

'Railroad to Moon' Sold by Dartmouth

Concord, N.H. —(UPI)—When the man from Massachusetts button-holed lawmakers in neighboring New Hampshire

Scientists May Find Key to Cancer Secrets

Portland, Ore. —(UPI)—Scientists at the University of Oregon medical school have succeeded in unwinding the tight coil of a human chromosome for the first time.

They hope this new insight in a basic human element may unlock some secrets of cancer, other diseases and birth deformities.

The chromosome contains the genes, the tiny units of a cell's nucleus which determine hair and eye coloring, growth—the physical and mental characteristics that make you who-and-what-you-are.

Within these genes, located on a fixed, but yet uncoiled map along the coiled chromosome, may lie some of the secrets of serious diseases. For this experiment the team, directed by Dr. Edwin E. Osgood, used human leukemic blood cells from a culture which has been kept in continuous cultivation since 1955. The cells were placed in a solution of potassium chloride and heated to 107 degrees F. for 30 minutes. As the solution dried, the chromosomes spurted out and uncoiled.

The scientists injected a radioactive substance into the cells and watched them under a light microscope. They found the chromosomes contain a number of fibers. They saw how the radioactive material was incorporated in the DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid), the genetic material of animals and plants responsible for reproduction.

The success of uncoiling the minute particles of life opens the way for new studies on the intricate process of cell production and heredity.

back in 1858, they thought he was crazy. "Preposterous," they chafed. The proposal of Sylvester Marsh was ridiculed and he was hooted from the State House but not before he got what he came for—a charter to build a railroad on mile-high on Mount Washington.

Now Dartmouth college has sold what's known these days as the Cog railway for a sum estimated in excess of \$100,000. Marsh's role in the tourist attraction he hacked out of the mountain was all but

South Africans Raise Husky Dogs

Pretoria, South Africa —(UPI)—Only 150 miles south of the Tropic of Capricorn, the South African government is running an unlikely but flourishing new industry: raising husky dogs for Antarctica.

The dogs are needed for South Africa's national Antarctic expeditions. The Onderstepoort agricultural research center north of Pretoria has tackled the problem of replenishing the supply of huskies for Antarctica sledging teams.

The first two huskies, Bidule and Fatima, were a gift from the 1960 Belgian Antarctic expedition to Hannes la Grange, who led South Africa's first expedition to the deep-frozen south. La Grange handed the dogs over to the government to build up a reserve of huskies for future expeditions. Fresh blood was brought in when seven fully-grown dogs were imported from Greenland.

In the bland climate of South Africa huskies can live up to 15 years. But in the howling gales and blizzards of Antarctica the husky's average life span is five years. Because of this there is a constant drain on the animals and sledging teams have to be replaced regularly.

The 1960 census counted 9.7 million foreign born residents in the United States.

forgotten when the papers changed hands.

But Marsh met the mountain and mastered it.

Fifty Deaths

Few can boast this feat. It's believed the wind-whipped, 6,288-foot peak is responsible for the deaths of some 50 persons who tried to beat it in various ways over the years.

Marsh was different.

He never forget that day in 1858 when the legislators approved his charter jokingly and suggested an amendment which gave Marsh permission "to continue the railroad to the moon."

Undaunted, he invaded the waterfront deadfalls and teeming tenement areas of New York and Boston. He recruited an army of workers to help him wage war on the mountain.

The snows of 11 years passed over the crag and Marsh's ragtag labor battalions.

Opens in 1869

Then on July 3, 1869, some three months after the continent of North America itself had been spanned by a railroad, a small engine chugged up the mountain at the amaz-

ing speed of four miles per hour.

Marsh—the dreamer—had won.

With the passage of time, however, he lost control of the mountain railway. The counterparts of those legislators who shrugged him off as a crackpot maneuvered again and again to gain control of the enterprise.

It never came to pass.

The sale by Dartmouth college, which was willed the property, was not to the state which had expressed an interest in it, but to Col. Arthur S. Teague who has managed the attraction since 1935.

Micro-Wave Ovens Becoming Popular

Dallas —(UPI)—The micro-wave oven employing so-called "radar cooking" is catching on in restaurants, the Raytheon company reports. For the first 15 years after its introduction, sales of the dar stove languished.

But new techniques of preparing frozen foods especially for radar cooking in seconds has recently caused sales to spurt, the company said.

Boccaccio Letter Found In Bookbinders' Papers

Perugia, Italy —(UPI)—Doctor Giovanni Abbondanza, director of the state archives of this ancient Italian city, is a lucky man and is willing to admit it.

A few weeks ago, a local bookbinder walked into his office with a stack of faded bits of handwritten paper he had set aside as padding for his bindings and offered it for sale.

Abbonanza gave the papers a cursory glance. His trained

eye recognized an assortment of 14th century commercial handwriting in "vulgar" Italian. As a matter of routine, he offered a small sum for the lot on the assumption that any handwriting that old is worth looking into.

Later, in a moment of leisure, Abbondanza took out his magnifying glass and started going through the slips. The papers appeared to have been written by various correspondents in Italy to a money

changer named Del Chiaro living in Avignon, France, in the years from 1360 to 1370. Then Abbondanza came across a letter starting:

"Although I have written thrice I have had no answer. It was signed 'Giovanni de Boccaccio' and was dated from Certaldo, near Florence."

GOOD REASON

Abbondanza jumped in his chair and for good reason. Of the three giants of Italian literature, Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio, not one piece of signed handwriting in Italian has survived.

Abbondanza had hit a literary jackpot in this letter by the author of the famous "Decameron."

When he deciphered the entire letter Abbondanza had no doubts it was Boccaccio who wrote it from his home town in Tuscany, in the Spring of 1366, to his friend Del Chiaro in southern France.

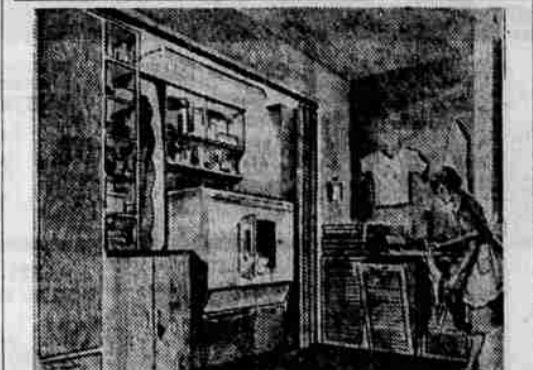
In Avignon

Boccaccio had been to Avignon himself the previous year as "ambassador" of the Florentine republic to beg Pope Urban to return to Rome, this obviously was one of several follow-up letters which the writer sent to Del Chiaro begging him to keep reminding the Pope of that "certain benefit" which His Holiness had promised Boccaccio during his stay in Avignon.

What the benefit was is anybody's guess. Possibly a further dispensation for Boccaccio, who already had taken minor orders, to climb higher on the ecclesiastical ladder—a step made difficult by the fact that the great storyteller had been born out of wedlock.

The letter goes on to report the goings of certain German mercenary bands around Spoleto. After many greetings, the letter closes with the famous signature. On the reverse side, Del Chiaro recorded the date of arrival before filing the letter away.

How did the letter come back to Italy? Possibly the Del Chiaros brought their business files back to Italy upon retirement. A couple of centuries later the files were probably thrown away but picked up by someone because paper was valuable in those days. Some binder brought the whole stock and started using it to pad his bindings. The ink on the letter is still fairly black, a sign that the note had been lying in the dark most of the 600 years since Boccaccio sent it off on that May morning of 1366.



REDUCES FATIGUE—This laundry room was designed to reduce stooping and other tiring washday problems. The combination washer-dryer is raised 18 inches from the floor while other units for folding and sorting are carefully organized for a minimum of extra steps. This is an ideal arrangement for the "retirement home" says the Maytag laundry idea center for whom this plan was designed.



ENHANCE—Beautiful built-ins enhance this simply furnished bedroom. The room is made interesting by the use of light and dark, Weldwood birch "planks" (4"x8" prefinished plywood panels). The long built-in night table is topped with white Micarta, and the Novaply folding doors on closet are faced with the same paneling. By United States Plywood Corporation

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