## SAYS RISK IS EXAGGERATED

**Official of Explosive Factory Denies That Occupation Is as Dangerous as Is Generally Believed.**

In a paper read before a medical association in the east, Dr. W. G. Hudson, medical director of E. I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., manufacturers of explosives, recently made some interesting statements concerning the risks connected with the manufacture of powerful explosives. He asserted that the dangers of that industry were greatly exaggerated. As a matter of fact, railroading shows much higher injury and death rates than the manufacture of explosives. Of the accidents which occur in explosive factories only a small percentage are actually caused by explosives. Four-fifths of the accidents are due to carelessness or negligence of employees who disregard the precautions necessary wherever men are working with tools and machinery. By increasing the share of work done by machinery and reducing the number of workers in proportion to the increased use of mechanical appliances, the manufacturers of explosives are striving to diminish the hazards connected with their business, says Popular Science Monthly.

**A Serviceable Piano.**

A prominent musician tells some funny yarns.

One relates to his experience in finding suitable instruments when on a tour.

On one occasion at a small place where he was due to appear he inquired where he could hire a piano, and found that the only one available was an ancient looking instrument in a small shop.

He asked if he could borrow it for his performance.

"You could not play on it, leastways, not as it is," replied the owner, "for it's full of books. Jim," he bawled, "where's the inside of this piano?"

And Jim's voice from upstairs, replied: "Ain't it out in the garden?"

**Etiquette in Mexico.**

Travelers through Mexico report many peculiar customs which reflect the temperament of the people. Some of these are founded upon superstitious hundreds of years old while others date from more recent days. There is a prevailing belief in the country that there is bad luck in a sequence of threes and wherever possible the combination of three is avoided. This is shown very often to persons strange to the land in the lighting of a cigarette.

In the United States one often sees three men light their pill from one match. It would be a gross insult in Mexico to offer a man a light from a match that had already started two cigarettes going. Instead one must blow out the match and give him a light from the ignited coffin nail.

**Frogs That Have Hair.**

"Finer than frog hair" has long been a slang method of expressing the superlative degree. Doubtless no one ever gave it a thought whether frogs have hair or not. Probably no one ever realized they did until Prof. G. A. Boulenger discovered in the German Congo frogs that had growing upon their bodies either hair or a very good imitation of it. It has since developed that anatomically it is not hair, in the sense in which that term applies to mammals. Our own hair is akin to finger nails; it is a horny growth, whereas the "hair" on the African frogs is an abnormal development of the tubercles that appear on the skin of the ordinary frog. The ordinary person, however, who places appearance above origin, will doubtless call it "hair."

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## Governor Is Through With Honor System

Governor Withycombe is through with the "honor system" and the trusty system at the state penitentiary. He says they are failures as "there is no honor among thieves." He will not abolish them, however, until after the next legislature acts on a request he will make for funds for establishing some sort of industry which will give employment to the convicts inside the prison walls.

The escape of three "trusties" Wednesday night, while the manhunt was on for Bennett Thompson and Fred A. Thurber, the two desperate convicts who escaped Monday night, proves to be the straw that broke the camel's back, so far as the governor and the honor system are concerned.

There may be some convicts who will respond to kindness but a majority of them, says the governor, are not fit for the leniency that has been shown them under the present administration.

"The men themselves have made the system a failure by showing their lack of appreciation of what the warden has endeavored to do for them," dtelared the governor.

Guards who have quit their jobs at the prison have criticised the warden for being too lenient with the convict and thereby sacrificing discipline.



**ADVERTISED LETTERS.**

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