

A Terrible Explosion in Iowa.

Duck Eats Yeast, Explodes, and Puts Man's Eye Out.

**Rhadamanthus Was Prize-Winner's Name,
Before He Blew to Pieces.**

Des Moines, Iowa, January 4. — The strangest accident recorded in local history occurred when Rhadamanthus, a duck, which had taken prizes at the recent Iowa poultry show, exploded into several hundred pieces, one of which struck Silas Perkins in the eye, destroying his sight.

It was stated that the cause of Rhadamanthus' untimely explosion was a pan of yeast. This, residing on Perkins' back porch, tempted the duck, which gobbled it all up.

Upon returning from church, Perkins discovered his prize duck in a lousy condition. Talletale marks around the pan of yeast gave him a clue to the trouble.

He was about to pick up the bird when it exploded with a loud report and Perkins ran into the house, holding both hands over one eye.

A surgeon was called, and it was found that the eyeball had been penetrated by a fragment of flying duck. No hope was given that the sight could be saved.

Most did not believe the yeast had anything to do with the explosion. Many felt the accident was due to the presence, somewhere in the duck, of a concealed quack. —

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, January 4, 1904

