

"LAKE OF LIFE" IS FOUND IN NIGERIA

Englishman Discovers Holy Pool.

SAID TO HAVE ODD POWER.

P. Amaury Talbot Makes Report—Had Previously Found Strange "Lake of the Dead"—Natives Look Upon the Sheets of Water as Sacred Objects. Have Countless Legends.

P. Amaury Talbot, a district commissioner in southern Nigeria, has made another remarkable discovery. Some months ago, when he returned to England on a visit, he told how he had found the Lake of the Dead in the Oba country. He now tells how he and his wife explored the Sacred Lake of Life.

When Mr. Talbot returned to Nigeria he found that the news of the discovery of the Lake of the Dead had brought to light the fact that another sheet of water to which mysterious powers were ascribed existed in the neighborhood of Ikor-Obo, the chief town of the Ibibios, and one afternoon Mr. Talbot and Mr. Enkin, accompanied by Mrs. Talbot and her sister, set out to locate it.

Hitherto the knowledge of the lake had been kept a jealously guarded secret from all Europeans, and not even the natives, with the exception of the high priests, had been allowed to approach the sacred water, the dwelling place of the greatest deity of the race.

Access to the lake was through a sacred grove so cunningly contrived that a stranger might pass within a few yards of yet never find the holy pool. Mr. Talbot and his party, guided to the spot, found that the water was full of great fish, on the welfare of which depended the life of the Ibibio race.

Its Fish Are Tame.

The fish were so tame that they fed from the hand of the reigning high priest, the only native human being allowed to look on the water. Formerly many victims were annually sacrificed here, though at the present day human life is not permitted to be taken.

Countless legends had grown up around the spot. It was said to have been placed by its first guardian, the thunder god, under the care of a python and a leopard, which ceaselessly keep watch and ward and destroy any one rash enough to seek to penetrate its mysteries. It is especially sacred as the dwelling place of the most powerful deity—the Great Mother Iu-Ma (the Face of Love)—whose symbol is a holy rock facing the entrance.

Near by the travelers found a second pool, ancillary to the lake itself. In the center of this is a palm tree, near which, in the water, are stationed a man, a girl and a boy who bear the name of the goddess, as they were granted to the parents in direct answer to prayer. Mr. Talbot will send home a complete account of the discovery at an early date.

Tree Frogs' Nests.

In describing his previous discovery of the Lake of the Dead Mr. Talbot said that the surface of the water was absolutely still and round about were bushes ten feet high bearing what looked like great tufts of creamy flowers. These, however, proved to be nests of tree frogs. The place is a sanctuary for all wild things, for no hunter would dare to penetrate the bush to this fearsome place.

As Mr. Talbot stood at the edge, gazing out over the water, its quiet was suddenly broken by a broad ripple, and little fish were seen to spring excitedly above the surface. A great python, shared with the crocodiles the guardianship of the sacred lake.

Nothing was allowed to trouble the water or even to touch its outer edge for fear of famine and pestilence ensuing. Hitherto, the natives believed, came by night the ghosts of long dead Ekor, to drift in sad companies, hopeless and wailing, over the surface of the water.

AIRSHIP TO CROSS THE OCEAN

Joseph Brucker Ready For Flight Over Atlantic With Big Balloon.

Joseph Brucker, the German-American aeronaut who plans to cross the Atlantic in the balloon Schuch II, departed from Berlin recently for the Canary Islands, where he expects to begin his voyage between April 12 and April 14.

Mr. Brucker, with the balloon, will leave Trieste for Las Palmas by steamship on March 17. The Schuch II is the largest balloon in existence. Its diameter is eighty feet and its gas capacity 350,000 cubic feet.

Mr. Brucker will be accompanied by two assistants. They are taking three weeks' provisions, but if they have the luck they expect they will land either in the West Indies or on the northern coast of South America in five or ten days.

How People Gave Aeroplanes to France. France has received seventy-two aeroplanes for the army as a present from the people, purchased by popular subscription. The newspapers took an active part in the plan and devoted much space in expediting it. The Journal presented three machines, as did the Petit Parisien, and every newspaper in Paris presented at least one.

A smart man likes to pose as such and likes to hear his name, but he has more than his wit as he prevails he does.

"Where," asked the female suffrage worker, "would man be today were it not for woman?" She paused a moment and looked around the hall. "I repeat," she said, "where would man be today if not for woman?" "He'd be in the garden of Eden eating strawberries," answered a voice from the gallery.—Photo His.

NATIONAL WAR STARTED AGAINST THE SOCIAL VICE

Score of Governors Enlist In Movement to Aid Working Girls.

Minimum Wage of \$9 Weekly Is Demanded—New Laws on Way.

THE entire country has been asked to unite in a campaign in behalf of working girls who are unprotected and surrounded with an environment of temptation and vice.

The initial step in the movement was taken when the Illinois state vice committee sent the following telegram to governors throughout the country:

Are you in favor of a minimum wage for women? If so, what wage? Do you favor a state law or national law? Will you co-operate with Lieutenant Governor Barratt O'Hara, chairman of the Illinois committee which is now investigating with an aim to enact legislation for women in an effort to stamp out white slavery?

At least a score of state executives replied immediately, each assuring the Illinois investigators of hearty support and co-operation.

One of the first to reply was Governor Sulzer of New York, who said that New York would fall in line with any move aimed to eliminate traffic in women.

A message from Utah stated that the state legislature passed a bill fixing the minimum wage for women at 75 cents a day for the first year's service and after that \$1.25 a day.

Governors Fall In Line.

All the governors expressed themselves emphatically in favor of a minimum wage, and many of them promised to send messages to that effect to their legislatures.

The Chicago merchants who testified before the committee held a secret meeting recently. The wages and conditions of girl employees were discussed for several hours. Since the investigation began the department store proprietors and others have made a careful study of the probable effects of establishing among themselves a minimum wage.

Girls in some stores have already asked higher wages, and it was learned that all were assured that they would be "taken care of" as soon as something definite had been decided on by the employers.

Massachusetts Plans Commission.

Governor Foss of Massachusetts addressed a letter to Lieutenant Governor O'Hara replying to his suggestions. He said:

"A resolution has already passed the senate of Massachusetts to provide for an investigation of the white slave traffic, so called, which if enacted will authorize the governor and council to appoint a commission of five persons with ample authority for the purpose."

That a working woman needs \$8.00 a week except in domestic service to support herself in Milwaukee is the opinion expressed by the social service commission of the Milwaukee Federation of Charities.

The commission urges young women who expect to support themselves to keep away from the city unless they have an assured income of at least \$5 a week, domestic service excepted.

A bill has been introduced in the Ohio legislature requiring all persons or corporations employing five or more women to report to the state inspector.

DR. FLEXNER FINDS CHILD PARALYSIS GERM.

Famous Physician Photographs the Remarkable Object—Causes Furor.

Before an audience that packed the medical amphitheater of Johns Hopkins hospital Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for Scientific Research, announced recently that he had discovered, isolated, cultivated and photographed the germ of infantile paralysis.

The announcement was greeted by the physicians, surgeons and medical students with prolonged applause as a great step forward in medical research.

Illustrating with micro-photographs, Dr. Flexner said the germ was one of the smallest ever identified. As shown on the screen in an enlarged view of a section of spinal cord infected with it, the germ appeared in a chainlike form in a wavy line.

He said he had employed insects, which were allowed to bite monkeys infected with the disease and that the insects thus became infected for eight days, but he had not succeeded in reversing the process.

Dr. Flexner said that in cultivating the germ a medium freed from oxygen had been found necessary and that the germ never would be found in blood or in any cavity containing oxygen.

Holland to Care For Its Old. The second chamber of the Netherlands parliament recently adopted by 54 votes against 25 a bill providing for compulsory old age and sickness insurance for workmen.

Millionaire Drives Bull. Boston.—Quincy A. Shaw, reputed to be Boston's richest man, president of the Calumet and Hecla Mining company, has a new fad. It is driving a pair of imported Gypsy bulls which he brought over from Ireland. Recently he never saw a stranger sight than these powerful animals bled side by side, with the copper magnate holding the reins. The bulls are driven by ordinary reins passed through rings which place their noses. They are tractable and respond readily to their driver's orders.

of workshops and factories giving detailed information as to wages, hours of employment, etc. Governor Cox has announced himself in favor of a minimum wage for women workers, but the bill as drawn does not provide for that feature.

A legislative committee to investigate the causes of white slavery in California and the effect of low wages in that relation has been under the chairmanship of Senator Gates of Los Angeles. Governor Hiram W. Johnson declared himself in favor of a national campaign for a minimum wage scale for women.

O'Hara Makes Statement.

Lieutenant Governor Barratt O'Hara of Illinois recently made the following statement on his project in behalf of women:

"Our investigation into the causes and effect of social vice has shown conclusively that thousands of good girls are going wrong every year merely because they cannot live upon the wages paid them by employers."

"The conditions revealed to our commission have been only half told in the press reports. Senator Edmund Beall, a veteran of the civil war and a man of wide experience with the world, broke down completely and wept during the examination of the victims of low wages at our executive session."

"Senator Beall is a retired manufacturer, worth a great many thousands of dollars. He told me that he intended to spend every cent of his fortune and every hour of his time to save American womanhood from the pitiless menaces that our investigation has shown constantly surround her."

Have Probed Conservatively.

"Senators Tossney and Woodard have declared themselves in like manner. We have investigated this matter sanely and conservatively. We have tried to let the sunlight in on a condition and to spare individuals. We have accorded to all witnesses exact justice and full courtesy, and at the end of our labors so far we are appalled, stunned, horrified."

"American womanhood is in grave peril solely and only because American manhood profits from the helplessness of womanhood to enrich itself. There is no other conclusion to be derived. It is a national shame, but it must be faced now and boldly."

Effect of Low Wages.

"We were forced to realize that low wages were the real fundamental cause of white slavery and that to study the effect and ignore the cause would be to give to our investigation the appearance and reality of a farce. We refused to be parties to a farce. The people of Illinois, who took the lead in the final solution of black slavery, stand back of us loyally, and the work will go on regardless of whom or where it strikes."

"Our merchant princes and our kings of manufacture, the very people who have been the witnesses before our commission, admit that there must be a readjustment of wages. To a man they have entered into sincere and earnest co-operation with us."

"The crisis is not confined to Illinois. It is national."

HE HAS DEVICE TO PREVENT TRAIN WRECKS—ASKS PRIZE

Connecticut Man Thinks He Has Won Right to \$10,000 Reward.

Harry Needles of Winsted, Conn., explained to the public utilities commission recently a device to prevent railroad wrecks with which he hopes to win a prize of \$10,000 offered by President McLean of the New Haven railroad company for such a safeguard.

The device consists of two uprights of unequal length attached to the roof of a car, connected with the interior by wires, and signal posts with crossarms alongside the track which when set for danger strike the uprights and by means of the interior wiring apply emergency brakes to the train.

When the signal arm is set at an angle of forty-five degrees it can strike only the longer of the two uprights, the effect of which is to open the air valves only enough to reduce the speed of the train to thirty miles an hour. This is designed for use at crossovers, after passing which the valves close again and the higher speed is resumed.

Better English For Signs.

Declaring that modern advertising is a ruthless transgressor against the rules that govern the use of the English language, Edwin Fairley of the Jamaica high school, New York, expressed the opinion that every city and community should have a commission on English whose function it would be to examine or edit the reading matter on any advertising sign before it is placed before the public.

Uncompromising.

John Bright's voice was uncompromising for peace. Says the London Nationalist: "He was walking once past the Crimean monument in London with one of his sons, then a lad. Every one knows that the word 'Crimes' is engraved on the monument and to the word upon it and asked: 'Father, what is that?'" "That," said John Bright, pointing to the word, "is a crime."

THINKS MEN SHOULD LIVE TO AGE OF 100.

Boston Professor Attacks Biblical Belief as to Longevity.

Dr. Frank Ellsworth Allard, professor of physical economy at the Boston university medical school, believes that 100 years should be the average life of a man. "The old Biblical passage about the life of man being three score years and ten is put into our head at Sunday school," said Dr. Allard, "and we later accept it as a matter of course. It is unfortunate that we have the limit of life in mind. We ought to live to be 100. All disease is a process of disintegration."

"I believe that every disease of every name and nature begins primarily in the breaking of some of nature's laws. I believe that the body may be so trained that it becomes a perfect servant of the will. The keeping of nature's laws is the most perfect form of morality."

"The old line practitioner is bound to pass. The family doctor as we know him today is doomed to extinction. His place will be taken by the physician who will fulfill the real meaning of the word, which is 'teacher.'"

TEMPLE FOR SPIRITUALISTS.

To Build \$250,000 Structure For Study of Ghosts.

Announcement was made recently at the New York Temple of Modern Spiritualism by the Rev. Dr. Richard R. Schlessner, pastor, that a site has been decided on in Central Park West for a new temple.

The edifice is to become the headquarters for New York spiritualists and in some measure for the whole country. It is to cost \$250,000, including the site, and more than \$50,000 has been subscribed.

So great has been the growth of spiritualism in New York within the last two years, said the Rev. Dr. Schlessner, that no doubt is felt about the ability to secure the rest of the sum needed.

It was stated that there are about 12,000 spiritualists in New York and 150,000 in the whole country.

TO BUILD UNIQUE RESIDENCE.

Arkansas Man Gets All Material From Site of Structure.

J. F. Whitlock is going to have, when completed, a unique home in the state of Arkansas. Mr. Whitlock owns about 100 acres of land three miles north of Benton, on which is found every particle of material that will be used for building purposes, besides containing vast deposits of bauxite.

Every brick and concrete block will be made on the place from the raw material; the glass will be manufactured from his own pit; the wood will be saved from the timber on the place, and practically nothing will be used except the hardware necessary in building that does not come directly from the ground that he owns. The residence will be up to date in every particular.

DICTOGRAPH TO SAVE FOWLS.

Inventor Places Device in Hencoop to Trap Chicken Thieves.

R. M. Turner, inventor of the dictograph, has rigged up the buildings on his farm at West Nyack with a unique burglar alarm system to trap chicken thieves.

Turner is a poultry fancier and keeps hundreds of hens on his Ridge egg farm that have more than once proved tempting to prowlers. After considerable study he devised a wire system that can be made to do the work of a telephone, burglar alarm or dictograph.

The contrivance is used during the day as a telephone system to the various farm buildings, which are connected with the superintendent's residence. When the lights go out on the farm the turning of a switch transforms the device into a burglar alarm.

MYSTERY OF SPHINX SOLVED.

Harvard Professor Finds Way Into Inside of Great Monument.

Great interest is being taken in the recent discoveries at the sphinx. Professor Reisner, Egyptologist of Harvard university, has succeeded in removing the accumulated sand of sixty centuries from the interior of the head and has gained entrance through the neck to a temple that runs the whole length of the gigantic body, measuring 120 feet in length.

In this temple is a pyramid which forms the tomb of Menes, the first king of Egypt, and is supposed to contain his mummified body.

Slipping passages from the temple lead to other chambers, as yet unexplored, and it is thought to a subterranean city of importance.

NEW CAPITAL FOR AUSTRALIA.

Foundation of City Is Laid, and It Is Christened Canberra.

The foundation stone of the future capital of Australia was laid recently by Baron Denham, governor general of the commonwealth. Lady Denham christened the new city Canberra in the presence of great crowds from Melbourne and Sydney.

The Australian ministers also attended the ceremony of inauguration of what is intended to be a model capital. The city is to be built on a site on which the only buildings now existing are scattered dwellings of farmers.

The Way of Modern Fathers.

"Yes, before papa would consent to my marrying George he insisted on looking up his past life." "Merry: That was risky." "But he didn't go very far. He stopped just as he found that George was the only nephew of these rich uncles."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Football.

Shall we, by reason course thrilled, Forgive the phrase of June And ask the question, 'Was not August' Instead of, 'What's the secret?'—Washington Star.

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ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29th

The biggest pieces you will ever see sold for 10c will be sold this day. Come and lay in your supply. Plenty for all. Nothing over 10c. Values up to 65c goes at 10c each. See Window Display

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The Trouble.



Discontented Twin - Pretty rotten luck on me! I shouldn't so much mind having a face like mine if it wasn't so beastly like yours - Punch.

Oh, How I Itched!

What long nerve-racking days of constant torture—what sleepless nights of terrible agony—itch—itch—itch, constant itch, until it seemed that I must tear off my very skin—then—Instant relief—my skin cooled, soothed and healed! The very first drops of D.D.D. Prescription for Eczema stopped that awful itch instantly; yes, the very moment D.D.D. touched the burning skin the torture ceased. A 25c bottle proves it. D.D.D. has been known for years as the only absolutely reliable eczema remedy, for it washes away the disease germs and leaves the skin as clear and healthy as that of a child.

All other druggists have D.D.D. Prescription—go to them if you can't come to us—but don't accept some big profit substitute.

But if you come to our store, we are so certain of what D.D.D. will do for you that we offer you a full size bottle on this guarantee:—If you do not find that it takes away the itch AT ONCE, it costs you not a cent.

CONRAD STAFRIN

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The Observer, Dallas, Ore.

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