...TS ROB STOCK

THEY EVEN DRIVE HOGS AWAY FROM THEIR CORN.

Hordes of the Famished Animals Rai Farmyards and Feed Lots of Farmers in Kansas, Robbing Live Stock of Their Food.

Hutchinson, Kan.—Made desperate by hunger, hordes of famished jack rabbits recently raided the farmyards and feed lots on western Kansas ranches, according to reports from that section of the state, and robbing cattle and other live stock of their food.

Deprived of their usual food by the deep snow which covered that section of the state, the rabbits invaded the farms and granaries, causing great loss to the ranchmen. Where corn had been left in the shock, or where hay had been stacked, the little animals congregated by thousands, and in their desperate straits ate thousands of dollars' worth of grain and other feed that is greatly needed by the farmers for their stock.

So numerous are the rabbits that it is impossible for the farmers to protect themselves from them. Thousands of the animals have been killed and many thousands of them have died from starvation, but there appears to be little diminution in their number.

Some farmers report that the rabbits have invaded hog pens and by sheer force of numbers driven the hogs away from their feed, one farmer whose reputation for truth and veracity is good, reporting that he saw a drove of rabbits invade his hog pen, take ears of corn in their jaws and leap back over the fence and retreat to a safe distance to devour their loot.

Frank Winslow, a ranchman in Hodgeman county, also said that he had seen rabbits invade the hog lots and grab corn out of the mouths of the hogs.

"Every day since the big snow," Mr. Winslow said, "the ranch hands have been feeding a bunch of cattle in the feed lots, but they reported that the stock appeared to be hungry all the time and appeared to be growing weaker and thinner. I made an investigation and found that as soon as the hands would get the feed dumped on the ground and leave for other fields that hordes of jack rabbits would rush upon the feed and devour it."

PICK SEAMEN OFF RIGGING

Rescuers Save Four of Ship's Crew After Men Cling Thirty Hours to Wreck.

Norfolk, Va.—After clinging for more than 30 hours to the masts and rigging of their sunken vessel, four members of the crew of the three-masted schooner, Harry Prescott, were rescued the other morning by the revenue cutter Itasca, which proceeded to Wilmington, N. C.

The four men were nearly exhausted. After resting for a while on the jibboom of their vessel late the previous day they were compelled at nightfall to take to the rigging again, and there lashed themselves for a night that proved to be one of great suffering in the face of a severe northwest wind that carried the temperature below freezing.

It was nine o'clock at night when the Prescott, bound for Wilmington, N. C., with a cargo of salt, struck on the inner Diamond shoals. It was a battle for life from the start with the seven members of the schooner's crew. The cabins soon filled and the men were without food or drink for two days, save for what little they were able to secure about their persons when it was found that the ship was doomed. Nothing remained but to take to the rigging.

Capt. V. R. Philbrock, master of the Harry Prescot, is in a serious condition as the result of exposure when he, with Mate T. S. Smith and Steward George O. Robings, cast themselves into the sea from the masts of the Prescott, in order that they might be rescued by life-savers.

ATEMPTED TO STEAL PRINCE

Spanish Pretender Believed to Have Been Involved in an Attempt to Kidnap Sister's Son.

Viareggio, Italy.—An attempt was made here the other day to kidnap the nine-year-old son of the late Prince Frederic of Schoenburg-Waldenburg. The boy has been living here with his mother, the Princess Alice of Bourbon, who is a sister of Don Jaime, pretender to the throne of Spain. The princess divorced her husband several years ago and afterwards married a lieutenant in the Italian army named Del Prete.

When the boy was missed from his mother's villa, a wide-spread search was inaugurated, but it was not until late in the evening that the searchers were rewarded for all their trouble. Just before dark they came upon the little prince on a lonely road near the town of Pietrasanta. The princess attributes the attempt to kidnap her son to the members of the family of his father.

Policemen Aid Man.

Chicago.—Policemen at Maxwell street station "chipped in," raised $50 and bought Morris Goldberg a horse so he could support his family, after his horse died of exposure.

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COULD NOT HOLD NAPOLEON

In the Disguise of a Workman Future Emperor Passed Guard at Fortress of Ham.

In discussing the origin of Louis Napoleon's nickname of "Badinguet" some details were given incidentally of his escape from the fortress of Ham in northern France on May 25, 1846. Fuller details are now available, thanks to the researches of M. Thirria, and in view of the escape of Capt. Lux they have a special interest at the present moment.

It seems that the sole credit for the escape must lie with Louis Napoleon himself. He made his valet, Thelin, buy a black wig, some rouge, a cap which was scrubbed with pumice stone and a pair of sabots. Then he cut off his mustache, put on a blue apron, a blue pair of trousers and a close fitting shirt of coarse stuff.

Some workmen were carrying out some repairs to that part of the fortress where the prince lodged and this gave color to his disguise, so much so that the two watchmen entertained no suspicious regarding the man who walked past them and out at the great gate, a pipe in his mouth and a plank on his shoulder. The sergeant on duty at the drawbridge was reading a letter as he passed and took no notice of him. It was then 5 o'clock in the morning.

Four times that day, the last time at 5 in the afternoon, did the Governor, Demarle, send for the prince. Each time Dr. Conneau replied that the prisoner could not see anybody because he had taken medicine. When at last the governor lost patience and went himself to the prince's room and walked up to the bed on which the supposed invalid was lying he discovered that a very presentable dummy had taken the place of Louis Napoleon. The discovery was made too late. By that time the fugitive was over the Belgian frontier.

EXCITEMENT OF SOME KIND

Unregenerate, Long Barred From Scenes of "Pleasure," Ready With Inventive Faculties.

"Boze" Bulger, the baseball writer, tells this story on "Germany" Schaefer, says the New York correspondent of the Cincinnati Times-Star. Bulger allows that when Schaefer returned from Cuba two years ago he plum honed for entertainment. So they framed up a soiree at the home of one of his friends. The lady of the house was hospitable, but prudish. There are a lot of things in this world she doesn't believe in. But she permitted the gathering to have a few beds of foam. "Now," said Mr. Schaefer, brushing the dust off his cheekbones, "bring on the cards and we'll have a little game. Ten-cent limit."

"We have no cards in this house," said the stern-faced hostess. "I do not believe in gambling."

"Oh, all right," said Mr. Schaefer. "Mebbe some one's got some dice. We'll roll the bones to see who goes next time to the corner."

"We have no dice, Mr. Schaefer," said the lady of the house, acidly. "I tell you that I do not permit gambling in this house."

"No gambling, hey," said Mr. Schaefer. "No gambling at all, uh? Have you any washtubs?"

She said yes, she had lots of washtubs.

"Fine," said Mr. Schaefer, heartily. "Now, you get me a watermelon and three tubs—and I'll work the three-shell game."

Thoughtfulness.

It is a pleasant bit of thoughtfulness which many hostesses show in leaving reading matter on the table of their guest room. A guest is frequently not accustomed to the same hours of rising and going to bed as prevail in the house where she is visiting. She may have a habit of early rising or of sleeplessness, or she may have merely a short time in her room with nothing to do, when she does not wish to go down stairs or elsewhere to obtain books. At such a time a new book, an interesting magazine or two would prove most grateful. It is not necessary to have a whole guest room bookcase. One or two well-chosen books will serve the purpose quite as well. It is a distinct compliment to a guest to have put enough thought into her tastes and interest to be able to offer her just the book or just the article which she would wish to read. While this is not always possible, with the best intentions, something bright, readable and new will rarely go amiss.

Life From Dead Material.

Evidence that living plants or animals are still being produced from lifeless materials is offered by a British scientist. In experiments described at the Royal institution, they sterilized inorganic fluids with many precautions, heating for five to twenty minutes as high as 175 degrees C, although bacteria are destroyed at 55 degrees. The fluid seemed unchanged after six or seven months. Its sediment, however, was found to contain microscopic organisms, and these were proven to be living by their great growth in a few days in an incubator.

Royalty Scored in Austria.

A woman in Vienna has been sent to prison for three months for speaking disrespectfully of Maria Theresa, who has been dead for 131 years. In Austrian law royalty is protected from criticism, written or spoken, for 200 years after death.

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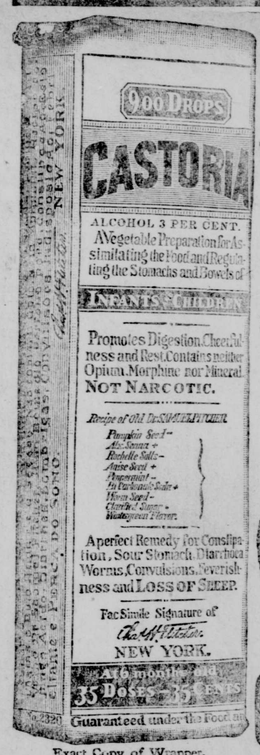

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Youngster "Stalled" Out of It.

A member of the fire department has a small son named Francis. The son had been throwing snowballs at passing autos and his father, in company with another man, happened on the scene just as the boy had shied one at a passing vehicle.

The father grabbed the youthful offender with a firm resolve to administer what he thought the youngster needed. No sooner did he lay violent hands on Francis, however, than the latter set up awful wails and protestations of reform accompanied by a copious flow of tears. The fireman's heart softened and after making his son promise never to throw any more snowballs he let him go and went into the house.

No sooner was the parental back turned than the son turned to the man with a grin: "Gee, didn't I stall out of that easy!"—Indianapolis News.

Given Their Choice.

Clem Hoppe and a business associate had to wait in a junction town in Ohio for a train at about the time when they were perishing for food. They took a look at the hotel, didn't like it, and started out to find a restaurant. A small one loomed up on one street, and as they entered it Hoppe remarked: "In any dump like this the main idea is ham and eggs." They ordered ham and eggs, and the proprietor was half way to the kitchen when he came back and said: "I've just got some nice porterhouse steaks in." The travelers looked at each other for support and changed their minds. Replied the landlord: "What will you have—the 15 or the 20 cent ones?"

Congressional Library.

The Congressional library at Washington contains 1,891,729 books. There are in the great building 118,165 maps and charts and 336,960 prints and engravings. The library building is said to be the finest in the United States, and from the architectural standpoint it is pronounced by many to be very near perfection. In addition to the mighty array of books, maps, charts and designs, the library contains files of most of the important daily newspapers in the country.

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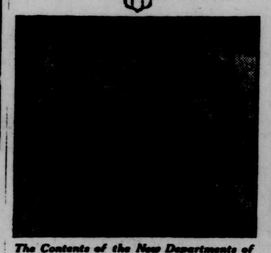

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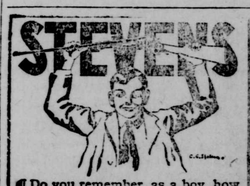

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