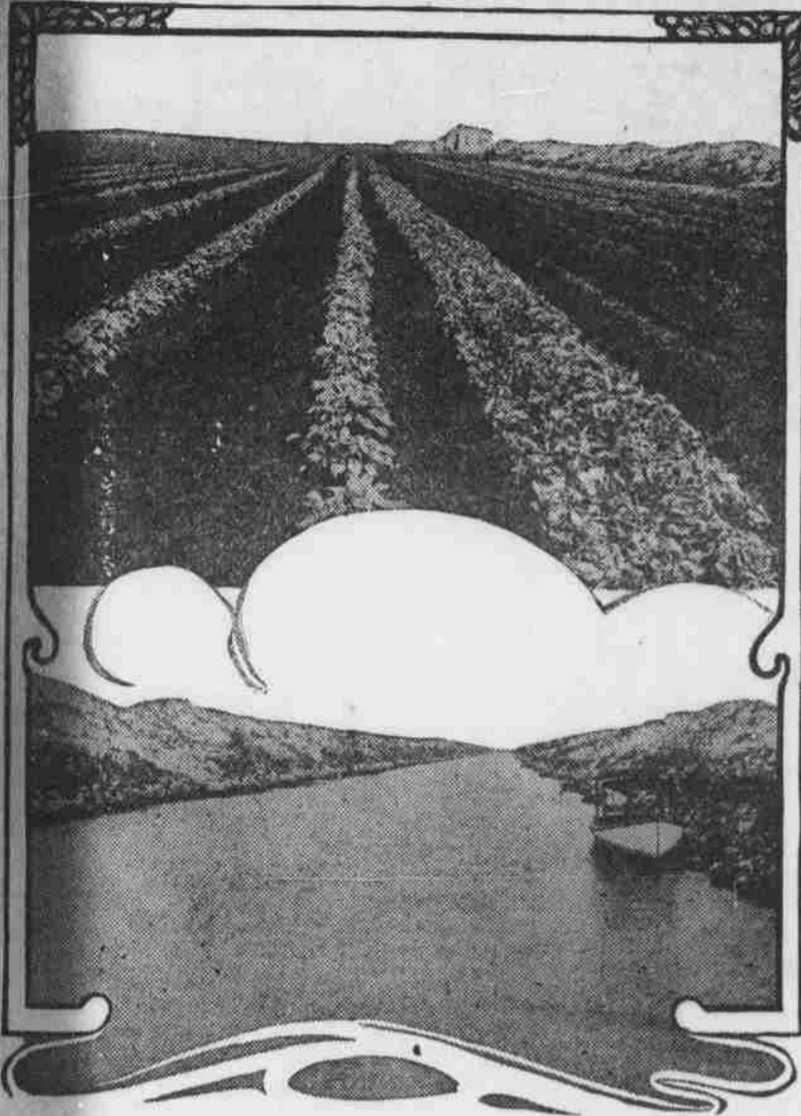


**Florida Is Draining Everglades  
With Canals to Cost \$4,000,000**



**T**HE state of Florida is making rapid progress draining the famous Everglades by canals extending from Lake Okeechobee in each direction to the sea. When the entire system of canals is completed there will be one canal to the west coast and three to the east. These canals will have a depth of from eight to ten feet and will be used for transportation as well as drainage. They will also serve to irrigate adjoining land when necessary. The Everglades formerly belonged to the United States, but were turned over to Florida on that state's agreement to drain the land and open it to settlement. The soil is extremely rich and is covered with rank grass. The United States senate has recently ordered that a report of the progress of draining the Everglades be printed as a part of the record showing what has been done toward conservation. This report, known as senate document 89, can be obtained by interested persons on application to their senators or representatives. The picture above shows a section of the Lauderdale canal which has been completed and a field that has been drained and is now growing lettuce and beans.

**THE REAL SANS-GENE.**

**Story of Her Adventurous Career in the French Army.**

Every one knows the washerwoman who was so familiar with Napoleon in Victorien Sardou's play "Mime, Sans-Gené," but the real Sans-Gené who lived at that time was a dragoon in one of the great Corsican armies and spent twenty years in camps and barracks, in campaigns and battles over Europe. In the Musée de l'Armée in Paris there is a special case inside which stands her equestrian statue.

Her real name was Marie Therese Figueur, and she was born in Burgundy in 1774. When ten, at the end of the reign of terror, she enrolled in a cavalry regiment commanded by one of her uncles and soon acquired the nickname of Sans-Gené.

Mme. Sans-Gené fought in Germany with the French and Batavian armies, charged at Hohenlinden, took part in the siege of Toulon, was in the Italian, Spanish and Austrian campaigns and fought at Austerlitz and in Russia. During the hundred days the emperor conferred the Legion of Honor upon her, and she charged at Waterloo for the last time.

With the restoration she left the army to get married. She was then thirty. In the course of her marital career Sans-Gené had five horses shot under her and was wounded eight times in different engagements. She died in hospital in 1861.—London Globe.

**PYRAMID OF CHEOPS.**

**It Would Take a Hundred Millions to Duplicate It Today.**

One of the most familiar questions asked by "personally conducted" tourists visiting Egypt and the great pyramid built by Cheops is, "I wonder how much it cost to build it?" A building contractor with a head for figures and building estimates has estimated that the Cheops pyramid could not be duplicated today for less than \$100,000,000. With modern machinery and the employment of 40,000 stonecutters, haulers, quarrymen, masons and laborers a duplicate of the pyramid could be erected in two years.

It has been calculated that the work really required the services of 100,000 men for thirty years. The Cheops pyramid occupies a space of 12 1/2 acres and is 746 feet high and contains 143,315,000 cubic yards of stone and granite. The material alone represents an item of \$36,000,000, while the labor would increase this about by \$72,000,000. To this must be added \$3,000,000 for tools, transportation and similar items. The pyramid is built on a solid rock 150 feet deep, and to build a foundation of this character would add to the cost to the extent of making the total of \$100,000,000.—New York World.

**A Monumental Majority.**

If one could get the vote of those who feel worse the day after a holiday than they did the day before he probably could be elected.—Atchison Globe.

Men grumble because God puts thorns on roses. Would it not be better to thank God that He has put roses on thorns?—Anon.

**STRIPPED THE LOUVRE.**

**Restitution of Works of Art After Napoleon's Downfall.**

The Louvre has known a still blacker day than that on which "La Gioconda" was abstracted. This was Sept. 23, 1815, when formal restitution had to be made of the pictures looted during the conquests of Napoleon. Commissioners attended from fourteen different states. The lion's share was obtained, curiously enough, by the representative of Cassel, who recovered no fewer than 421 pictures. Austria recovered 323, Spain 284, Holland 210 and Prussia 119. Altogether 2,065 pictures were removed, together with a number of statues, bas-reliefs, bronzes, wood carvings, cameos and enamels.

Sir Walter Scott in his "Life of Napoleon" gives a graphic account of the removal of the masterpieces, which were being frantically copied by enthusiastic students until the last moment before their departure. Thanks to the exertions of Baron Denon, who was then director of the Louvre, a certain number of stolen pictures were retained, among these being the finest example of Paolo Veronese extant, "The Marriage at Cana." The gallery, however, was left with only 270 pictures and remained closed until the vacant spaces had been filled, mainly with the works of French artists.—Fall Mail Gazette.

**TRESPASSING IN ENGLAND.**

**If No Damage Is Done Intruders Need Have No Fear.**

Many timid pedestrians in rural England are frightened away from inviting fields by the notice "Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted." They need have no fear, says an English exchange.

As the law stands any trespasser who does the smallest damage—injures a fence, breaks a small branch, etc.—can be summoned before a magistrate and fined. But if he does no damage the landlord must bring an action at law and get an injunction. This costs a lot of money, and unless the trespasser is a man of means the landlord won't bring his action at law. All he can do otherwise is to ask you to get out. If you go peacefully you can return an hour later and repeat the visit as often as you wish. Nothing can be done beyond asking you to leave again. But if you resist then sufficient force can be used, and if you show fight you may be legally knocked down, your legs tied and yourself bundled on to the road.

The landlord may, however, play some tricks on you. He can saw a bridge crossing a stream, so that you will get a ducking; he can dig a pit for you to fall into, and he can so fix the stile you are likely to cross that you will break it, and then he can have you up before the magistrate. If you don't commit any damage, however, you can trespass to your heart's content.

**All Sound.**

Fred—What do you think of my argument? Will—Sound; most certainly sound. Fred—What else? Will—Nothing else; merely sound.

**Queen Mary  
Wears  
\$30 Dresses**

**E**NGLAND has an unfashionable queen. While King George affects the latest modes, the tastes of his queen in matters of dress are those of a thrifty housewife with little to spare on personal adornment. Her hats as well as her gowns are unostentatious.

Some of the more simple dresses in her majesty's wardrobe cost not more than the equivalent of \$30. That is not to say that they are made of cheap material. On the contrary, the queen always insists that no matter how low priced the dress supplied to her it must contain no imitation material. Everything must be the best of its kind.

Usually Queen Mary orders several gowns at the same time in order that she may not waste time. Word is sent to the establishment she intends to patronize telling the manager that the queen will call at such and such a time on such and such a day. A general description of the kind of gowns she would like to purchase accompanies the notification. The manager must provide a private room in which to receive her majesty, and a number of gowns such as he thinks will meet with her favor are paraded before her on a living model.

Queen Mary has decided tastes of her own in matters of dress, and she seldom orders an exact copy of any of the models shown to her. There is always some modification required, and she gives the most minute directions, which are taken down and submitted in writing for her approval, so that there may be no mistake.

In some cases dressmakers are commanded to call at Buckingham palace with a selection of model gowns, but as a rule Queen Mary prefers to call at the shops. The "fittings" are always done at Buckingham palace, and the queen makes it very plain that she does not want to give more than one fitting for each gown. That means that the modiste must use every care that little or no alteration is neces-



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**QUEEN MARY OF ENGLAND.**

sary. Frequently the dresses made for Queen Mary are trimmed with priceless lace and embroideries supplied from the collection at Buckingham palace. In such cases after the gowns have served their purpose the trimmings are removed to do service again. In no case are these trimmings sold with the dresses.

Queen Mary has been known to wear the same dress as many as twenty-five times. On an average dresses remain in the royal wardrobe about six months, and during that time they are worn probably eighteen times each, although the frequency of their use varies a great deal, according to the nature of their material and style, and thus a walking dress would be worn more often than an evening gown.

The clothes of the queen are in charge of a dressing maid and two assistants, called dressers, and are kept in a great apartment adjoining the queen's bedchamber, known as the roberoom. The walls are lined with enormous wardrobes, some containing the state robes and others her majesty's ordinary gowns and dresses.

One of the ladies of the bedchamber sends a card in the evening to the dressing maid, giving particulars of the dresses that will be worn by the queen on the following day. After each dress is entered the hour at which it must be ready and laid out in the dressing room. The system is simplified by the numbering of every costume in her majesty's extensive wardrobe, and any reference to them is made by number.

Twice a year Queen Mary personally goes over her wardrobe and throws out the dresses she no longer wishes to retain. Those discarded are disposed of in two ways; a small number are given to the dressing mistress and her assistants, but the great majority are sold to a dress agency.

The selling of the queen's old dresses is conducted by the dressing mistress, who is given the widest discretion in the matter. There is one condition, however, that is always insisted upon—under no circumstances are the dresses of the queen to be resold in England by the agency buying them.

**HARD METALS.**

**They Come From Titanium and Are as Firm as the Diamond.**

The diamond has ever been regarded as possessing one quality that placed it beyond rivalry—namely, that of hardness. There are several gems that compete with it in beauty, and at least one—the ruby—when of rare size outranks it in costliness, but none in the whole list equals it in hardness. The hardest steel cannot equal the diamond in that respect.

But there are at least two products of chemical experiment that have proved, according to French chemists, to be as hard as diamonds. These are produced from the rare metal titanium. One experimenter, it is claimed, succeeded in preparing titanium in the electric furnace. In the pure form it is much harder than steel or quartz, and when combined with silicon or carbon so as to form a silicide or boride of titanium it matches the diamond itself in hardness.

Titanium resembles tin in its chemical properties, and it is the characteristic element in the beautiful red and brown crystals of rutile. These, in the shape of needles, are sometimes found penetrating large white quartz crystals, forming gems that the French call "love's arrows."—New York Press.

**KEPT ABOVE GROUND.**

**Ingenious Way Major Hook Evaded the Terms of a Will.**

Among ingenious ways of evading a will the plan followed by Major Hook and recorded in "Ancient, Curious and Famous Wills" may be commended:

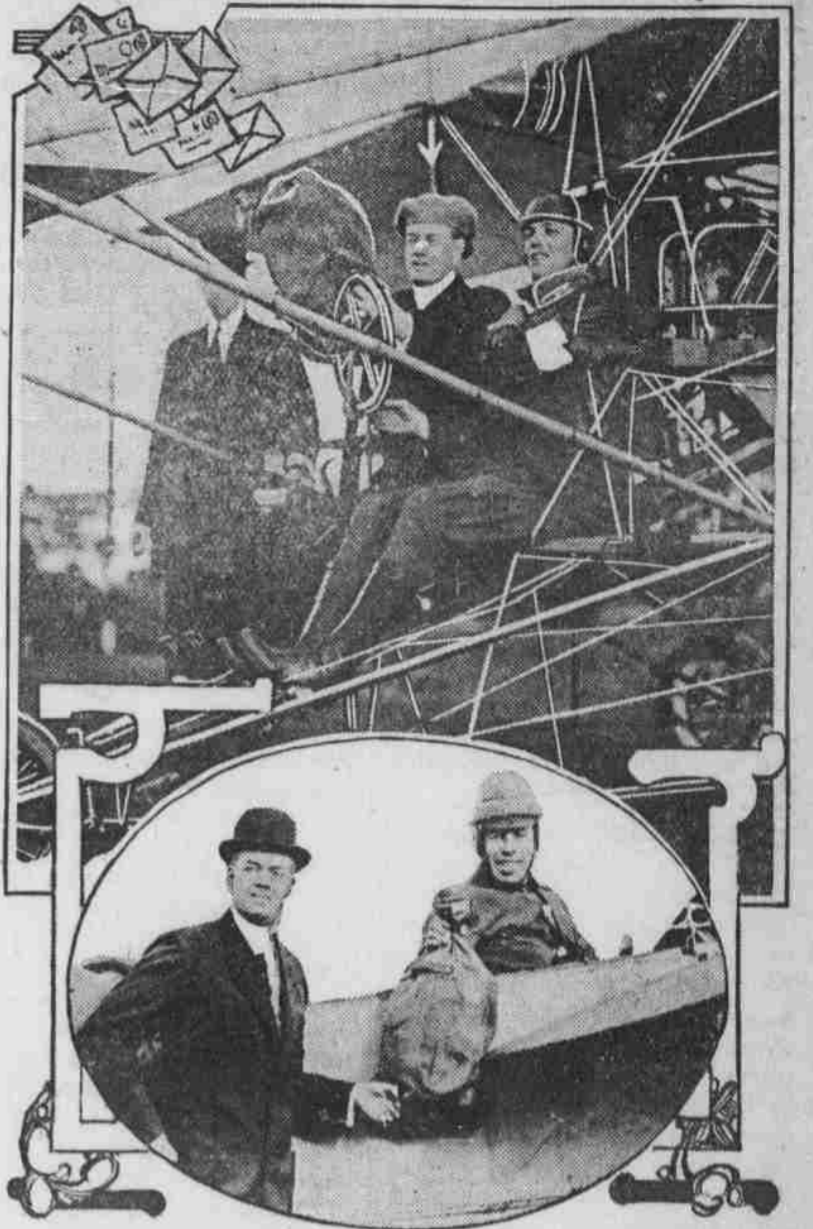
A county newspaper some years ago recorded the death of a Major Hook and spoke of him as "a singular character." "He died," says the report, "on Monday sennight at his house, Ham street, Ham common. He was an officer in the East India company's service and reached the age of seventy-five. His house was remarkable for its dingy and dilapidated condition."

His wife had become entitled to a life annuity, bequeathed to her in these ambiguous terms: "And the same shall be paid to her as long as she is above ground." When, therefore, the good lady died her husband very naturally objected to forfeit his income by putting her below ground and ingeniously devised a mode of keeping her in a room which he allotted "to her sole and separate use," placing a glass case over her remains. For thirty years he thus prolonged his enjoyment, if not of his wife's society, at least of her income.

**Law Office Is Moved.**

Have moved my office to rooms 8 and 9, new Williams building. Walter L. Tooze, Jr., lawyer.

**Postmaster General Enjoys Ride  
In Aeroplane That Carries Mail**



Photos by American Press Association.

**C**ARRYING the mail in an aeroplane is not only practicable, but it is enjoyable, according to Postmaster General Hitchcock. He ought to know, because he has tried it. In the recent aviation meet at Hempstead, about twenty miles east of New York city, out on Long Island, mail was carried at regular and frequent intervals from the aviation field to Mineola to be placed on the train. All letters and postcards mailed—and nearly every visitor mailed from one to a dozen—bore a special postmark showing that it had made a flight through the air. In the lower picture Mr. Hitchcock is shown handing the first mail pouch ever carried through the air in the United States to Earle L. Orvington. In the upper picture Mr. Hitchcock is shown seated in a biplane beside Captain Paul W. Beck of the United States army. In this machine Mr. Hitchcock flew over to Mineola, several miles away, dropped the mail bag and then returned to the aviation field. He had previously made a flight in a monoplane, but said he much preferred the biplane, as it gave him a better view of the country over which he was flying. He said he enjoyed every one of the twenty minutes he was in the air.

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