

A PLAGUE OF FEAR

Vague Terrors Bar Lots of Folks
From Living on the Land.

DREAD SNAKES AND INSECTS.

They See Dangers and Perils in Coun-
try Life That Do Not Exist, and So
Prefer Crowded Cities—The Truth
About Animal Bites and Poisons.

Fears of injury and even death from
snake bite, terror occasioned by dangers
imaginary and unseen, keep many nervous
people from living on the land, and these
senseless fears play a larger part than
most people imagine in keeping people
huddled in apartment houses, crowded
into towns and cities. And the cost of
living soars and soars.

Snake and insect poisoning terrorizes
millions of well meaning men and women,
when, as a matter of fact, danger
from falling, while running the lawn
mower is much more real. Fear seems
to become an obsession, and the word
"deadly" creeps into conversation at
every verse end. The rattlesnake is
"deadly." The copperhead and moccasin
are "deadly." So is the wholly mythical
puff adder. In hardly less degree is
the tarantula "deadly," while varying
lethal capacities are ascribed to the
centipede, the scorpion, the kissing
bug and sundry other forms of insect
life. Pseudo science to the contrary
notwithstanding, there is no living
thing within the boundaries of the
United States of America whose bite or
sting is sure death or (with one possible
exception) even probable death.

There are five varieties of venomous
serpents in the country, three of them
Crotalids and two belonging to the
elaps family. The elaps are rare. The
crotalids (rattlesnake, moccasin and
copperhead) are common and of the
widest geographical distribution. Yet,
on the basis of actual evidence, the
amazing fact stands out that only about
eighty persons, so far as is ascertain-
able, have ever died from snake bites
in the United States.

Be it remembered that death follow-
ing snake bite is not necessarily the
same thing as death from snake bite.
Error in treatment plays no small part
in violating the statistics. For "error"
read "whisky." Whoever is primarily
responsible for the hoary superstition
that liquor in huge doses is useful in
snake poisoning has many a life to an-
swer for. A whole bottle of raw whisky
forced down the throat of a man un-
accustomed to alcohol is pretty likely to
cause grave poisoning.

Fully as much terror attaches in the
country districts, to the puff adder or
sand viper as to the rattlesnake or cop-
perhead. This is a suggestive bit of
superstition, since there is no such thing
as an adder or viper on the western
hemisphere and never has been one,
unless it came carefully pickled in a
jar. What passes for the supposedly
deadly reptile is the common hog nosed
or bull snake. It is about as dangerous
as an infuriated rabbit. But it puts up
one of the best "bluffs" known to nat-
ural history.

Diseased imagination could invent no
creature more horrible of appearance
than the tarantula. Its bristling and
hostile aspect, the swift ferocity of its
rush, its great size and its enthusiastic
preference for combat as against flight
are sufficient to account for the fear
and respect in which it is generally
held. But, though several species of
the huge spider are native in the United
States and others frequently drop out
of banana bunches from South and
Central America, to the discomfort of
the unsuspecting grocer, no authentic
instance of death from tarantula poi-
son in this country is obtainable.

In some sections of the country the
spider hysteria prevails. People shiver
every time they see a spider. Yet in
all the United States there is known but
one poisonous spider. Strangely enough,
the one dangerous spider on the
American continent is small, obscure
and practically unknown. Latrodectus
mactans is its scientific name. It is
about the size of a large pea, black,
with a red spot on the back—a useful
danger signal—and spins a small web
in outhouses or around woodpiles. But
few specimens have ever been identi-
fied in this country.

The only insect which really kills is
the mosquito, yet less fear is expressed
about its activities than about any other
poison carrying insect or snake. Com-
pared with the mosquito as a real
menace, all the combined brood of
snakes, scorpions, centipedes, tarantulas
and other pet bugaboos of our child-
ish romanticism are utterly negligible
—are as figments to reality, as shadow
to substance.

A clear understanding of these popu-
lar fears and superstitions would aid
greatly in giving assurance of safety
to the man or woman who would till
the soil, who would work in the open
fields, who would live in the country.—
Los Angeles Times.

A Lost Friend.
"I'm up against it. I like Brown
very much, but I see no way now to
avoid losing his friendship."
"What's the matter?"
"He has asked me to lend him
money. If I refuse he'll hate me; if I
lend it to him I shall hate him."—De-
troit Free Press.

All He Could Stand.
Wife—Tom, I want \$20 for pin mon-
ey. Hub—Great Scott! Here it is, but
I'm darned glad you don't want to buy
spikes. Boston Transcript.

Friends become foes and foes are
reconciled. Latin.

BIRTHPLACE OF BASEBALL.

And the Diamond as First Laid Out by
Abner Doubleday.

In the new Delaware and Hudson
station at Cooperstown, N. Y., hangs an
oil painting with an inscription that
runs thus:

MAJOR GEN. ABNER DOUBLEDAY
1819-1893
Graduated from West Point, 1842; com-
manded 76th N. Y. Civil War Volunteers
from Cooperstown. He originated our
National Game of Baseball, and it was
here in 1839 that he laid out the first base-
ball diamond. So reported the special
Baseball Commission in 1907.

The decision that Abner Doubleday
was the father of baseball and that
Cooperstown was its birthplace fol-
lowed a thorough investigation of many
clues. The commission, which num-
bered among its members two United
States senators and several high offi-
cials of the National and American
leagues, spent a long time in complet-
ing the research.

At the time of the investigation Ab-
ner Graves, one of the original players,
was a mining engineer at Denver, Colo.
He proved to be the only survivor
among those young Cooperstown boys
who played so long ago in a village
field, conveniently near Greene's se-
lect school. He reported that he saw
Doubleday mark off the lines and place
the bases and players virtually as they
are in baseball today.

The game had previously been nothing
more than the English rounders, to
which baseball, as now known, bears as
little resemblance as drafts to chess.
Abner Doubleday, who was then twenty-
two, received his inspiration one day
while he was playing rounders, and he
lost no time in marking out a diamond
with a crooked stick. Later he
blocked out his new scheme on paper,
but it is interesting to remember that
he tried it first on Mother Earth.

The diamond he drew was thirty
yards square. Players, amateur and
professional, have come and gone; rule
after rule has been modified; under-
hand throws and curved deliveries have
arrived; a change has come in the size
and weight of the ball, which originally
was two and one-half ounces of rubber
covered with yarn and leather, weigh-
ing six and one-half ounces and meas-
uring ten and one-half inches in cir-
cumference; in the wake of the ball
have followed padded gloves, catchers'
mitts, breast pads and masks, but the
diamond of today still measures ninety
feet along each side.—Youth's Com-
panion.

A CITY OF MANY SIEGES.

Verdun Has Figured in Wars Since
the Time of Caesar.

The first appearance of Verdun in the
pages of history was in the time of
Julius Caesar, who established at Ver-
dunum, as it was then called, a maga-
zine for his legions.

The Germans first attacked Verdun
in the sixth century, when the Franks
from the northwestern part of Ger-
many took possession of the town. By
the famous treaty of Verdun, made on
this date in the year 843, Verdun formed
part of the dominions of Lothaire. It
was taken and annexed to the Ger-
man empire in 939 by Otto I. and placed
under the temporal authority of the
bishops.

Verdun surrendered to France in
1553, but was not formally ceded to
France until nearly a century later.
During the French revolution, in 1792,
the citizens of Verdun opened their
gates to the Prussians after a bombard-
ment of a few hours. The French com-
mandant committed suicide and the
revolutionary government executed a
number of others who shared the re-
sponsibility for the ignominious sur-
render, including fourteen girls who
had offered flowers to the Prussian
monarch. The Prussians were driven
out after having held the town forty-
three days.

The Teutonic hosts again swooped
down upon Verdun in 1870. Unable to
take the town by direct assault, they
invested and bombarded it, and the
French, after a brave defense, surren-
dered the fortress with 4,000 men and
large stores of ammunition. Verdun
was the last place abandoned by the
Germans, the troops retiring in Septem-
ber, 1873.—New York World.

Difficulties of Mining.
Every time a ton of anthracite coal
and rock is hoisted from a mine an
average of eleven tons of water must
be pumped from the mine.

It takes about the same amount of
power to pump fresh air into a mine as
it does to hoist the coal out of it.
In some mines with long drifts the
car hauls may be as much as fifteen
miles per round trip.—National Engi-
neering.

Preserving the Pumpkin.
In colonial days pumpkins were par-
ed, cut in thin strips of convenient size
and dried for future use in "pumpkin"
bread and "pumpkin" pie. This custom
is one that we should imitate. Squashes
and sweet potatoes, when they show
signs of spotting, may be preserved by
the same method.—Good Housekeeping.

He Was Posted.
"How old are you?" asked a little boy
of his mother's caller.
"Willie," said his mother sharply,
"you must not ask a lady a question
like that; it isn't polite."
"Why, mamma," returned the young-
ster, "she isn't supposed to tell the
truth."—Boston Transcript.

Real Nerve.
"Matt sure has got nerve, hasn't he?"
"I guess yes. The other day he asked
an automobile salesman for a sample."
—Lamb.

Pessimism is productive of paralysis
and stagnation.

STARS IN BASEBALL.

They Are Really Essential to the Suc-
cess of a Club.

It is absolutely necessary for each
and every major league club to have
at least one unusually brilliant per-
former on its roster to be a good gate
attraction, and more often than not
these stars are pitchers.

Remember the Chicago White Sox
of 1906? Ed Walsh was the star who
did most to place that team in baseball
history, though he received not a lit-
tle assistance from Doc White. Who
made the Giants of a few years ago
the most talked of team in baseball?
Why, Christy Mathewson, to be sure.
He was a star of stars, and in fair or
foul weather it was he whom the root-
ers paid to see. Plank, Coombs and
Bender did more to make the Athletics
famous than did all of the other great
players on the team put together,
though the \$100,000 infield, consisting
of McInnis, Collins, Barry and Baker,
was a first class attraction in every
sense of the word. But few other clubs
in the game's history ever had any-
thing approaching this evenly balanced
outfit in its best days.

Bill James in his time came pretty
close to making the Braves, and
Bill Donovan, Ed Reulbach, Mordecai
Brown, Babe Adams, Joe Wood and
Grover Alexander all have played lead-
ing roles as gate attractions.

What would the Senators have been
for years without Walter Johnson? Is
it the Tigers or Ty Cobb whom the
fans want to see at play? Hal Chase
featured the Yankees for years, for
many seasons Speaker has been the
leading figure with the teams with
which he played, and Joe Jackson,
Marquard and Lajole all had large in-
dividual followings.

Today a new crop of stars has just
about "arrived" and are pulling the
crowds.—Ed A. Goewey in Leslie's.

THE "EROICA" SYMPHONY.

A Musical Portrait of Napoleon as Bee-
thoven Idealized Him.

The most notable example of a mas-
terwork with a political origin is
Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony. Gen-
eral Bernadotte during his residence
in Vienna in 1798 as ambassador from
the French nation suggested to Bee-
thoven the composition of a symphony
in honor of Napoleon. At that time
Napoleon was looked upon as the
champion of freedom, the savior of
his country, the embodiment of re-
publican ideals, with which Beethoven
was in thorough sympathy, and he
willingly accepted the proposal.

Before the symphony was published
Napoleon became emperor, and when
the news reached Vienna Beethoven
was violently angered. "After all,
then, he is nothing but an ordinary
mortal! He will trample all the rights
of men under foot to indulge his ambi-
tion and become a greater tyrant than
any one!"

With these words he seized the mu-
sic, tore the title page in half and
threw it on the ground. He never
again referred to the connection be-
tween his work and Napoleon until
news of the latter's death reached him.
Then he said, "I have already com-
posed the proper music for that catas-
trophe," meaning, of course, the fu-
neral march. But the whole symphony,
with its essentially revolutionary char-
acter, is a musical portrait of Napo-
leon as Beethoven idealized him.

Why 1881 Was Chosen.
In 1881 a so called prophecy of Mother
Shipton's was in every one's mouth:
The world then to an end shall come
In eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

A traveling tailor denied inspiration
to this prognostic, nor, as now appears,
was it remarkable for accuracy. But
he went further. He demonstrated in
the dust of the road why that exact
date was chosen. Not only was it ca-
lendaric, a multiple of nine, etc., but
it was the only date available to Mother
Shipton which in Arabic numerals
was the same backward, forward and
upside down. Eleven hundred and
eleven was past, and not till 1881 would
the coincidence recur. The next Mother
Shipton will select 3008, which is
not tomorrow or next day.—London
Globe.

Ant Strength.
An English scientist weighed a small
ant and a dead grasshopper which it
was dragging to its nest. The weight
of the grasshopper was found to be
sixty times greater than that of the
ant. The force exerted by the ant in
dragging the grasshopper along the
road was therefore proportionately
equal to that of a man weighing 150
pounds pulling a load of four and one-
half tons or a horse of 1,200 pounds a
load of thirty-six tons.

The Noblest Public Virtue.
That patriotism which, catching its
inspirations from the immortal God and
leaving at an immeasurable distance
below all lesser, groveling, personal in-
terests and feelings, animates and
prompts to deeds of self sacrifice,
of valor, of devotion and of death itself—
that is public virtue; that is the noblest,
the sublimest of all public virtues.—
Henry Clay.

He Knew Better.
Gentleman—Why don't you get out
and hustle? Hard work never killed
anybody. Rustus—You're mistaken
dere, boss. I've lost four wives dat
way.—Boston Transcript.

She Knew.
Mother—Oh, Mary, why do you wipe
your mouth with the back of your
hand? Mary—'Yes it's so much cleaner
than the front. London Punch.

A commonwealth ought to be immor-
tal and forever renew its youth.—
Cicero.

THE CAMERA AS A DETECTIVE.

Its Keen Eye Sees Things the Micro-
scope Cannot Discover.

The camera has been frequently in-
strumental in the detection of crimi-
nals. In cases of forgery photography
is invaluable, for there is no forger
in the world clever enough to baffle its
detective skill.

An interesting proof of this was pro-
vided a few years ago in the case of a
forged will. An enlarged photograph
revealed the pencilled lines over which
the names of the testator and witnesses
had been written, although no trace of
them was visible through the micro-
scope. This is one of the peculiarities
of the camera, that it brings to light
marks which are invisible through a
microscope, just as it has been known
to reveal the signs of measles and
smallpox several days before they be-
came visible to the naked eye.

When a forged signature is suspected
the method adopted is to take photo-
graphs of the genuine and supposed
false signatures, magnify each a hun-
dredfold or more and compare the re-
sults. Under this careful test the slight-
est discrepancy becomes exaggerated
out of close resemblance to the signa-
ture, and every sign of hesitancy—for
few forgers can write a counterfeit sig-
nature with perfect ease and fluency—
stands revealed.

A forged banknote, however minutely
and faithfully the original may have
been copied, cannot deceive the eye of
the camera, which will show not only
the slightest deviation from the genu-
ine note, but also any difference in the
texture of the paper used. In a re-
cent case, where a section of a check
had been removed and another piece in
the form of pulp substituted with in-
finite skill, the camera revealed the
fraud at once, showing exactly where
the new and old papers were joined.

Our Immigrants.
The immigrants who have been land-
ed at Ellis Island have been of a higher
type than those of an earlier time. Of
course there has been a wonderful
change in their dress. When I first
went into the work it was like going
to the opera, the native costumes we
used to see whenever a shipload of im-
migrants landed. Now there are very
few national costumes to be seen.—
Christian Herald.

Republics and Gratitude.
"Do you regard republics as ungrate-
ful?"
"Such historical reading as I have
done," replied Senator Sorghum, "does
not lead me to think so. Sometimes
they are only naturally resentful of be-
ing persistently flimflammed."—Wash-
ington Star.

Bully Solution.
Professor—Pat, what is your solu-
tion to the world problem? Pat—Well,
sor, I think we should have a world
democracy—with an Irishman for king.
—Life.

The Repeat.
"Is it difficult to borrow money?"
"Not the first time. The second touch
is what calls for great skill."—Detroit
Free Press.

Not Encouraging.
"She seems to look upon my proposal
as a sort of flapjack."
"How so?"
"Says she'll turn it over in her mind."
—Kansas City Journal.

The Oregon Agricultural College

Where trained specialists with modern labo-
ratories and adequate equipment give in-
struction leading to collegiate degrees in the
following schools:

AGRICULTURE, with 15 departments;
COMMERCE, with 4 departments;
ENGINEERING, with 6 departments, in-
cluding Civil, Electrical, Highway, Industrial
Arts, Irrigation, and Mechanical Engineering;
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HOME ECONOMICS, with 4 major depart-
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House;
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cluding Chemical Engineering;
PHARMACY.

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, offers instruc-
tion in the principal departments of vocal
and instrumental music.

THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT, enrolled
1085 cadets in 1916-17, and won recom-
mendation for O. A. C. from the Western De-
partment of the U. S. War Department as one
of the fifteen "distinguished institutions" of
higher learning. All cadets will be furnished
complete uniforms by the U. S. Government
and the junior and senior cadets, enrolled in
the R. O. T. C., will be given commutation for
subsistence, as well as all transportation and
subsistence at the six weeks' Summer camp.
REGISTRATION BEGINS OCTOBER 8,
1917. Information on request. Address,
Registrar, Oregon Agricultural College,
Corvallis, Oregon.

Administrator's Notice of Final Settlement.

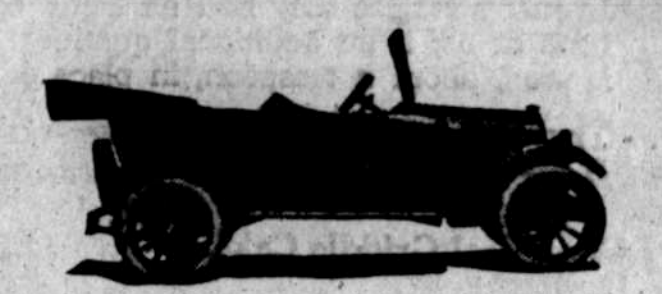
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned
administrator of the estate of Mary E. Edwards,
deceased, has filed his final account as said ad-
ministrator of said estate in the County Court of
Yamhill County, Oregon, and that said Court has
appointed Monday, November 19th, 1917, at 11
o'clock A. M. of said day, as the day and hour
for the hearing of objections to said final account
and settlement thereof.

Now therefore, all persons interested in the es-
tate of said decedent are hereby notified and re-
quired to appear at the County Court room at
the Court House at McMinnville, said County
and State, at said time, to then and there show
cause, if any there be, why said account should
not be settled, allowed and approved, and said
estate forever and finally settled and said admin-
istrator discharged.

Dated October 18th, 1917.
J. S. EDWARDS,
Administrator of the Estate of Mary E. Ed-
wards, deceased.
Clarence Butt, Attorney for Estate.
First pub. October 18. Last pub. November 15.

MAXWELL

More Miles
Per Gallon
More Miles
on Days



\$745
F. O. B. DETROIT

Straight and sure—like an arrow that flies
from the bow and imbeds itself in the bull's-
eye—

So have the Maxwell builders fixed a price
for their product—\$745—which makes it pos-
sible for them to say:

"Below this figure there must be something
lacking which we have put into the Maxwell—
efficiency, durability, economy, comfort, beauty
or standard equipment.

—and above this figure we could give you
no greater practical utility—only larger size or
richer and fancier furnishings."

This is the scientific fact—proved and de-
monstrated by one of the giants of the motor
car industry in years of production on an im-
mense scale.

And we stand firm on this finding of the
Maxwell builders.

We believe the Maxwell to be the BEST
MOTOR CAR INVESTMENT possible today.

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Its courses of study are arranged to give that broad cul-
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and woman, which includes Philosophy, History and
Political Science, the Languages, Biblical Litera-
ture and History, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry,
Physics, Public Speaking, Home Economics, Music.

Last year a Commercial Course was added, which
proved to be popular.

The date of opening the new school year is October 1.
For Catalogue and further information
Address the President, Levi T. Pennington

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