

HORRORAWFUL

Nine Ohio School Girls Suffocated in Vault.

SCORE OTHERS NARROW ESCAPE

Were Precipitated into Cesspool by Collapse of Floor—Rescuers are Overcome by the Foul Gas.

Cincinnati, Sept. 26.—At least nine school girls were suffocated in a vault today during the afternoon recess at Pleasant Ridge public school house, and as score of others narrowly escaped the same horrible death.

All of the victims were from the primary grades. On opposite sides of the spacious grounds in the rear of the suburban school building are two out-houses. At recess, about 30 young girls were in the out-house assigned to them, when the floor gave way precipitating them in the stone walled cesspool, 12 feet deep, and containing four feet of sewage.

The frantic struggles of those who were on top kept at least nine underneath until they were dead. The framed over the sewer was about 20 feet square, without windows, and had only one narrow doorway. One girl in the party escaped falling. She ran into the school building and told the teachers what had happened. Principal T. L. Zimmerman and seven female teachers ran to the rescue. Mr. Zimmerman secured a ladder, on which the drenched girls climbed out, most of them fainting as soon as they reached the surface, overcome by fright and sewer gas.

The teachers were soon reinforced by the entire population of the suburbs, the police and fire departments rendering effective service.

Principal Zimmerman finally fainted. Then others lifted out dead bodies until the death pool was cleared. Those rescued alive presented such an appearance as to make many in the crowd of spectators faint.

James Smith, aged 14, a pupil, climbed to the roof of the school house and got the flag which was made into a rope that rescued several.

John Steinkamp, when his daughter was not among those brought out alive, entered the vault and carried out several bodies, among them that of his daughter. Then he fainted. At the same time there were other parents in the crowd who fainted when it was announced that all of the living had been rescued, and their children were still among the missing.

CHINA HAS APOLOGIZED.

Reparation Made for Attack on the Guard at Peking.

Paris, Sept. 26.—The foreign office has received a report from the French minister at Peking saying that China has given the most complete apology and reparation for the attack of Chinese soldiers at Peking upon Captain Laribe, of the French legion guard, on Monday last. The captain was insulted and struck with a stick, but he was not seriously hurt. The French minister energetically protested to the general commanding the Chinese, who wrote the minister an abject apology while the Chinese captain commanding the assaulting soldiers made a personal apology to Captain Laribe.

The Chinese general condemned the five ringleaders to punishment only one degree short of death. Owing to the action of the general, the officials here do not consider that this incident and the assault on the Italian soldiers September 15 indicate another general anti-foreign movement. Therefore the reparations have been accepted and the incident is closed.

Pier Gives Way.

Vinita, I. T., Sept. 26.—The east pier of a steel toll bridge being erected over Grand river at Carey's ferry, ten miles east of Afton, fell at noon killing three men, fatally injuring three and injuring 21 others, some of whom suffered broken limbs. All the surgeons in Grove and Afton were summoned. A messenger from the scene states that 100 men were at work at the time, and the pier collapsed without warning, owing to the faulty construction of the foundation, not going down to bedrock.

Receiver for Mine Concern.

New York, Sept. 26.—Judge Holt, of the United States district court, has appointed Alfred Roelker, Jr., receiver of the General Metals company, of this city, which professes to have a capital of \$1,500,000 and large plants for the reduction of gold ore into bullion at Colorado City, Colo. The appointment of a receiver was made on an involuntary petition filed by Joseph M. Bacon, who alleges he is a creditor of the General Metals company.

Telephone in Place of Telegraph.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—As rapidly as the change can be brought about the management of the Burlington system has determined to substitute the telephone for the telegraph in dispatching and operating both passenger and freight trains. The announcement was made today after the conclusion of comprehensive tests that have been in progress for several years on various parts of the system.

FIFTY LIVES LOST.

Passenger Trains Meet Head-On in Tennessee.

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 27.—Running on a roadbed in a supposedly high condition of maintenance, and having about them every safeguard known to a modern railroad, two trains on the Southern Railway carrying heavy lists of passengers met head-on near Hodges, Tenn., sending 50 people to death and injuring 130, several of whom will probably die. Some of the bodies have not yet been recovered, and many remain unidentified.

This appalling loss of life and maiming of the living resulted apparently from the disregarding of orders given to the two trains to meet at a station which has for a long time been their regular meeting-point. This action on the part of the engineer of the westbound train is made more inexplicable by the fact that the accident happened in broad daylight, and according to the best information obtainable he had the order in a little frame in front of him as his engine rushed by the station, and a mile and a half further on came upon an eastbound passenger train. The possibility exists that the engineer may have been asleep.

The trains were on time, and not making over 35 miles an hour, yet the impact as they rounded a curve and came suddenly upon each other was frightful. Both engines and the major portions of both trains were demolished, and why the orders were disregarded or misinterpreted will probably never be known, as the engineers of the two trains were crushed, their bodies remaining for hours under the wreckage of their locomotives.

MOVE FOR PEACE.

President Roosevelt Will Call International Congress.

Washington, Sept. 2.—President Roosevelt announced this afternoon that at an early date he would ask the nations of the world to join in a second congress of The Hague for the promotion of arbitration.

The occasion for the announcement was the reception by the President of the delegates to the Interparliamentary Union, which recently held a session at St. Louis. At that session the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

"Whereas, Enlightened public opinion and the spirit of modern civilization alike demand that controversies between nations be settled in the same manner as disputes between individuals are settled, that is, by the judgment of courts in accordance with recognized principles of law;

"This conference requests that the several governments send delegates to an international conference to be convened at a time and place to be agreed on by them, for the consideration of the following questions:

"The negotiation of arbitration treaties between the nations represented at the conference to be convened.

"The advisability of creating a Congress of Nations, to convene periodically for the discussion of international questions.

"And respectfully and cordially requests the President of the United States to invite all the nations to send representatives to such a conference."

RUSSIAN QUERY TO OREGON.

Governor Asked What Rules Apply to Ships Taking Berth.

Salem, Ore., Sept. 27.—The Russian Consul at San Francisco is anxious to secure information regarding the harbor laws, rules and regulations in the state of Oregon, and having applied in vain to the Port of Portland Commission and the Board of Pilot Commissioners, he has addressed Governor Chamberlain upon the subject. For the information of his government he wishes to know whether there are any state laws or local regulations governing the assignment of vessels to berths in Oregon harbors, and particularly whether exceptions are made in favor of merchant vessels flying the American flag.

One Fugitive Caught.

Butte, Mont., Sept. 27.—A Billings special to the Miner tonight says that one of the Parkinson brothers, known as the most notorious horse-thieves in Eastern Montana, was captured by the Crow Indian police at the agency this evening, while endeavoring to make his way out of the country on a stock train. The nine other fugitives are still at large. Mosher and Grady, the self-confessed murderers of Sergeant of Police Hannah, are armed with Winchester and are headed for the Jackson Hole country, with passes hot on their trail. A fight will result when the men are overtaken.

Russian Ships Must Sail.

Port Said, Sept. 27.—The Russian auxiliary cruisers St. Petersburg and Smolensk are here awaiting permission to take coal and provision enough to carry them to Bizerta, Tunis. They asked for sufficient supplies to enable them to reach Libau, but this request was refused and they must proceed within 24 hours. This afternoon the captains of the Russian vessels exchanged visits with the officers of the British cruiser Furious.

Fire at Minnesota University.

Minneapolis, Sept. 27.—The main building of the University of Minnesota was totally destroyed by fire today, entailing a loss of \$125,000, fully insured.

NINE ARE DEAD

Massachusetts Electric Car Strikes Dynamite.

NINETEEN OTHERS ARE INJURED

Tramster Was on His Way to Get It When the Disaster Occurred—He Was Arrested.

Melrose, Mass., Sept. 23.—An outward bound electric car containing 32 persons was blown to pieces in this city tonight by striking a 50-pound box of dynamite that had fallen off an express wagon. Six persons were killed outright, three more died of their injuries within an hour and 19 others on the car were taken to the hospitals suffering from severe injuries. At least a score of persons in the immediate vicinity of the explosion were hurt by flying glass and splinters.

So great was the force of the explosion that all but ten feet of the rear portion of the car was blown into small pieces, while windows within a radius of a quarter of a mile were shattered.

The immediate vicinity of the accident presented a fearful spectacle when those in the neighborhood reached the scene. The ground was strewn with legs, arms and other portions of the bodies of those who had been killed, and shrieks and groans came from the writhing forms of the injured. The car contained mostly men on their way to their homes in this city.

For more than three hours there was the greatest confusion. Thousands of people rushed about trying to find relatives and friends, and the hospitals were besieged. The police arrested Roy Fenton, driver of an express wagon. Fenton, it was learned, was carrying two 50-pound boxes of dynamite on his wagon, and did not know until he reached the express office that one of the boxes had dropped off. He hurried back in the hope of picking it up, but the electric car reached the box first.

PICNIC AT ARCADIA.

Oregon Irrigationists Enjoy a Day Near Ontario.

Ontario, Or., Sept. 22.—The delegates to the state irrigation convention were the guests of citizens of Ontario and Malheur county yesterday at a picnic and banquet at Arcadia, a model fruit farm owned by the Kiesel, Shilling and Danilson company. Arcadia is on the O. S. L. railway, seven miles east of Ontario. Eight years ago it was a barren waste of sagebrush land; today it is one of the most fruitful sections of land in the state, embracing several hundred acres of alfalfa hay, acres upon acres of bearing fruit trees and a dense grove of locust and maple trees—an ideal place for a picnic.

The delegates and their wives were taken in carriages supplied by the citizens of Ontario and ranchers residing in the vicinity for a drive among the farms, covering an area of several miles, finally ending up at Arcadia, where the women having charge of the banquet had prepared a feast which Congressman Williamson said eclipsed any banquet he had ever attended, not excepting those of Washington, and ex-President Devers declared that it was far superior to the famous banquet given to the delegates of the national irrigation congress at Ogden last year, which is known to have cost over \$1,500.

After inspecting the fruit orchards of Arcadia, where hundreds of tons of ripe and growing fruit are to be found on the trees, the guests were taken back to Ontario, where they all departed on the afternoon trains for home.

The judges awarded the \$100 loving cup, offered for the county making the best fruit exhibit, to Malheur county. Baker county was the only other competitor for this cup.

The experts employed by Commissioner Young to pack the fruit exhibit for shipment to St. Louis began work yesterday afternoon and expect to forward it today. A fresh lot of fruit will be sent, as there is plenty as good and better growing on the trees in the vicinity of Ontario than that placed on exhibition for the convention.

Rushing Coal and Oil to Siberia.

New York, Sept. 23.—A dispatch from London to the Times says: Business is active on steamers with coal, oil and stores for Russian account. It is clear that urgent measures are being taken to secure supplies for Siberia and Manchuria before the winter. Underwriters are skeptical as to the weather permitting steamers which have still to sail from Europe to reach Vladivostok. It is known that unless large quantities of oil are got out many of the Eastern Siberian towns may be in darkness during the winter.

Sailors Cannot Return Home.

Washington, Sept. 21.—Admiral Goodrich, commanding the Pacific station, has telegraphed the navy department that he has forwarded by mail a full report of the agreement he entered into with Captain Berlinaky, of the Russian vessel Lena, for the parole of the officers and crew of that ship. This provides for their freedom of the city of San Francisco, but they may not go beyond the boundaries of the city during the present war.

1905 Fair Plans Forwarded.

Washington, Sept. 23.—Plans for the Lewis and Clark buildings were forwarded to Superintendent Lasarus today. Bids will be opened by the supervising architect in this city October 17. Superintendent Lasarus is expected to have the plans open to bidders the latter part of the week.

FORT NEEDS COAL.

Port Arthur Cannot Much Longer Supply the Russian Ships.

Tsingtau, Sept. 24.—Several colliers arrived here within the last ten days. It is believed their cargoes are intended for Port Arthur. The British collier Foxton Hall has transferred her cargo of Cardiff coal to the German steamer Erica, which the local authorities would not allow to leave until given assurance that no attempt would be made to enter Port Arthur. The Erica sailed at daylight, and Japan is given as her destination, but it is believed she will ultimately make for Port Arthur, where the Russians are offering stupendous inducements for the delivery of coal.

S. Davidson, an American merchant, who had a Russian coal contract and was ordered to leave Port Arthur on February 15 last, is now at Tsingtau. He tells the Associated Press correspondent that when he left the coal supply there was very much depleted. On account of the Russian warships having been compelled to keep up full steam day and night for nearly eight months and the enormous quantities of fuel required for the water condensing plant, there must be a coal famine there now unless more coal has arrived. The Japanese have since then cut off the water supply, when the garrison would have to depend entirely upon the condenser. If a coal famine prevails, the town must be getting water from impure water wells, which would also have to be served to the sick and wounded iceless.

NEW LAND POLICY.

Tracts Withdrawn Will Not Be Sold as Soon as Restored.

Washington, Sept. 24.—The secretary of the interior has ordered restored to entry a portion of the lands in Skagit and Whatcom counties, Washington, that were temporarily withdrawn in December, 1902, with a view to enlarging the Washington forest reserve on the west side. These lands were examined by the forestry bureau and found unsuitable for forest reserve purposes. Some are agricultural in character, some grazing lands, but a considerable area is valuable for its timber. The reason the timber lands are to be turned back to the public domain is because they are isolated tracts, located among lands now in private ownership. It would not be practicable to reserve them without reserving the adjoining private lands, and this policy is not favored.

In restoring these lands to entry the interior department is adopting a new policy. These and all other lands hereafter restored to entry will not become subject to settlement immediately, but will be advertised for 90 days. This is to give every one an equal chance to take up newly opened lands, and to prevent any one getting unfair advantage. This was not done in the case of the Blue mountain lands restored in Oregon, but the rule will hereafter apply to all lands eliminated from withdrawals, as well as lands which are cut out of established reserves.

COST OF UNSTABLE CURRENCY.

Philippines Out \$1,294,059 as Result of Fluctuations in Silver.

Washington, Sept. 24.—The bureau of insular affairs of the war department in its review and final audit of the finances of the Philippine government has definitely fixed the loss sustained by the insular treasury, up to June 30, 1903, due to the fluctuating value of the silver currency in general circulation in the islands until a recent date at \$1,294,059.

This loss to the insular government was brought about largely by the fact that when silver was dear Mexican dollars were almost exclusively offered for payment of government dues, but when silver was cheap and the Mexicans over valued comparatively little was offered in payment of dues, and creditors of the government sought by every means possible to obtain settlement by the government in Mexican money. In this way silver money would be taken in at a high rate of exchange to gold and paid out at a much lower rate than received.

Under the new coinage act, which is now in successful operation, Mexican money is no longer receivable for public dues.

Rush of Immigrants.

Liverpool, Sept. 24.—The streets leading to the steerage offices of the trans-Atlantic steamship companies were blocked today by thousands of emigrants, clamoring for a last chance to get to America for \$10, the reports that the rate war was over being generally believed. The White Star line steamer Baltic, which sailed today, took over 2,000 \$10 emigrants and many were left behind for lack of accommodation. The American line steamer Merion was filled up with the last \$10 batch for Philadelphia.

Peace Assured in Uruguay.

Montevideo, Uruguay, Sept. 24.—The basis of peace between the government of Uruguay and the Uruguayan revolutionary forces has been formulated in principle by the revolutionists. An armistice has been concluded. The peace terms are that the revolutionists shall surrender their arms and that the government shall agree not to interfere with the property of the revolutionists and electoral freedom be granted.

Population of Buenos Ayres.

New York, Sept. 24.—A municipal census has just been taken, says a Herald dispatch from Buenos Ayres. The exact figures are not yet known, but the population of Buenos Ayres is estimated at about 1,000,000.

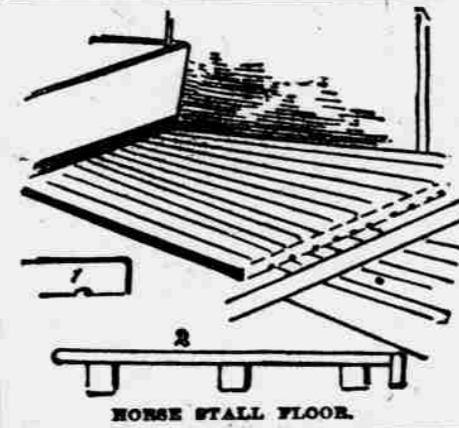


Floor for Horse Stall.

The average horse stall is a disgrace to the owner and, usually, the worse part about it is the floor. One of the best floors known, that may be made at small expense, is constructed as follows: The foundation is of small stones with a cement coating on top; a good cement floor, in other words, so laid that there is a fall of about one inch to the foot from the manger to the rear. Then a slat floor is made of good oak material an inch thick and two inches wide.

These strips are cut the required length, are set on edge about one-half inch apart and cleats nailed across at intervals of a foot. Holes are bored in these cleats so that the liquid excrement which passes between the slats may pass over the cement floor to the rear. Two by four strips are put in at intervals to keep the slatted floor from being sprung. Every few days this slatted floor is taken up and the cement floor underneath cleaned, so that in this way the horse always has a dry bed.

A gutter should be provided for when laying the cement floor, at the rear of the stall, so that the liquid excrement will run off to some vat provided for it and thus be saved. In the illustration figure 1 shows a section of board at end of cleats with



HORSE STALL FLOOR.

holes so that the liquid passes off and figure 2 shows end view of cleat where the supports of 2x4 material are put in for additional strength.—Indianapolis News.

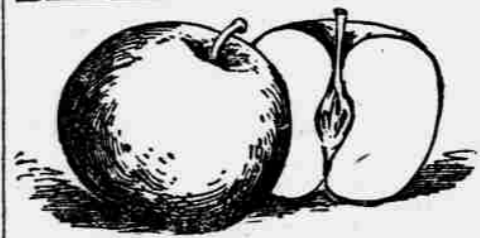
As to Wheat Growing.

There seems to be a general opinion that wheat production has greatly fallen off in sections located outside the great wheat belts, and while this is so in some States, and particularly so with some individuals, statistics show that the falling off is not so great as is generally supposed. On the other hand, there are individual farmers who are good wheat raisers who have given up their farms almost entirely to other crops, simply because they do not feel able to compete with the great wheat sections of the West.

It is doubtful if this is good policy, for while the farm may frequently be used to better advantage, there is always a market in any section for a crop of good wheat, and always use for a small crop on the farm. Then, too, wheat is one of the best of crops to use in a rotation, having a value to the soil in this respect so great that it would pay to grow it even if the sale was comparatively limited. If it could not be sold at a fair price it has considerable feeding value, particularly where poultry is kept. Do not cut out the wheat entirely until you have investigated its value on your farm.

Good Variety of Apple.

A good dessert apple usually finds a ready sale in any section where a large city market can be readily reached. The Wismer apple, or, as it is better known, Wismer's Dessert, is pronounced by experts one of the best, if not the best, dessert apple grown. One pleasing feature of the variety is that



THE WISMER APPLE.

the tree is absolutely hardy, being classed among the iron-clad varieties. It makes a strong, vigorous growth and, as yet, has not been seriously troubled with disease or insect enemies. It is quite regular in bearing, comes early into fruit and is quite productive. The fruit is medium to large in size, and most attractive in appearance, being smooth skinned and most brilliantly colored. It is juicy, rich in flavor and free from fiber. In season it belongs to the winter class.

Hog Raising on the Farm.

In choosing brood sows for the production of pork, it is a very important matter to select from prolific and strong legs and good feet. The individuals selected should be rather rangy, with a straight back, a broad and deep body. It is not a bad plan to notice whether she has twelve developed teats. Do not breed them before they are eight months old, but feed them well before and after breeding, so that they may become vigorous and well developed.

The boar, as is usually said, is half of the herd, therefore, great care must be exercised in his selection. In the

first place, he should be a full blood sire of whatever breed he is chosen, so that he may correct any faults that may obtain in the sows. Like the sows, he should come of a prolific and vigorous family, but should be more correctly built than the sows. It is well to have the boar about the same age of the sows.

Weaning Pigs.

We have never been able to understand the great haste to wean pigs that is so often shown. If the sow had to work like the mare there might be some reason for early weaning, or if her milk could be utilized like the cow's, but neither inducement is present in the case of the sow, unless she is bred very soon after farrowing, which is not good practice, as a rule. Early weaning of pigs often produces a shock to them and the mother that there is no occasion for, and often does great harm. We like to have pigs suckle the dam about as long as she has milk for them. In the meantime they have learned to eat what the mother does and when deprived of their natural food from nature's founts they do not miss it and lose not a pound's weight. The dam, too, is then in a condition to be dried off without pain or danger of milk fever or any other ailment that a too early weaning may produce. And finally, at no time in its life does the pig make as rapid gain at as little cost as during the nursing period; then why not make that period a long rather than a short one?—Farm, Stock and Home.

Sowing Clover with Wheat.

Farmers who appreciate the value of clover in farming operations are quite willing to go to some trouble to obtain a stand. Oftentime failure is due to some fault in the plan of sowing the seed. Try the following plan: The wheat field is thoroughly prepared and gone over with a spring tooth harrow before sowing the wheat. Level the soil with a harrow and then apply fertilizers at the rate of 300 pounds an acre, making up a ton of it in the following proportions, 1,000 pounds of acid phosphate, 800 pounds of kainit and 200 pounds of muriate of potash. The fertilizer is broadcast on the soil and then about eight loads of fine manure put on; then the whole field is harrowed two or three times and it is ready for the wheat seed and clover. The plan as outlined involves considerable labor and expense, but it is likely to bring desired results.

Profit in the Dairy.

It has been truthfully claimed that the dairy business removes less fertility from the soil than any other. Professor Curtiss, of Iowa, made a statement recently that in selling a thousand dollars' worth of wheat one removed \$350 worth of fertility from the soil; of corn, \$250 worth; but \$1,000 worth of corn can be converted into beef, pork or mutton for market and not remove more than \$25 worth of fertility with it. By converting \$1,000 worth of feed into butter, not a single dollar's worth of fertility will be removed. Butter is almost wholly pure fat and the elements of which add nothing to the productiveness of the soil.

Milking by Electricity.

A report comes from Germany that they are milking cows there by electricity. Rubber hoods attached to the udder of the cow are connected with the milk receptacle by a rubber tube from which the air is exhausted by an electric pump. It is claimed that the suction thus secured resembles very closely the sucking of a calf, and that for this reason the cow "lets down" her milk more freely than when hand milked. Absolute cleanliness for the milk is also claimed for the method.

Farm Notes.

Farming is poor business when the farming is poor.

The richest part of any manure is that which water will wash out.

Brood sows should have attention before farrowing as well as after.

Care and fertilizers make the farm; care and feed make the stock.

Any animal when fed heavily should have a change of food, especially sheep.

Using the drill for sowing the depth of covering is uniform and there is no loss of seed.

Never let the farm work or stock stand still or retrograde, but keep both progressing steadily.

The richness of the food given stock has much to do with the value of the manure made from them.

The productiveness or unproductiveness of a farm depends chiefly on the farmer and his methods.

The value of wood ashes in the orchard and of coal ashes on heavy wet clay can hardly be overestimated.

Always keep stock so well that it is ready for sale at any time, so that if a rise in market occurs advantage may be taken of it.

One advantage with the public dairy will be found in the increased richness of the farm, caused by the extra quality and quantity of the manure made on account of keeping more cows and giving them better feed.

Variety in feeding belongs to profitable stock growing, whether swine or other animals, but in connection with variety there must be judgment used in changing and in the combinations. Too marked a change can only be followed with disastrous results.