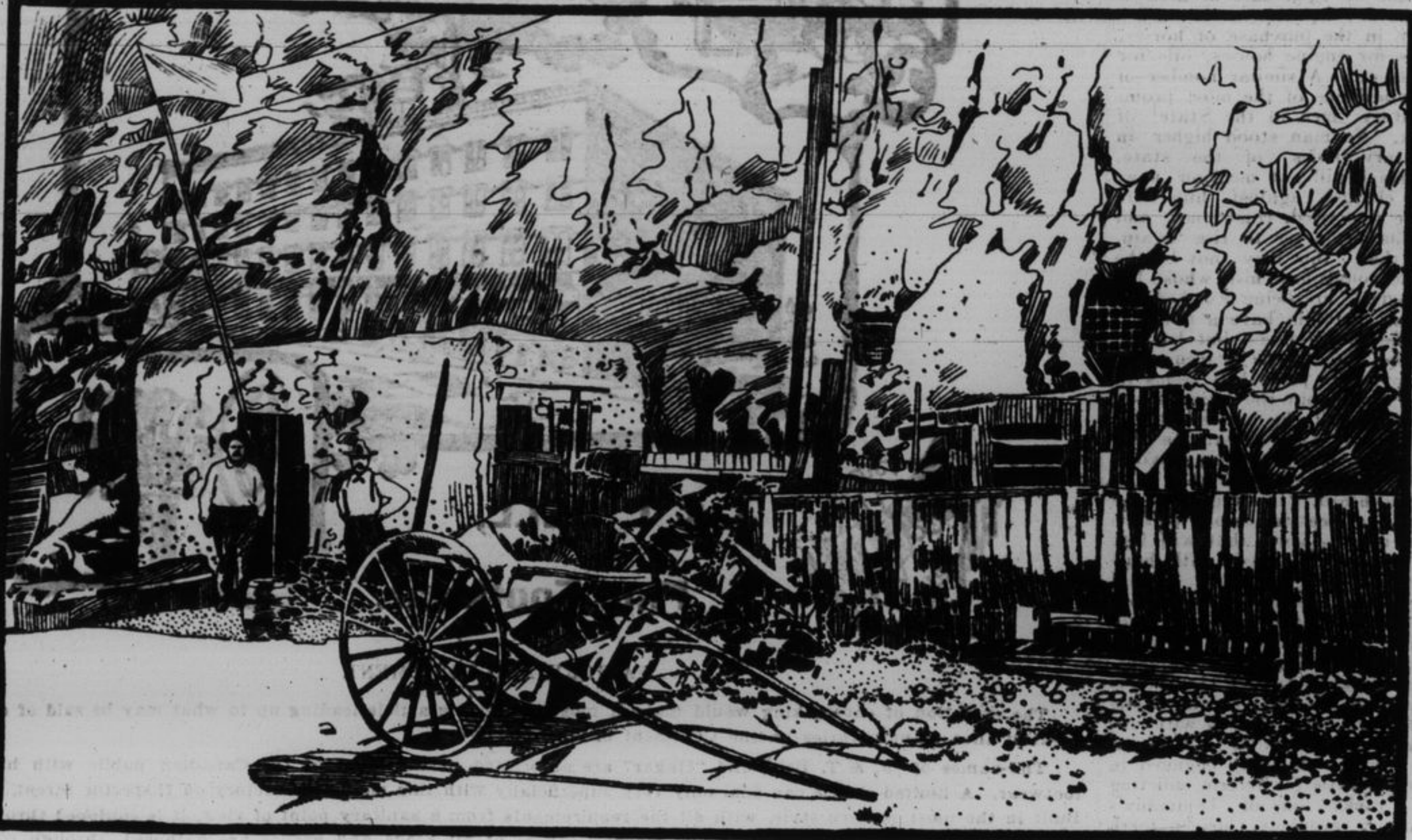


NEW THINGS STRANGE & CURIOUS

ODDEST COUNTY JAIL IN THE UNITED STATES



Graham County jail, at Clifton, Arizona, is probably the most unusual in America. It comprises four large apartments, hewn in the side of a hill of solid quartz rock. The entrance to the jail is through a boxlike vestibule, built of heavy masonry, and equipped with three sets of gates of steel bars. Here and there in the rocky walls

holes have been blasted for windows, and in these apertures a series of massive bars of steel have been fitted firmly in the rock. The floor of the rockbound jail is cement, and the prisoners are confined wholly in the larger apartments. In some places the wall of quartz about the jail is fifteen feet thick.

Some of the most desperate criminals on the southwest border have been confined in the Clifton jail, and so solid and heavy are the barriers to escape that no one there has ever attempted a break for freedom. The notorious Black Jack was there for months. Clifton is one of the great copper-

mining camps in Arizona, and has the reputation of being as depraved a community as yet exists on the frontier of civilization. In summer the mercury there frequently rises to 120 in the shade, and in the winter it never goes below forty degrees.

Sweet and low—cheap candy.

HAIR NEEDS EXERCISE.

One reason why so many men are bald, according to a foreign medical journal, is because they allow their hair to die through want of exercise. Under the skin which covers the head are several muscles, it explains, and these are never stirred into activity, the result being that they do not perform their proper function, and consequently the skin is insufficiently nourished and the hair gradually dies.

"Women," it continues, "do not become bald, and the reason is because they spend much more time combing and arranging their hair than men do. During this operation the skin on the head is stirred into activity, and as a result the muscles remain active and the hair flourishes."

"It is evident, therefore, that the best way to prevent baldness is to rub the skin frequently and vigorously, for, unless this is done, the muscles will be unable to supply it with the proper amount of nourishment."

ART RELICS IN ORDER.

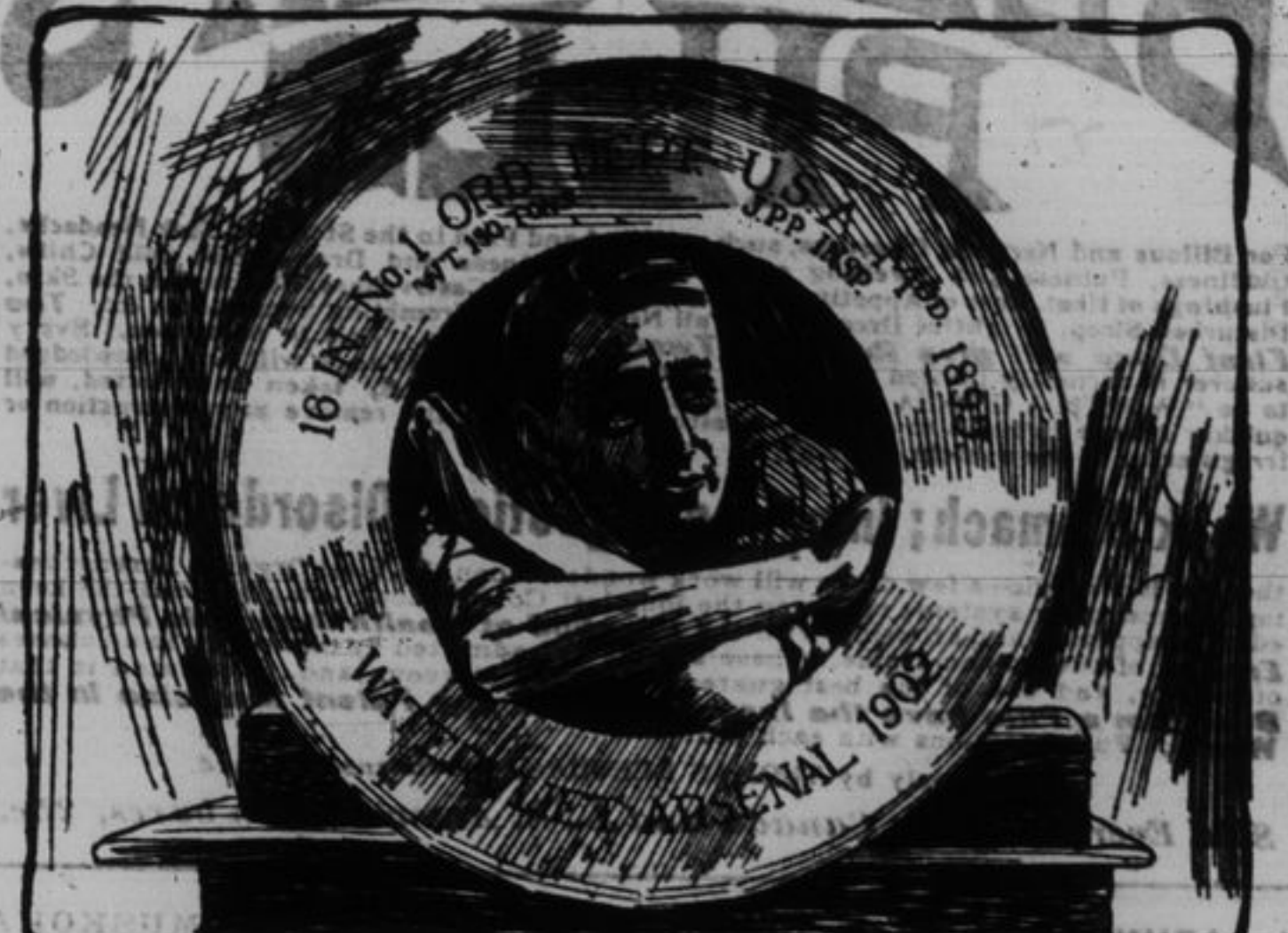
In Rome and Naples there are factories in which "ancient" art relics are made to order. Statuettes of Aphrodite in bronze are manufactured there by the gross, and recently several worthless objects were palmed off on unsuspecting tourists as being priceless relics which were unearthed in Macedonia.

One factory even succeeded in selling an unusually curious relic to the museum at Athens. Unfortunately for the unscrupulous manufacturer, when the experts examined it they at once discovered that it was bogus and notified the Italian authorities.

Wood intended to be made into pianos requires to be kept forty years in perfect condition.

There are 3,000 words which are used alike in French and English without change in spelling.

THE MAN WITHIN THE GUN



Here is the sixteen-inch gun which has just been completed at the Watervliet arsenal. This view shows the muzzle, with a man in it whose weight is 165 pounds. This gun is immense, when one considers the quality of the metal contained in it, which is, of course, the best that science and skill can produce at the present time. It is built up of nine pieces of steel forgings, the first piece being the tube, all in one piece, forty-eight feet long. The whole length of the finished gun is forty-nine feet, the diameter at breech end is five and a half feet, and at muzzle

two feet four inches. Its weight is 130 tons, and it is rilled with ninety-six grooves. The breech-loading mechanism is operated by the one movement of turning a crank. Twenty turns of the crank swing the breech block out ready for the firing, which is done by pulling a lanyard after the primer has been placed in position and connected with electric contact. The firing mechanism is connected so as to make it impossible to explode the primer before the breech block is properly closed and locked.

WOMEN AS STUDENTS.

The remarks of a distinguished American professor on women as students of English literature as quoted in the Delinctor for October will be interesting to instructors and students, both men and women. "In seminary work the papers of the women are always without exception superior to the men's; the best man's paper never equals the best woman's paper. In fact, I never had a really able paper from young men, except in three cases. I think literature teaches that wherever there is a spiritual element women excel. So far as English literature goes, it is scarcely worth while to teach most men. When they come here very few can speak good English. Five hundred words constitute their average vocabulary. A large proportion of the men in the general courses flounder about for years with no aim or object beyond barely getting a diploma at the end, which amounts to nothing. They think more of athletics than of literature; of sprawling in the mud at football, and the mud seems to strike in and affect their souls. Women are far more serious. I should long ago have given up the post of English literature if it had not been for the interest shown by women who have come to my classes."

BEAUTIFUL ROMAN COFFIN.

Near Konia, and within a stone's throw of the Anatolian railroad, was recently discovered a beautiful marble sarcophagus. Finely carved it is, and in all other respects a notable work of art. On the massive lid is sculptured the figure of a seated man who is reading a sheet of parchment, and on one of the sides is admirably portrayed a life-like hunting scene. There is scarce an inch of the great coffin on which the artist has not worked. In every figure, from the largest to the smallest, he has shown marked evidence of his skill, especially surprising being the manner in which he has portrayed the attitudes of the various animals and the costumes of the riders in the hunting scene.

The sarcophagus is supposed to have been wrought in the third century after Christ, and it is now in the museum at Constantinople. Since its discovery a zealous search for other works of art has been made near Konia, and archeologists are confident that it will not prove fruitless.

The process now in use for collecting tin from the waste of sheet tin by electricity is comparatively costly.

A RARE LIGHTNING PHOTOGRAPH.

Camera can grasp more than the naked eye. This assertion is said to have been proved by the remarkable photograph taken by Herman Voelz, an amateur photographer, of Passaic. During a heavy storm of thunder

and lightning Vogel stuck his camera out of a doorway and snapped the shutter. The streak of lightning was distinctly portrayed on the plate. This same streak of lightning struck a pole a block away and demolished it.

Hundreds of people who saw the flash did not realize its magnitude. It is believed that the bolt that hit the pole was from the fork in the flash as shown on the upper right-hand side of the plate.



HERE'S A MUCH-GNARLED OAK.

This freak of nature, situated on Monterey Bay, Cal., was originally a small oak of ordinary size, but the shifting sands which blow in from the ocean, only a short distance away, gradually covered the trunk and lower limbs.

The top limbs gradually spread and branched out until it now covers a large area. There are limbs a hundred feet long, all originating from one trunk and twisting in and out among one another like so many giant snakes.

Also upon its many branches can be seen the names of many people who have visited this tree.



IDIOT'S BIG BRAIN.

Here is a case which seems to show that some of the theories of anthropologists are not very sound.

Dr. Walsen recently performed an autopsy on the body of a young man who died in Berlin, at the age of twenty-two, and found, to his amazement, that the brain weighed 2,850 grams.

This is the heaviest human brain on record, and yet it belonged to an epileptic idiot. True, certain scientists maintain that the border line between epilepsy and genius is very narrow, and thus they may account for this abnormally large brain.

TELEPHONE FIRE GUARD.

Novel and up-to-date is the method of bridling the fire monster when he goes forth to devour a feast of forest that is in use in the San Gabriel forest reserve, in California. This is a chain of fifty telephone stations about the reservoir for the special purpose of giving warning if a fire should break out in the woods.

In addition a patrol of twenty-five rangers are on guard. They carry portable phones, with which in a sudden emergency they can cut in on the nearest wire and so save valuable time, which would otherwise be wasted in reaching the station.

This somewhat expensive scheme was put into execution by the electric and irrigation companies, who control the water and wood facilities along the San Gabriel River. If some one would invent some equally efficacious method of guarding against the other destructive element, water—in the form of rain, especially—he would benefit the whole human race and incidentally become a multi-billionaire as well. If one could only press a button and turn off the weather!

There are four different state swords belonging to the city of London. The black sword is used on fast days, and during mourning for the royal family.

The stairway leading to the tower of the Philadelphia city hall contains 365 steps and is said to be the tallest continuous stairway in the world. Over \$500,000 is to be spent on hydraulic mountings for the barbette guns of the battleship King Edward VII, now building at Devonport.

Capt. Planta, a Swiss, has, after a long litigation, succeeded in establishing his right to the credit of having first invented the automobile.

Chinese officials are held to evilly before the Son of Heavens for floods, droughts, famines, fires and other natural calamities.

An otter seized a lady's foot while she was swimming in a floating bath at Berlin and bit off a toe. She will be a cripple for life.

An elephant's sense of smell is so delicate that the animal can scent a human being at a distance of 1,000 yards.

In some New Zealand towns there are more women voters than men.

WHAT IS A LOBSTER?

Suit for damages is now pending in the Chicago courts which is based on an unusual plea—the defendant called the plaintiff "a lobster." Under a recent law concerning libel the person sued for calling horrid names can go free if he can prove that the alleged "libel" is true.

If that should enter into this case, some light upon the exact nature and habits of the genus lobster humanus might be thrown. If the defendant were to undertake to prove the truth of his assertion, how would he go about it?

This opprobrious epithet has been cast about among people of all grades of society for several years. When it has struck and stuck to the right person everybody sees the fitness of the title. But what, exactly, are the main characteristics of the "lobster?"

"Oh, he's a lobster" coming from the rouged cupid's bow mouth of Doty (limple, as she waits behind the wings with spear adjusted, ready to lead the line of "soldiers brave," means that the gentleman under discussion is susceptible to the right kind of manipulation which extracts birds and cold bottles from his pocketbook.

"Tell me, what is a lobster?" was the query put to a man who had just growled the offensive word at the retreating figure of an acquaintance who had jostled him in the passageway.

"Well, a lobster is a—" he paused helplessly. "He's a kind of animal that is always in everybody's way—out of place, you know." And he brightened up, with the glow of one who has accomplished that most difficult process of thought, a definition.

"You see, a chap that tries to 'butt in' with another fellow's girl—the other fellow calls him a lobster—see?"

So that is a man's definition. But how about the woman's? "What kind of a man do you call a lobster?" The bright young woman who was asked the question pondered a moment, then said tersely: "A bore. He's always dense and stupid."

And there you have the two versions. But how came all those repulsive qualities to be fastened upon that innocent, sequent, scarlet-back creature, the emblem of jolly mid-night good fellowship—the lobster of the sea waves?

There is a parakeet in the London zoological gardens that has lived for a century without tasting a drop of water.

MICROBE CARRIERS.

One thing the bacteriologists have done for the country, even if they have made life a nightmare with the thought of microbes on everything we touch, taste or handle, and that is the war of extermination which they have inaugurated against flies and mosquitoes; for they have carried the campaign into the ranks of the little pest of a housefly, as well as organized regular and universal means to do away with the midnight screamer.

The spraying of ponds and other stagnant waters with oil and the renewed attention given to drainage for the purpose of stopping the mosquito method of spreading disease have occupied much gray matter, but now comes the fly literature, which is calculated to make your hair rise in horror at the contents thereof. It is enough to cause a spasm when a fly pauses to rest and refresh himself for a moment on your hand just to recall what you are told that insect carries around on his filthy little body.

You see every kind of "bug" from typhoid to small-pox, sticking out all over him. His annoying bite becomes a secondary consideration in comparison.

Through the mails are sent to every one interested plans for the making of a specially devised fly trap, which is expected to ensnare the wariest and wisest of these household pests. He is said to be an easier "mark" than the mosquito, stouter to stalk or to lure, and this new and deadly device of the department of the agriculture will accomplish the ambush without difficulty.

SHOT AT HIS KING.

Probably Prince Nicholas, of Greece, who is one of King George's five sons, inherits his wit from his father, for the king's most prominent quality, after his sound common sense, is his unflinching good humor.

The anecdote is related that the king was prowling Caliph-like about the military quays one dark night when he was challenged by a sentinel. King George, who did not wish to be recognized, took to his heels, where upon the sentry fired on him. He was a good shot, and the bullet literally grazed the royal fugitive, cutting a piece out of his cloak.

Next day the sentry was commanded to present himself at the palace, where the king received him, and after complimenting him both on the vigilance of his watch and the accuracy of his aim, pinned the Order of the Redemption on his breast.

WOMEN HAUL PLOUGH ROPE.

It may not be generally known that in some of the foreign colonies of the north-west women have furnished the power for turning over many an acre of sod and converting it into fields for raising grain.

The accompanying illustration is

from a photograph taken in Manitoba and shows a Bohemian farmer furrowing the virgin prairie with a team of fourteen female members of the colony. Several of them are over fifty years of age.

