Wyoming is the only state in the Union where the brutal practice of "busting" is permitted in roping steers for amusement purposes. The practice of "busting," as it is known, was confined to the earlier history of cattle-raising in the West, before more humane methods were discovered, and consists in a rope or lasso being thrown over the animal's head, the horseman then deftly circling the steer and tripping it up with the rope. The plunging animal usually lands squarely on its back—not infrequently, however, sustaining a broken leg or horn, and occasionally a broken neck.

It is a disgustingly brutal practice, long ago discarded by practical cattlemen and prohibited by legislative enactment in other Western States, but still permitted and featured in Wyoming at Cheyenne's annual Frontier Days celebration, despite the efforts of the humane societies to have the cruelty discontinued. Year after year at the Cheyenne celebration this form of brutality has been witnessed by thousands of spectators. Each year the entire Southwest is scoured for vicious steers as victims for this spectacle, which approaches the sensationalism and brutality of the Spanish bull fight. True, an agent of the humane society is on the ground mercifully to shoot all badly injured animals, which fact is used in defending the practice—but even with every other state having abolished "busting" by law as an amusement feature, the shameful exhibition of cruelty has been retained on the Frontier programme from year to year, in spite of the most vigorous protests.



PRETTY CAST BY AN EXPERT ROPER AT A FRONTIER SHOW.

—Copyright, 1907, by J. E. Stimson.

And with the prospect of "busting" being abolished from the state this year, the humane forces may take very little if any credit for having brought about the reformation. Strange as it may seem, the men who now seek to do away with this barbaric custom are the big cattle-owners of the West. Each year, a month previous to the Frontier show, the state capital, the cattlemen have been finding many steers on the ranges with broken legs and horns, and occasionally one with back or neck broken. Only rarely do they have them awakened to the fact

that these injured animals—representing a considerable money loss—are due to the tempting prizes in gold offered to the expert roper at the Frontier show. With

the approach of that event, every cowboy on the range anping to the purse and the glory is watchful of an opportunity to practice his skill, and to find a

lone steer on the range is a favored chance not to be overlooked. Attributing the large number of injured cattle to this cause, the big cattlemen have petitioned the Frontier committee to abolish

the brutal method this year, and while their prayer may not be answered, it is certain the practice will be prohibited by

legislative enactment at the next Assembly. The tenacity with which Wyoming's Frontier committee has clung to "bust-

ing" is due to the fact that it furnishes one of the big thrillers of the annual four-day show held at Cheyenne each year to perpetuate frontier scenes. Expert ropers come from every Western State to participate in these contests, from Mexico and South America, and the championship last year was carried off by a native from far-away Hawaii. The element of danger is great—the chance of a broken saddle girth, a fighting steer or a fallen horse whets the spectator's appetite in marked degree, and keeps interest at fever heat. With an average of ten ropers up each day, the excitement is protracted for more than an hour.

The roper is stationed near the corral gate, mounted, and must remain there until after the steer has gained at least 60 yards' start. As these untamed natives of the Southwest are released, they instantly take to their heels and maddly charge over the wide open arena, snorting with rage and trembling with excitement. At a signal the roper begins his pursuit. He must first overtake the steer to make a successful cast, sometimes requiring several throws on the part of the most skillful. Meanwhile his quarry is charging around the arena, fenced on all sides and strengthened by the presence of a thousand men and women on horseback just outside the big enclosure. The thousands in the big steel grandstand are generous with applause and shouting—adding to the terror of the steer from the uninhabited wilds of the Texas Panhandle or the broad stretches of the great Southwest.

A successful cast and a skillful ride soon brings the steer in proper position to be "busted" when both feet are swept from under him as he goes down in a whirl. The rider jumps from his horse—that trained animal constantly keeping the rope tight as the man hogs-ties his steer. In less than one minute from the time the signal is given the steer is tied down, absolutely helpless. The winner of last year's championship made his record of 18 seconds flat. There is no discounting the excitement; it is intense.

But even should the committee abolish "busting" this year, it will not mean the end of roping at the big celebration. Instead, the modern method will be used. The practice in cattle land today, the most humane method yet devised, requires two ropers to each animal. One throws a rope over the steer's head while the other skillfully lands the snake-like lariat over a hind foot. Both ropes are then drawn tight as bowstings by the trained saddle horses, and the animal is stretched out at full length—helpless, but uninjured. Equal skill is required, but the brutality is abolished. Cheyenne, Wyo., July 12.

# WITH THE ARAPAHOE INDIANS

## INTIMATE VIEW OF AMERICAN RED MEN WHO RETAIN MUCH OF THEIR ORIGINAL DIGNITY AND GRACE

BY H. GAVIN.

THE alluring call of the great American Northwest will be forcible as long as the snow-crowned mountain peaks gleam through the fantastic cloud masses and as long as the boundless prairies and giant forests remain.

The wide desert, grim and desolate, in the merciless glare of daylight, is of wonderful beauty at dawn, as well as at sunset. A poetic glamor pervades then the vastness; the by-day oppressive silence becomes impressive.

Early dawn shows in the painting, "Smoke talk," by the noted painter of Western landscape and the Indians, Mr. William Riess. Against the silver-lined sky and the wide, wide stretch of prairie the crouching figure of an Arapahoe brave is silhouetted. Carefully he nurses the smoke of a sagbrush fire into a straight column. It means much to the warrior. This thin line of smoke is his call for help to his far away tribe. Soon will he scan the horizon for an answering signal which will bring the message that relief will come.

The red man is of necessity part and parcel of the fastnesses of the Northwest. Remove him from his natural surroundings and he becomes a slovenly degenerate.

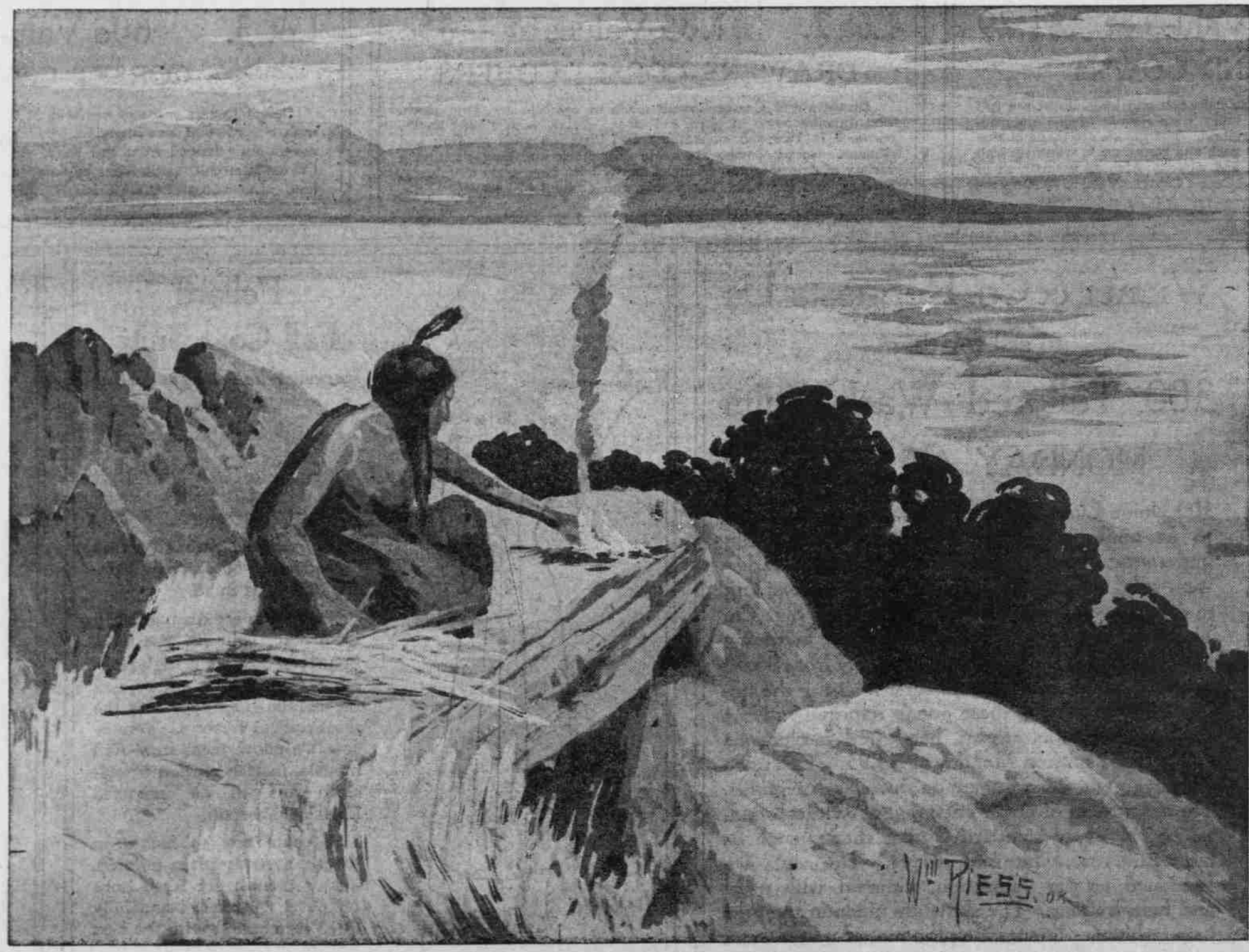
Of all the tribes of North American Indians the Arapahoese must be conceded first place as an interesting and beautiful type. They are a morally clean people, and still possess that native grace and dignity which are extinct in most other tribes. At the great sun dance, which generally occurs the end of July, one can see the Arapahoe Indian at his best.

It is a sense of good will and generous friendship among them. The council teepee is turned into a gift palace, large trunks filled with valuable gifts, as beautifully woven blankets, bridles, silver-mounted saddles and bead work, are piled upon one another. These gifts are distributed by the chief, and even the poorest Indian receives his gift. The sun-dance is a purely religious festival. The ceremonial dance lasts three days and nights, and is performed by 25 young braves, who observe a strict fast during those three days and nights.

A large painting of an episode in the sun-dance, the "Invocation to Man Above," is among the collection of paintings and sketches by Mr. Riess.

"The quiet and dignity observed by the throng of 600 Indians who were assembled for this dance was wonderful," explained the artist. "There was no squabble; not a voice was raised in dispute or riot; every one vied in expressions of friendship and good will to the other. The day of feasting and sham battles that followed the dance, though full of martial mazes and earnest rivalry, passed also without quarrel or accident. I have in my years of sojourn among these interesting people become warmly attached to them."

Mr. Riess expressed his delight at the beautiful sights the city of Portland affords, and the commercial enterprise of its citizens. He intends to sketch the romantic scenes on the Columbia River and the surrounding landscape.



"SMOKE TALK," AFTER THE PAINTING BY WILLIAM RIESS.

ing in a disquieting fashion. For my part I can furnish you proof to the contrary." The savant was surprised. The King continued: "Today I made a long automobile trip in London and its environs. Never have I seen so many children. They swarm. My chauffeur was forced to the greatest precautions not to run over them. What have you to say to that?"

"Nothing, your Majesty," humbly responded the savant.

### "BIG" ORDER FOR RADIUM

Nearly Quarter of Ounce Demanded by Scientific Institute.

LONDON, July 17.—(Special.)—The largest order for radium ever given has been placed by Lord Iveagh and Sir Ernest Cassel. The quantity ordered is 7 1/2 grammes, rather more than a quarter of an ounce, and the price is \$150,000 equal to \$75,000 an ounce, or \$9,120,000 a pound. The largest amount bought hitherto has been one gramme.

The radium is to be presented by Lord Iveagh and Sir Ernest Cassel to the new Radium Institute in Riding House street, Portland Place, West, for the foundation of which they provided the funds. The radium will come from a British source—the mine of the British Metalliferous Mines Limited, near Grampound Road, Cornwall, with which company the contract has been placed. Messrs. Buchler & Company, of Brunswick will produce the radium from the Cornish pitchblende under the superintendence of Professor Giesel, their chief chemist.

The Radium Institute founded to investigate curies by radium, is under the patronage of the King. Sir Frederick Treves will be surgical director of the Institute, which is expected to be open about the end of this year.

### Vacation as a Developer.

Success.

Do you think a vacation is a loss of time? It is the best kind of an investment—an investment in fresh brains, in vigorous health, in increased vitality.

People who seldom or never take a vacation get into ruts. Their minds get stuffy and clouded; they lose the power of expansion, of growth; they lose freshness of view; the ability to grasp opportunities; and, finally, they lose their grip on things and on themselves.

Recreation, for those who have been held closely to business for a long time, is like the turning up of hard soil by the plow, letting in the sunlight and stirring up the chemical forces that have been sleeping during the winter. Slumbering germs start when they feel the warm sun, the gentle rain, and the tonic of the dew. There is rejuvenation and growth in recreation in the country. It loosens up the hard soil of prejudice—mental ruts—and refreshes and invigorates the germs of character.

### Snake Root for Ivy Poison.

Recreation Magazine.

If you chance to be one of the unfortunate who are susceptible to poison ivy here is a remedy which has been found to be most effective. Apply to the affected parts the fluid extract of Serpentaria (commonly known as snake root), which dries the poison and keeps it from spreading. Apply with finger or soft cloth. It can be carried in a small vial.

King Edward in Conversation.

Translated from Le Cri de Paris.

King Edward VII has great wit, but does not exhibit it uselessly. The charm is, therefore, all the greater when he shows it. Recently he had the kindness to preside at a dinner of savants organized to celebrate the achievement

of a great work, a national biography. The editor of this work, placed at the right hand of the sovereign, waited until the latter should give him word to respond, for, as every one knows, cus-

tom forbids that one should speak to Kings without being first addressed by them.

Yet during the entire dinner the King pronounced but a single phrase. This was when the caviar was served.

"Ah," he said, "In Russia one always drinks maraschino with caviar"—and the editor remained with his mouth closed.

Recently at a court soiree King Ed-

ward took notice of a savant who is occupied with statistics.

"I am very glad to see you," said the King. "Statisticians pretend that the number of births in England is diminish-

ing."