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THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett in 1835. It remained the sole property of its founder until his death, in 1872, when his son, also James Gordon Bennett, succeeded to the ownership of the paper, which remained in his hands until his death, in 1918. THE HERALD became the property of Frank A. Munsey, its present owner, in 1920.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1922.

Cross Currents and Mystifying Elements in the Election.

There are many men in this State and some women who think they know who will be elected Governor next Tuesday. Considered relatively the other candidates do not count. The fight is centered on the Governorship.

MILLER and SMITH are the only figures in the picture seen with the naked eye. With the aid of a telescope one makes out the dim figures of CALDER and COPELAND, candidates for the United States Senate. Here the telescope falls down. It reveals no one else in the hazy background.

All these people who are certain they know just what is going to happen on election day are a good deal wiser than THE NEW YORK HERALD, for THE NEW YORK HERALD does not know what will happen on election day.

Seen on the surface in this hotbed of Tammany-Hylan politics and considered in respect of the unknown woman vote, and considered in respect of the very considerable element of thinking men in the Democratic party who will not respond to the party lash this year, and considered in respect of certain Republicans who will vote for AL SMITH because of the beer and wine plank in the Democratic platform, though put in there merely to bunk the voters—considered in respect of all this no one is in himself enough of an X-ray machine to see the figures before they come to the surface on election day.

The woman vote is much the biggest of the unknown quantities. One may argue that the women recently coming into possession of the vote will be more independent and will think out the merits of candidates more fully and will be freer from partisan poison than men who have had the franchise all their voting lives and are creatures of habit.

Men of American stock for the most part have inherited their politics; if foreign born they have aligned themselves with some party and, once committed to it, have taken on the habit, so that they, like those who inherited their politics, are wont to follow the party flag.

But again, with regard to women who have recently come into the vote, it may as well be argued that as practically all of them have inherited their politics they will stick more closely, more unyieldingly, to party lines than the men. While this may be so nobody knows that it is so. Hence in forecasting election figures it is not safe to proceed on this hypothesis.

Still again, with regard to the woman vote in this campaign, what will be the attitude of this vote towards the beer and wine plank of the Democratic party? If that plank carries force enough to cause a considerable percentage of Republicans, naturally good, straightout Miller men, to vote for AL SMITH on this wet issue, as they are going to do, what will be the effect on the woman vote, for the women are vastly more keen than the men are for keeping the bars up against any move that would mean to them the restoration of booze?

And with regard to the independent Democrats, thinking Democrats who want to see the affairs of this State handled in a business way, on a sound business basis—not on a political basis—what of them? That there is a large number of them is certain; no man knows how many.

Another feature having to do with this election and which is tremendously overworked for political effect in these last days of the campaign is the disaffection in Republican ranks against MILLER, disaffection of politicians because MILLER cut out the waste and cut out the graft on which they and their retainers had fattened and lived.

That MILLER did this is certain. He did it handsomely and he did it effectively, but there is mighty little in this cry of disaffection. The men who suffered at MILLER'S hands because of his sound business methods are first, last and all the time politicians and as politicians they do not dare to put the knife into MILLER, for putting the knife into MILLER would be putting the knife into themselves.

So this phase of the matter over which Democratic politicians are shouting so loudly has little substance in it. Thus in spite of the surcharged Democratic atmosphere in this Tammany town and in view of all the facts, the cross currents and mystifying elements in this election, THE NEW YORK HERALD, with full consideration of the merits of AL SMITH, the acceptable Governor as Governors go, and of NATHAN L. MILLER, the great Governor, the very great Governor, would not bet a nickel on AL SMITH'S election; no more would it bet a nickel on MILLER'S election.

THE NEW YORK HERALD presents this picture of the situation, these facts and deductions to the people of New York to think about. In the political hysteria characteristic of the last days of a superheated campaign it is just as well for people to keep their feet on the ground and their shirts on their backs.

The Turkish Sultanate Abolished

MOHAMMED VI., Sultan of Turkey, has fallen by the breath of his own subjects and with him passes the most powerful of all Turkish dynasties, the house of Osman. The Kemalists, with the fanaticism which has always followed the Turk in victory, have turned upon their own traditional and hereditary institutions and by decree of their own Assembly have snuffed out the feeble rule of the Sultan and clipped the line of his decadent house. With the deposition of MOHAMMED VI. and the abolition of his house the Ottoman Empire ends its process of decay and becomes mere history, and in its place arises the National Turkish State.

The deposed Sultan was the thirty-sixth in male descent from OTHMAN or OSMAN, the founder of the Ottoman Empire. His house was one of the oldest reigning dynasties in the world. It rose to power on the subjection of its greatest rivals, the rulers of the Seljuk Turks, and as victor it so completely broke the power of its rivals that they never appeared to challenge successfully its power. It was the house that brought the Turk to Europe by overthrowing the Byzantine Empire and seating itself at Constantinople. It was Mohammed II., the seventh in the dynastic line, who made this conquest, and thus thirty Osmanli Sultans have ruled in Europe.

The Turk under the rule of the Osman house spread its conquests over Persia and central Asia in the East. In Europe it swept across the Danube Valley and carried the sword and torch over the Hungarian plains to the very walls of Vienna. Western Europe trembled at this threatening growth of Islam, but it left Austria almost alone to meet the peril. The Osman of that day founded the policy which his successors always followed in dealing with Europe. The Osman Sultans failed in their Western conquest, not from the opposition of Europe but from their own weakness. The great Sultans of the house had passed; MOHAMMED II., BAYEZID I., SULEIMAN the Magnificent and the early Selims had no successors as either warriors or rulers.

Their own acts of misgovernment, oppression and cruelty made the Osmans unfit to rule. Their European domain slipped from them and in the day of ABDUL HAMID, the last autocrat of the line, they were clinging to the banks of the Bosporus. His successor, MOHAMMED V., was but a tool of a miserable clique of self-seekers, and when MOHAMMED VI. rose to the throne he had scarcely a semblance of power and it took but a breath to end his reign and the line of his dynasty.

The Sultan of Turkey was likewise recognized by Islam as its Caliph, the spiritual head of Mohammedism. The Kemalists thus showed their daring not in removing the ruler but in overthrowing the Caliphate. No man in the Moslem world except KEMAL would have dared to take such a step. He has already been lifted into the ranks of Moslem heroes, and his excoriation of the weak and helpless Sultan had the effect of bringing MOHAMMED into disrepute among his coreligionists.

But it must still be a question if the Mohammedans will accept the plan for the appointment of a successor to the Caliphate. He will be chosen from a member of the Osman family and the choice will be decided by his reputation for wisdom and piety. The Caliphate in the past was hereditary with the Sultanate, even though this right was now and then questioned by Mohammedans themselves. It conferred the greatest spiritual power which the Sultan had. It gave him the right to raise the Prophet's standard in holy war and to array the Moslem world against a common enemy. But even in the hands of a ruler entitled by long tradition to exercise this power it proved in the world war to have little effect. This change in the choice of a Caliph is likely to end forever the fear which Western Powers once had for the Jehad.

Ten years ago Islam might have been reluctant to accept a Turkey without a Sultan. To Europe the passing of the Sultan will come with rather conflicting emotions. The old school diplomatists who were masters of intrigue and double dealing will see the end of the Sultanate with some regret at the change. A Sultan, autocratic and exclusive master of his country, was more easily won than a Government which must make an accounting of its responsibilities.

If the change from Ottoman Empire to National State will clear Constantinople of its intriguing diplomats, its concession hunters and its international trouble makers it will be a change well and happily made for the peace of Europe. The world has neither regret nor sorrow at the passing of the Sultans. It would long ago have swept them out of power and existence if it had been able to do so. It seems but an act of eternal justice that their end should come through the Turks themselves.

A Plot for Thomas Hardy.

There is such a thing as being too familiar with statute law and not familiar enough with the Ten Commandments. Up in Fulton county two men, one of whom had a wife and the other an old flivver, decided to swap, the wife consenting and the flivver maintaining as dignified a silence as flivvers can.

All might have been well if the parties had not filed the written contract with the County Clerk, who refused to admit the chattel status of a wife, even that sort of wife. His investigation came too late, however, to restore the conditions prevailing before the contract was made. The new owner of the flivver had lost it by foreclosure. His wife refused to return to him and he is compelled to support their children.

Set this group down in Wessex and THOMAS HARDY could have made a great novel of it.

Thomas Nelson Page.

THOMAS NELSON PAGE was 69 years old when he died, but the associations stirred by his name somehow convey an impression that he was a much older man. The war Ambassador to Italy inherited one of the oldest American traditions. He had his roots in the old South; he wrote of the old South; he reflected the best of its traditions in his own high minded and charming personality.

His books took their character from a United States which is already fading into historical perspective. They are the furthest removed in spirit from the work of the middle West realists among all the literary fashions in our history. It was Mr. PAGE's public service as Ambassador which linked him to our own day, and it is interesting to observe that the novel he contemplated writing upon his retirement was to include within its scope the reconstruction period in the South and the years of the world war.

The line from which Mr. PAGE derived was one more mellow in its tradition than the Brahmin caste of the North. The tidewater families, of which his was one, transplanted the life of the English country gentleman. Their sons, during the Colonial period, were sent to Eton and Oxford for their education. Often they made the grand tour of the Continent before returning to Virginia to take their place at the council board as members of a ruling and privileged class.

Mr. PAGE was born eight years before the civil war began, early enough to have imprinted on his mind in its most impressionable period pictures of that graceful yet narrow society which was approaching an end. As a boy too he watched armies march past his home in Hanover county to Richmond. He saw that society shattered and a new order rising.

The literary work for which he will probably be longest remembered is contained in the volume called "In Ole Virginia," a book of the old South which includes "Marse Chan," the story that first won him popular regard. "Marse Chan" was a movement away from the highly melodramatic, profusely sentimental tales of the romantic South which were typical of the first efforts to put its charm to paper.

What PAGE wrote was still rose colored in its vision but somewhat more naturalistic in its method than the work of writers who preceded him. The glow of sentiment was not absent from his pictures of the old South, yet he knew how to write with restraint and he was a faithful transcriber of the dialect of the Virginia negro.

A man of culture and courtly manners, with an inheritance moving him to public and patriotic service, he represented this country with dignity and tact in Italy for six years, beginning in 1913. When Italian sentiment over Fiume grew white hot he kept his balance and no doubt did much to modify the development of strongly hostile feeling against the United States. The war years were a strain upon him, as they were upon WALTER H. PAGE, and the lives of both men were undoubtedly shortened by the burdens which they had to bear abroad.

General Pershing's Duck Hunt.

General PERSHING need not be ashamed of his shooting even if he did finish third in a recent match on the public ducking grounds of Louisiana with BERNARD M. BARUCH of New York and Governor JOHN M. PARKER of Louisiana. Both of his opponents rank as experts and they were rather under their top form when they scored an average of one duck for every two shots fired.

Governor PARKER is famed as a mighty hunter even in a State which is noted for the quality of its hunters, and he ranks with his friends HENRY L. FUQUA of Baton Rouge and EDWARD A. MCELHINNEY of Averys Island in the accuracy of his aim. He was the companion of THEODORE ROOSEVELT on many a hunt. It was a Southern expert gunner who said that "shotgun shootin' ain't nothin' but p'intin' nohow," and that's how Governor PARKER and all other fine shots in the field use a shotgun. They keep both eyes open, pull the trigger when their instinct, judgment or whatever the marksman's special sense may be called, tells them the bird is covered, and few misses are recorded.

The Louisiana Governor has always been known as a hard hunter, a term implying tirelessness in the field which wears down all but those in good condition. He is noted among his friends for the frugality of his lunches on hunting trips. Disappointment is certain to come to the man who goes afield with him expecting to enjoy the contents of a well filled hamper when a halt is made at noon to rest the dogs and refresh the inner man. On all such occasions the Governor, who loves his little joke, stipulates that he shall provide the luncheon. There is a twinkle in his dark brown eyes when at the appointed time he hands his guest a couple of soda crackers and a wedge of cheese.

If he is a good sportsman and appreciates the joke the guest is later welcomed to the inner circle of a select company living in the heart of a region noted for its gastronomic resources. Perhaps General PERSHING had a Parker lunch followed by a typical Parker dinner.

Mail Poison Mysteries.

The mystery back of the poisoned cake sent by mail to a Philadelphia address may be solved. The mystery of why people will eat things coming to them from unknown sources is past fathoming.

It matters not how often cases of this kind are reported in the newspapers. The lesson remains unlearned. Recipients of packages sent anonymously go right on taking chances. Sometimes they escape with their lives, as did one of the Philadelphia victims; sometimes they die, as did the other victim in this particular case. But their fate avails nothing. It seems to serve no purpose as an object lesson.

Common sense suggests two obvious things to do with an attractive looking article of food coming through the mail from nobody knows where. It can be thrown away or it can be sent to a chemist to be analyzed. If the latter course is followed it is usually done after instead of before eating and the only advantage gained is a post mortem knowledge of the particular poison used. This information is of only mediocre value. It throws no light on the real mystery—the mystery of why people will persist in spite of warnings in eating things sent to them under circumstances that should inspire caution. That is the inexplicable thing, the true mystery in all such cases the solution of which might benefit the science of psychology even though it were of little value as a protection to society.

One Hour in the Jungle.

Director WILLIAM BEEBE of the Tropical Research Station of the New York Zoological Society once found 1,000 living things in a square yard of tropical jungle floor. Life in the tropical jungle is more varied and luxuriant in its forms than the life in temperate climates, but many authorities comment upon the silence and the absence of visible life which have been impressed on them in tropical wildernesses.

Recently Mr. BEEBE walked slowly one mile through the jungle for the sole purpose of recording just how many forms of animal life he could either see or hear in the course of his walk. It is only when travel through the jungle is interrupted to stand, sit or squat now and then, he explains, that the observer becomes aware of the wealth of busy life about him.

Mr. BEEBE took forty-five minutes to walk his mile. In that time he heard or saw 536 living animal organisms. The list he sends to the *Zoological Society Bulletin* is an amazing evidence of what a trained and informed observer can see or hear and identify in so short a time. Some of the organisms he found on leaves, some of them under leaves. Some flew past him, some crossed his path, others were in trees or on the ground. Many he identified merely by sound.

His list includes birds, snakes, ants, monkeys, bees, grasshoppers, caterpillars, beetles, spiders, weasels, crickets, squirrels and lizards. These creatures were of many varieties.

Occasionally his notes record a jungle inhabitant as resting, but from the list as a whole an impression is received of furious, milling activity. All these hundreds of living things were making the most of their brief lives.

Where Mr. BEEBE did not find them feeding, mating, pursuing or devouring one another, they were flying or crawling or fighting. That is the quiet of the jungle.

Two thousand pelicans have already arrived at the Pelican Island Reservation in Florida. Other winter visitors to this playground of the nation are on their way.

In New Jersey, apparently, if anybody is wanted in a hurry and is not at home the place to look for him is at the nearest abandoned farm.

Mother Prayer to the God of the Forest.

God of the sunlit spaces,
God of the silent wood,
I, who am weak, beseech Thee
Strength for my motherhood.

How shall he climb to manhood,
Son of my frailty,
Save as he grows in wisdom
Nurtured and taught by Thee?

Fashion his feeble body
After the forest plan,
Even as strong trees flourish
Make of my son a man.

Even as forest wind storms
Lull at Thy calm behest,
Curb Thou the young emotions
Surging within his breast.

Cradle his child spirit:
Even as Thou hast planned
Nurture for seed and blossom—
So shall his youth expand.

This is the prayer I make Thee
Out of my mother-fear—
God of the sunlit spaces,
God of the wood, give ear!

HELEN FRAZEE-BOWER.

Idaho.

Bitter Roots to Pocatello,
Hip, hurray for Idaho!
Names that emulate the cello
Sound their way through Idaho.
Minidoka, Card, Nah-wah,
Bliss, Owenza, Kooskia,
Rich, embroider Idaho.

You may rough it to McCammon,
You may linger on the Salmon,
You may hike it if you like it—Cariboo
Calls; or buy a bronc and pack it
And set out for Yellow Jacket,
Nampa, Waita, Hawgood, Jessie,
Kaniksu.

But wherever you may hurry
You will find that Idaho
Lends a lyric measure—Murray,
Seven Devils, Gem, Lago;
Harken to the soft susurrus—
Sinker, Shoup, Stub Springs, Wilburus,
Oreana, Idaho.

If you wish to, glide from Santa
To Nicholia, Atlanta,
Postfalls, Gentile Valley, Dickey, Desmet, Dairy,
Clarkia, Mountainhome, Lapwai,
Bay Horse, Duret, Leonai,
Neal, Kimama, Pebble, Little Camas
Prairie.

You may paddle the Koos-kooskie
Or Snake River, Idaho,
But it isn't any use-ky,
For wherever you may go
Nomenclature's simply droolin'—
Katka, Kuna, Ola, Coolin,
Reverse, Rudy, Idaho.

If you like it high and drier—
Boise, Bear, Bliss, Lardo, Guyer,
Forney, Taney, Weiser, Whitebird,
John Grays Stanto,
Old Camp Lyon, Bonners Ferry,
Cassia, Tunupa, Pagari,
Ticeska, Juliaetta—stop the canto!

Ockonock, Rathdrum, Bonanza,
Cocolalla, Idaho!
Cleft, Kanoka runs the stanza,
Lemhi, Latah, Howe, Aimo,
Sawtooth, Gimlet, Oro Fino—
Strings of pearls are the terrene, oh,
Hills and hills of Idaho!

MAURICE MORRIS.

Governor Miller.

His Honesty, Ability and Courage Reasons for His Reelection.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Of downright honesty of purpose, of pure Americanism, of sincerity, truthfulness and courage, the Governor of this State is a living exponent.

If there is such a thing as breeding, if there is such a thing as character, if, in the long roll of American annals a gentleman has ever been produced, such a one is Nathan L. Miller. How anybody after one full, long look into the face of this man can doubt the integrity of his soul passes comprehension.

Several years ago at the request of Charles R. Skinner of Albany THE SUN published the little verse by Dr. Holland on "God Give Us Men." It seems to me that at this critical period you could do no better than to print these lines again—for surely no nobler tribute could be paid to Governor Miller than to class him as one of these men.

DE WITT VAN BUREN.

BROOKLYN, November 4.

A Useful Senator.

Mr. Calder's Services to the People of His City and State.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: No other man in Congress has done so much for people in this city and State—business men as well as persons manually earning their living—as Senator Calder. He has been accessible always, helpful always, without question of politics. I remember once he and Goldfogle shepherded into the committee room all the Congressmen they could rally to hear and to support the New York shippers and boatmen and truckmen who came over to get the North River bulkhead and pier lines bettered from the Battery up. Calder and Dan Riordan, of happy memory and humor, joined as many Congressmen as they could get together to meet our Chamber of Commerce's missionaries who went to the Capitol to break bread and get acquainted with our city Representatives.

Congressman Calder and Senator Root rescued from the conference committee and had made into a statute the bill pledging the United States to open a new and straightened channel for the Harlem River whenever New York furnished the right of way. The same year, 1913, our Legislature passed an act to furnish the right of way. In 1920 that act was nullified by amending out the provision for providing the money. In the last session this elision was rectified by an act appropriating the money to furnish the right of way.

Those charged with acquiring the property laid the delay in effecting its acquisition to the neglect of the United States Engineers. Senator Calder introduced and had passed, as appears in the *Congressional Record*, a request to the Secretary of War to attend to the matter. Thanks thereto the red tape has been cut and the improvement desired for half a century will be achieved.

Is it good business to dismiss from office a legislator whose achievements and accomplishments show his worth?

WILLIAM F. MCCONNELL.

NEW YORK, November 4.

A Brave Fireman.

Reward Awaits Rescuer of Three at the Thirteenth Street Fire.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: I am writing this in hopes that if published it will serve to make known the identity of the wonderfully brave fireman who at the risk of his life rescued three of the young girls who were trapped in the fire which occurred Friday at Thirteenth street and University place.

A heroic soul, such as this fireman proved to be, should be rewarded. We are willing among others who witnessed his great bravery to do something toward showing that his deed will not go unrewarded. At least my partner and myself would like word to reach him that we are most anxious to present him with the best overcoat or suit we make, free of charge, and to shake the hand of so courageous a man.

A. M. FINKELSTEIN,
810 Broadway.

NEW YORK, November 4.

Gifts of Warm Clothing Sought.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Because of organized effort to combat tuberculosis the number of cases is decreasing. To continue the work there is great need of warm clothing for patients about to take the open air cure.

Articles for men, women and children will be gratefully appreciated by the auxiliary to the tuberculosis division of Bellevue Hospital and may be sent to Miss Sara E. Shaw, 419 East Twenty-sixth street, or will be called for on request.

JANE B. HAY,
Chairman Clinic Committee.

NEW YORK, November 4.

The Moon's Power Over Living Things

Evidence That Plants and Animals Are Sometimes Affected by Lunar Influences.

H. Munro Fox of Biological Laboratory, School of Medicine, Cairo, in Science Progress.

A supposed influence of the moon on plants, animals and the affairs of men is found mixed with the religious ideas of nearly all primitive peoples. It persists to-day in folklore and superstition. Most of us have turned a coin in our pockets for luck on first seeing the new crescent, wishing that with the growing moon the money and our general prosperity might too be increased. This in reality is the key to the origin of most moon beliefs. The moon is one of the most striking of natural objects seen by primitive man, and the one which varies most in aspect. By association of ideas the moon's increase and decrease is then supposed to influence the increase and decrease of any changing process.

There is an ancient belief and one that is widespread to-day that sowing and planting must be done under a waxing, reaping and cutting under a waning moon. Presumably the crops are supposed to be increased like many other things by the growing moon. The idea lying behind harvesting or felling timber beneath the waning moon is more difficult to trace, but may be connected with the drying influence which is ascribed to the declining phases in the same way as dew is attributed to the waxing and full moon. At all events the belief is most widespread that wood for building purposes is not durable unless cut after the full moon, and indeed until the Revolution French law ordained that trees should be felled only under a waning moon. In Trinidad, where the belief is strongly held, experiments were recently made which demonstrated the absence of any basis of truth to the superstition.

Passing now to animals, it is principally on marine invertebrates that the moon is said to exert an influence. There are a number of references to this in the classical authors. Cicero notes that "oysters and all shellfish increase and decrease with the moon," and Pliny states that "careful observers attribute to lunar power the increase and decrease of the bodies of oysters and all shellfish." The same belief is common to-day in many of the fish markets around the Mediterranean and in other parts of the world. The amount of edible matter in sea urchins, mollusks and crabs is stated to vary with the phases of the moon: the animals are said to be "full" when the moon is full and empty at new moon. Some gourmets maintain too that the taste varies with the moon.

With the object of testing the truth of the popular statement I made systematic examinations of sea urchins at Suez during the summers of 1920 and 1921. For this species of Echinoid the reports of the fishermen turned out to be founded on fact to a surprising degree. In seeking a casual connection between this fact and the lunar month an influence of the tides first suggests itself. The higher and lower water at the new moon springs might conceivably react on the Echinoids by the different hydrostatic pressure or by causing the animals to be at a greater or lesser distance than usual from the source of oxygen or of light. But the average excess tidal range at new moon springs over that at full moon springs during the period studied was only 58 centimeters. This small difference could scarcely affect the urchins, for they are not sessile animals, but move actively and their vertical range of migration during the course of an hour is often far in excess of this figure.

Another possibility was that the light of the moon might act by causing the urchins to feed either more or less on moonlit nights. A systematic examination and comparison of the gut contents of specimens taken at dawn (1) after a moonlit night and (2) after a night without a moon, showed, however, no difference either in quantity or nature of food.

The sea urchins fished at Alexandria are locally believed to change with the moon in the same manner as the Suez ones. The Alexandrian species is identical with one of those fished and eaten at Naples, which has apparently no lunar cycle. How, then, are we to account for the ancient Greek and Roman belief in such a periodicity, and for the present day statements in the Naples and Alexandria fish markets? I can only suppose that what is a fact at Suez has come uncritically to be believed all over Egypt, and that in very early times the Egyptian belief was brought to Greece, whence it spread, and has remained all around the Mediterranean coasts. In addition to sea urchins it is believed in the Egyptian fish markets that the flesh of mussels and crabs varies in quantity with the moon.

There is evidence of reproductive rhythm in the human race. Arrhenius showed by a statistical investigation of 25,000 cases that there exists a low correlation between the frequency of births and the tropical lunar period of 27.32 days. Rather more births take place in a certain part of the tropical lunar month than in the remainder. In addition there is a rhythmic causative factor having the period of the revolution of the moon. This factor is weak and will only make itself felt when acting in conjunction with the other causes. Arrhenius suggests that the factor in question is the amount of electricity in the atmosphere, which he has shown to vary rhythmically with a period of 27.32 days. But in addition to this period the atmospheric electricity has a shorter non-lunar one of 25.93 days. Arrhenius demonstrated the same double periodicity for epilepsy, but found it to be absent for bronchitis and mortality.

Popular beliefs in a favorable influence of the moon on plant growth are both worldwide and ancient, although most of them are probably on a par with the superstition that a waxing moon increases, a waning moon decreases, any process such, for instance, as the acquisition of wealth. Seneca, Galen and other classical authors speak of the moon as hastening the maturation of fruits. Athenio is more precise, writing that "cucumbers in gardens grow at full moon, showing a visible development, and so do sea urchins." This quotation is of special interest in relation to a common belief of the modern Egyptians that melons, marrows and other fruits of the natural order Cucurbitaceæ grow most rapidly on moonlit nights. An investigation of the rate of growth of these fruits, extended over three months, has shown me, however, that there is no basis at all for this belief. As the lunar influence is supposed to show itself especially in these cucurbitaceous fruits, it may safely be assumed to be absent in all fruits.

Nevertheless, since the popular belief in the existence of a lunar cycle in sea urchins has turned out to be so unexpectedly true, one is bound to ask whether any other of the superstitions about plants too are based on fact. It is conceivable, for instance, that moonlight may have a photosynthetic effect. Kofoid found a lunar periodicity in the frequencies of plankton organisms in the Illinois River. Allen discovered the same thing in the San Joaquin River, California. The maximum frequency of algæ occurred at full moon, that of crustacea a little later. While the crustacean presumably follows the algal maximum because the animals feed on the plants, Kofoid attributes the algal maximum occurring about full moon to a photosynthetic effect of moonlight. He supports this hypothesis by reference to experiments of Knaute, who states that he found the oxygen content of water containing Euglena to be higher in moonlight than in darkness, which means that the moonlight causes photosynthesis. Knaute says that the photosynthetic effect of moonlight is to that of sunlight as 2|9. This is a surprisingly high ratio, since the light of the sun is about 600,000 times that of the full moon.

There are two demonstrated effects of moonlight upon plants. Firstly, Musset showed that a number of flowering plants are positively phototropic to moonlight. The stems bend toward the moon and during the course of the night move round to follow its path. Secondly, Loftfield states that at night stomata open as a result of illumination by moonlight. The consequent periodic opportunity for increased transpiration and respiration might conceivably cause other rhythmic changes in the plant, with a lunar period.

In conclusion, two cases of lunar effects on the migration of fish must be mentioned. The first concerns herring and is of peculiar interest, since the rather intricate casual connection has been elucidated. The work was done by Pettersson. Herring are not found in the Baltic because the water is not sufficiently salt. They migrate into the Kattegat, however, with an undercurrent of salter water which exists beneath the less dense surface layers. This undercurrent is oscillatory and the movement shows itself by changes in the level of the deep salter water.

The crests of the submarine waves occur at intervals of about thirteen and a half days, that is, the undulatory movement has the tropical lunar period of twenty-seven days and depends on the moon's declination. That the herring move with the salt water is shown by the fact that the dates of the greatest herring catches are those on which the crests of the waves of salter water occur.

But this is not all. During the last century and a half the years of maximum and minimum herring fisheries are found to coincide with the years of maximum and minimum declination of the moon, which are 9.3 years apart. It may be presumed that the fishery has this period of 18.6 years because of a variation of the salter undercurrent with the same period. The herring fishery has also a longer period which can be traced back 1,000 years. The maxima are 111 years apart. This is the greater sunspot period, but since 6 multiplied by 18.6 equals 111.6 the moon's declination may again be the real cause.

The second case of a lunar effect on the migration of fish is the following: Dr. Johann Schmidt informs me that Danish eel fishermen, who catch silver eels with nets in the shallow water as they migrate out of the Baltic in the autumn, expect to obtain better catches in the interlunar periods than when there is moonlight. In Egypt too the eel fishermen look forward to the best catches when there is no moon. G. W. Paget, Egyptian Government Director of Fisheries, suggests in explanation of this a direct effect of the light of the moon in stopping the migration of the eels, basing his opinion on successful experiments carried out in Denmark on artificially stopping eel migrations with acetylene lamps. The Italians too light fires when they want to interrupt a migration in order to clear their nets.

A Dream.

There is no road but leads me back to you,
For though I walk where you have never been
It is to see the things we once have seen
When side by side we wandered, and my view
Dims into quick hot tears, or if I go
About the little tasks of every day,
Thinking of naught but these, you find a way
To come to me, and when at evenglow
The lamps are lit, how clear I see your face!
Yonder you sit, a child upon your knee,
For you loved children; soft the firelight's gleam
Plays over you; I glory in your grace,
And in your laughter that is melody—
Sudden I start, to find it all a dream.

ELISABETH SCOLLARD.

His Limitations.

Happy Hollow correspondence Arkadelphia Standard.

If anybody wants any barbering done, call on Garland Callaway. He is a pretty good barber as long as hair lasts.

Curing Hay by Electricity.

From the Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Curing stacks of hay with an electric blower fan outfit is the method employed by an English farmer-scientist, which enables him to treat his large crops without having to depend upon the sun's assistance. The grass is stacked as quickly as it can be hauled to the selected spot, the stacks being built in the usual manner, but having in their centers an air chamber to which the fan is connected.

Sumac.

Slain by the silver swords of frost
The last bright blossom lies,
Stripped of their gold by robber winds
Bare boughs beseech the skies;
I heard the wild geese in the night
Go honking overhead,
Lost in gray clouds that o'er the moon
Like frightened phantoms fled.

But in the brown deserted fields
And lonely country lanes
Where but the withered memory
Of summer's green remains,
That ragged gypsy crone who goes
About foretelling snow,
November, keeps the smoldering blaze
Of sumac fires aglow.

MINNA IRVING.

Milk for Hens Pasteurized.

That for Children Not Always So Treated Under the New Law.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: I have a flock of hens to which I feed skim milk given away to all comers at the creamery. A new law compels me to pasteurize this milk before taking it away from the factory.

The situation is explained in a letter I have received from George E. Hogue, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Farms and Markets, who writes:

"Section 55, Article 4 of the farms and markets law, as amended by Chapter 278 of the laws of 1922, provides:

"Any person, firm, association or corporation owning or operating any butter factory, cheese factory or other milk plant, shall, before returning, delivering or giving to any person or persons any skimmed milk, whey, buttermilk or separator slop, to be used for the feeding of domestic animals, cause such skimmed milk, whey, buttermilk or separator slop to be uniformly heated to a temperature of not less than 150 degrees Fahrenheit and held at such temperature for at least twenty minutes. No skimmed milk, whey, buttermilk or separator slop from such butter factory, cheese factory or other milk plant shall be used for the feeding of domestic animals until heated as provided herein.

"This statute was designed to prevent the spread of tuberculosis among domestic animals. You ask 'Does the law also require dairymen supplying whole milk to families to pasteurize it, or is it only designed to protect calves and pigs?'

"My reply to this question has been answered as herein stated above. This law does not refer to or include whole milk being sold for human consumption.

"I have no knowledge of any State law requiring the pasteurization of whole milk before being used for human consumption, other than in specific cases, such as where cattle are being kept under quarantine. New York city and other cities of the State have passed ordinances compelling the pasteurization of all milk before permitting it to be sold within the city limits, usually with certain exceptions, such as certified milk.

"I believe you will see from this that such regulations governing the pasteurization of milk when being sold for human consumption are governed by city or local boards of health."

You will notice that young live stock is better protected than children outside of a few large cities.

R. G. SAUNDERSON.

BERLIN, November 4.

Hiding Gray Hairs.

Does a Morbid Dread Drive Some Persons to the Use of Dye?

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: In answer to my inquiry as to why we do not see more gray haired passengers in the subway two of your correspondents say it is because of hair dye.

People should not dye their hair. While it may make the hair younger, it makes the face decidedly older, at least in a little while. And once started the dyeing habit is not easily discontinued.

There seems to be a morbid dread of gray hair in some instances. In China and Japan old people take a pride in their age and are held in the highest respect and reverence even. This was also the case among the aborigines of this country.

Gray hair, far from being a disfigurement, has a refining effect on the features and in many cases lends an air of distinction to them.

HUMANE.

NEW YORK, November 4.

Boston's Finest.

The Hub Is Proud of Its Rejuvenated Police Force.

From Current Affairs.

The holiday parade of the members of the Boston police force with some fourteen hundred men in line was a visual demonstration of the fitness and all round proficiency of what is without doubt the ablest and best trained police department in the United States to-day.

This statement might sound like justifiable but nevertheless prejudiced comment upon the superiorities of a branch of our local municipal government were it not for the fact that the Boston police force as at present constituted is probably unique in the history of the country. And this for several reasons.

The Boston police strike of three years ago practically meant the entire repletion and reorganization of the department. The strike occurred within a year after the armistice and as a result the hundreds of young men who entered the department at that time were for the most part war veterans—men trained in the stern school of war and equipped physically and mentally to meet their tasks and assume their new duties with a minimum of adjustment.

The result of the police strike was that when the entire affair had straightened itself out and the ranks of the deserting men had been filled Boston found itself in possession of a trained body of men, all in the youthful prime of their strength, active, courageous and efficient.

Now, with the lapse of nearly three years, these men have been molded into a police unit which is second to none in the country. Under the direction of the older officers they have been trained and instructed in the complete details of their duties.

The department was unfortunate to lose its executive head last April when the late Edwin U. Curtis died suddenly. Police Commissioner Curtis was the head of the Police Department during the police strike and it was primarily due to his courage and unfaltering devotion to a principle that the strike was terminated as it was.

Since April Herbert A. Wilson has served as Commissioner and he has shown himself an executive and a fitting successor to Mr. Curtis.

Police Superintendent Michael H. Crowley has served for years in the department, working his way up from the ranks to the present position, which he has held for a number of years. Superintendent Crowley was Commissioner Curtis's active aid during the period of the strike three years ago.

In the holiday parade which was reviewed at the State House, at City Hall and on Boston Common, the crisp, clean-cut alertness of the men in the department was clearly evidenced. There were in line 1,403 men, among whom were the superintendent, three deputy superintendents, twenty-three captains, thirty-three lieutenants, ninety-eight sergeants and 1,245 patrolmen.

The men had been drilled under the direction of Captain Patrick F. King, the department drill master, with the assistance of Sergeant Louis F. Lutz of the Superintendent's office.

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