

ANCIENTS HAD SHORTHAND

The System Used by Old Romans and Hebrews Was Not Based on Phonetic Like Ours.

We are told in a recent story, that not only the Romans, but the ancient Hebrews, possessed fine systems of shorthand, and that public men took stenographers with them wherever they went. This is not true in any strict sense, the New York Mail states. The ancient Romans and Hebrews had systems of shorthand, but not all stenography. Their shorthand consisted of abbreviations, the use of letters for words, the introduction of arbitrary systems, and that kind of things. No system of phonetic shorthand, such as we have at the present day, in which a fluent character represents a certain sound, and in accordance with which the sounds of human speech can be transcribed as they are uttered, was known to the ancients. The shorthand system invented by Ciro, the secretary of Cicero, is well known; it has no phonetic basis. Two amanuenses were necessary to keep up with a speaker, and there are even tales that Caesar kept six amanuenses going at once. It is certainly a long jump from that to the handy girl of today, whose swift pencil easily keeps up with a man's utterances.

Few people at the present day have any just or correct understanding of phonetics. The average person confuses the names of a letter of the alphabet with the sound which it is supposed to represent, fails to distinguish between diphthongs like long "i" and the simple vowel sounds, and in many ways betrays the fact that he is quite without a phonetic sense. The teaching of stenography has spread a knowledge of phonetics, and in the long run must produce a much more general realization of the ridiculousness and wastefulness of our present system of spelling the English language.

ALPINE GRANDEUR AMAZING

Nature Has Wrought Great Changes to Uplift Their Magnificent Peaks—Volcanic Work.

Nothing in the world's history is more impressive than the story of the Alps. Ten or twelve million years ago, possibly far more, a long unbroken line of weakness, a crack or fissure in the earth's crust, stretched away from France eastward hundreds of miles. On this line followed huge volcanic outbursts.

Next ensued a vast slow subsidence, which went on through geologic epochs until where Mont Blanc now rears its summit 15,780 feet was a sea fringing an old continent. Large rivers emptied into it. Deposits of mud, sand, gravel were laid one on another as the sinking went on until the layers became 50,000 feet, or nearly ten miles, thick.

Then at last commenced a great uplifting, the struggling subterranean forces raised a huge load. For ages this went on until the rocks, crumbled, crushed, contorted, rose above the waters and continued to rise, forming lines of mountain chains and making Switzerland a tableland.

Every hour since then rain and snow, river, glacier and avalanche have been sculpturing into peaks and carving into lakes and valleys that vast platform with its recent sedimentary covering and primeval granite core.

The result is a land of unequalled grandeur.

Robin's Peculiar Affection.

A robin which Edward Beltrando, a Red Lion (Pa.) shoe-maker, saved from a cat has developed such an affection for its rescuer that when other robins in the vicinity migrated it remained behind.

Although the bird was never caged it does not stray far from the shoe-maker's shop, coming there at intervals during the day and sleeping in the shop every night.—New York World.

How Smoking Injures Health.

Laboratory work at the Paris Medical college indicates that tobacco smoking does injure the heart, but not, as generally supposed, on account of the nicotine present. Tobacco with various proportions of nicotine was used in the tests, and the effect on the heart was the same. Oak leaves were found to produce very much the same result as tobacco, and the conclusion reached was that the harmful effects are due to products of combustion contained in smoke of widely different origin.

Splinter From Heart.

Early in the present war a silver of steel from an exploding grenade penetrated the heart of a French soldier where it remained for four and a half months. Recently surgeons succeeded in removing it in a delicate operation and the man is regarded as cured, for the heart acts normally.

Very True.

Yeast—I see six or eight months' time and an expense of \$50,000 is involved in repainting the Brooklyn bridge.

Crimsonbeak—Why, a fellow can paint a whole town in shorter time and for less money than that.

Loss, Pain and Fear.

Loss is painful, it requires a readjustment of the perspective of life, but it is purifying; like pain, it is a beneficent arrangement of nature whereby greater harm is averted.

It purges the dross of selfishness, of the canker which attaches to great possessions divorced from the ideal.

Fear contains greater pain than all of these and is without their compensations.

For they, and they alone, are the weapons by which the phantom is conquered.

By their aid we learn that it is a trick of the devil, a disorder of the sick imagination, a stage drama to be trampled under foot; that outside ourselves it has no existence.

Home Town Helps

WOULD TEACH CITY PLANNING

Architect Thinks It Should Be a Part of the Curriculum of the Country's Public Schools.

Frederic L. Ackerman, a member of the committee on town planning in the American Institute of Architects, advocates the teaching of city planning in the public schools. It is his idea that only by educating succeeding generations of the public through the medium of the public school may we acquire correct standards for remodeling our present cities and for building new ones, and he brought it out in a recent address on "The Architectural Side of City Planning."

Mr. Ackerman's theory is more concerned with education than with architecture. His main theme is that the architectural side of city planning is dependent upon proper methods of educating future citizens up to high standards of architectural beauty. Architecture depends so utterly upon the physical conditions of an environment, he says, that unless these conditions be reasonable, architecture can do nothing. The reasonableness of a set of conditions depends, according to Mr. Ackerman, upon the people living under them.

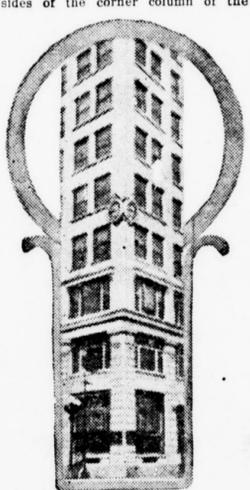
He refuses to limit his definition of the term, city planning. It is not merely a series of legislative acts imposing a set of conditions to which a people's life must be worked into conformity, says Mr. Ackerman, for it is merely the carrying out of certain theories developed by city planners, engineers and students of social and economic conditions, or of the ideals of an architect. It is not merely providing for adequate transportation, proper sanitation, better housing or more beautiful surroundings; it is all of these, with more added to the list. City planning, in brief, is provision for a more adequate physical expression of the composite ideals of groups of people thrown together by social and economic forces.

Mr. Ackerman's method for teaching city planning to the school child would begin with making it clear to the child that there are things for him to consider in our towns and cities which are vital to his comfort and well being, and which, incidentally, have to do with architecture and art. The idea is to instill in the child's mind a keen interest in the various phases of his physical environment and its possible improvement.

STREET CLOCK PLACED HIGH

Idea is Somewhat New, But Would Seem to Have Many Points of Advantage.

In placing a large double-faced clock on a Los Angeles building, the usual practice of employing brackets to support it over the sidewalk was discarded and the dials were put on adjacent sides of the corner column of the structure between the fourth and fifth floors, relates Popular Mechanics Magazine. The reason for placing it at this rather unusual height was the belief that at such a point it could be readily seen by more persons than if it were set closer to the street level.



The faces of the clock are five feet in diameter, while its finish is made to harmonize with that of the building, which is constructed of light-colored brick.

Exterior Colorings.

Exterior coloring for suburban houses deserve more attention than it usually receives. An experiment that sounds in the telling too ideal to be authentic, but which nevertheless was said to have been actually carried out some years ago in an eastern community, was the painting of all the buildings in a certain village, both residential and commercial, in colors that blended together harmoniously.

While perhaps artistic effects of this sort may never become plentiful, every homebuilder should do his share toward the good work by making his own structure a subordinate part of the landscape.

Lost Perspective.

"You say Senator Guff has been defeated after spending nearly 20 years in office?"

"Yes."

"Too bad for a man to lose out after laboring so long for his country."

"That's just the trouble. His constituents claimed that when he became a national figure he no longer considered large appropriations for 'improvements' in his state of more importance than the interests of the country at large."

LIVE STOCK

RIGHT MANAGEMENT OF BOAR

Animal Should Not Be Allowed to Run With Sows—Sure Way of Reducing Number in Litter.

(By H. M. COTTELL.)

The boar should serve a sow but once, and two sows a day should be the limit for a mature boar, and then he should have a day's rest after every second or third day. He should be used before being fed. Handled in this way, a mature boar is sufficient for 50 sows. Overservice results in pigs that are dead, weak or puny at birth. Probably the greatest cause of pigs born dead or born so weak that they soon die, is allowing the boar to run with the sows. It is a sure way of reducing the number raised in a litter and of reducing the profits.

A boar should not be used for much service until he is at least twelve



Champion Boar.

months old. A fully matured boar produces the most vigorous pigs, other things being equal, and if properly fed and handled, may be profitably kept for several years. His tusks should be cut or knocked off as often as they show considerable size.

Mark the sow when bred and record the date so that she can be separated from the other sows and become accustomed to her farrowing quarters two weeks before the pigs are due.

QUALITIES OF RACE HORSE

Intellectual and Physical Needs Are Great—Trainer Tells Why Race Course Is Necessary.

What qualifications are necessary to constitute a serviceable race horse was recently discussed by a number of prominent trainers who have stables at the Gravesend track, the New York Times states. There was a diversity of opinion, but all agreed that the first and most important thing in a thoroughbred was soundness. In expressing his views, Charles Langdon, trainer of Charlestonian, said:

"The thoroughbred can only fulfill its mission provided the product be continually subjected to severe trials in public. The only appreciable test, proved by the experience of many centuries, is the race course."

"The last struggle for victory, in which culminates the exertion of the race, results from the co-operation of the intellectual, the physical and the mechanical qualities of the horse, the development of which combined power is higher and more reliable than any that can be obtained in the same animal by other means. There was a diversity of opinion, but all agreed that the first and most important thing in a thoroughbred was soundness. In expressing his views, Charles Langdon, trainer of Charlestonian, said:

"The thoroughbred can only fulfill its mission provided the product be continually subjected to severe trials in public. The only appreciable test, proved by the experience of many centuries, is the race course."

"This is what gives the thoroughbred horse a value for breeding purposes and is looked for in vain in any other species of the animal kingdom."

KEEN SIGHT OF THE GULL

Sea Birds Have Remarkable Eyes for Acute Work—Experiment Convinced Ocean Travelers.

There is perhaps no other bird, of land or sea, so keen of sight as the common gull. To convince a skeptical friend of this, an American naturalist once made some interesting experiments. Two men were passengers on a steamer where the spring ebb aided them to run twenty miles an hour. A dozen gulls followed them in the steamer's wake without apparent effort, and circled in graceful curves over the water. Breaking a cracker biscuit into four parts, less than an inch square each, the naturalist handed one piece to his friend and told him to drop it into the seething waters on the starboard.

Immediately the bit of biscuit became invisible to human eyes, and yet before it had gone thirty yards across a gull detected it, and, dipping into the foam, secured it. One by one it picked up the other bits of biscuit, though neither of the two men could see them. Tearing off a postage stamp from an old envelope, the naturalist dropped it overboard. The gull detected the waif and made as if to pick it up. But when within a yard or so of it the bird saw that it was nothing in his line, and glided upward again to his favorite station on a line with the topmast truck.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

SOY BEANS FURNISH FEED AND FERTILITY

Well Adapted To Maryland Soils And Especially Valuable For Forage.

NICKOLAS SCHMITZ, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.

Soy beans are well adapted to Maryland, and, like corn, thrive best on rich loam soils. It is, however, on soils too poor to grow corn profitably that soy beans will bring the greatest net profit. On such soils, when inoculated and fertilized with a little inexpensive fertilizer, they will produce nearly as much forage and seed as when grown on rich land. They will not grow as well as cow peas on poor sandy soils, but far better than cow peas on stiff clay soils. They will stand poor drainage better than either cow peas or corn.

Soy beans mature in from 70 to 150 days, making it possible to select varieties to fit any length of growing season found in Maryland.

Cultivation.

They require the same kind of preparation of seedbed as corn; and, in the case of corn, it is better to thoroughly prepare the seedbed before planting than to depend upon cultivation for getting the soil in the proper condition.

For seed production, soy beans should be sown in rows 24 to 36 inches apart, far enough to cultivate, and 1 bushel of seed will plant 2 or 3 acres. The planting may be done with a corn planter or with a wheat drill regulated for planting 2 bushels of seed per acre and with the proper number of seedholes closed to give the desired distance apart. The plants should be about 2 inches apart in the row.

For hay production, soy beans should be sown broadcast, 1 1/2 bushels per acre; and for this purpose there is no implement better suited than the wheat drill. The seed should never be covered more than 1 inch, except in sandy soil, where they may be covered 2 inches.

Time to Plant.

Soy beans may be planted from any time after corn planting is finished until July 15th, depending upon variety, location and for the purpose planted. For hay and seed it is best to plant the forepart of June, to insure good curing weather for the hay and time for late varieties to mature seed before frost. For fall hog pasture, and for turning down as a green manure, they may be planted until July 15th if an early variety is used.

Inoculation.

But few Maryland soils are naturally inoculated for soy beans, and, since they seldom thrive unless inoculated, it is necessary to inoculate whenever planting for the first time. To do this, 2 or 3 hundred pounds of soil taken from a field which has grown them should be broadcast over each acre before seeding, and harrowed in immediately to prevent the bacteria from being killed by sunlight. Inoculation with artificial culture is not successful when the culture is applied and the beans allowed to dry before seeding. Much better results are secured when the beans are planted before the inoculating culture has dried.

PREVENT INJURY FROM FRUIT TREE BARK BEETLE.

T. B. SYMONS, Maryland Agricultural College Extension Service.

Orchardists should be careful to see that all dead wood is cut and removed from the orchard. Such dead wood, or diseased or sickly trees offer an opportunity for infestation by the Fruit Tree Bark Beetle or Shot Hole Borer. While the attack of this insect is usually confined to such wood, after becoming established in an orchard it may attack perfectly healthy trees.

The beetles bore into the bark and sap wood, where they eat vertical galleries or brood chambers, into which the females lay their eggs. The bored holes are about the size of a No. 6 shot.

The adult beetle is about one-tenth inch long, by a third as wide, and uniformly black in color. Trees or parts of trees seriously attacked by the pest are usually hopeless. Gum exudes from the holes of the beetles, and as the young develop into adults they eat their way out. Another injury by the insect is caused by their habit of attacking small twigs in early spring by burrowing into the base of bud.

Control.

The most effective means of control is cutting out all dead and diseased wood. Oftentimes a single limb of a good tree is attacked; in such case the whole limb should be removed and burned. Slightly affected trees should be liberally fertilized.

The use of a thick lime sulphur solution painted over the holes will serve to control the pest; also, kerosene emulsion soaked into the holes, will kill the insect, but usually the best treatment is the removal of attacked parts. Clean culture and keeping the trees in a healthy condition is the best preventative of this as well as many other similar pests.

Origin of Britain's Broad Arrow.

Now that the broad arrow is so frequently seen on military stores and vehicles it is interesting to recall that we owe this to the government mark to Henry Sidney, master of the Ordnance (created earl of Romney in 1591), who, finding that the government had no distinguishing mark to enable them to identify its property, caused it to be marked with his arms, the "Phoen" or "Broad Arrow," which has ever since been used.—London Globe.

FARM STOCK

ADVANTAGE OF EARLY LAMBS

If Ewe and Young Are Given Good Care and Dry Shelter April Lamb Is Quite Desirable.

The April lamb is desirable with the most sheep owners. In order to have the April lamb, says Better Farming, it is necessary to breed the ewes in November, since the period of gestation is five months with these animals. April is often cold and stormy and the pastures do not get much start, but if the ewe and her lamb receive good care and have a comfortable dry shed or stable to stay in out of the inclement weather, then the April lamb is much more desirable than the lamb born a month later.

The April lamb is ready to eat May grass; that is, it has the grass-eating habit started, and soon is on both a grass and milk diet. The early lamb has many advantages over the later lamb in the matter of being able to feed on the summer herbage and keep up a constant and vigorous growth through the summer months, when the younger lamb often has an harassment of the fall season that it cannot so successfully combat, and if the milk supply of the ewe is checked or diminished from a shortage of pasture the late lamb is more seriously affected than the other one.

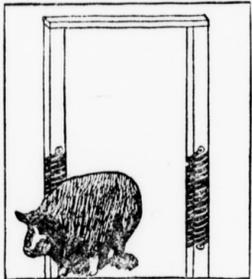
There is more difference between the early lamb and the late one than appears in the young of other kinds of animals on the farm. The flocking habit of sheep, no doubt, influences considerably in this respect, since the sheep incline to crowd together in bunches as the weather grows warm and the flies become troublesome. There is no animal so sensitive to the annoyance of the fly as the sheep, and this works a great hardship on the younger lambs, as the mother sheep is less attentive to the wants of her lamb.

HOMEMADE OILER FOR SWINE

Hogs Soon Learn to Go to Posts to Scratch When Vermin Become Too Persistent.

As all farmers know, it is essential to keep lice off hogs, especially in summer time, and as that's the farmer's busiest season, he is apt to neglect his hogs, except to feed and stomp them.

My way is to take two posts about five or six feet long, about the size of usual fence posts, put into ground about one and one-half feet and brace the tops with a piece of scantling, says a Lexington, Miss., writer in The Progressive Farmer. Then, begin about half way of post and wrap grass rope very tightly for about one foot or 15 inches, tacking rope, or, better still, bore two holes in post and slip



Homemade Hog Oiler.

through and tie securely. Saturate this with tar and grease, axle grease and coal oil or dip. The hogs will go to the posts to scratch, when the vermin get too persistent, and seem to learn that it was put there for that purpose.

GOOD FEED FOR BEEF CATTLE

Prediction Is Made That Silage Will Be One of Greatest Factors in Reducing Cost of Beef.

Silage will be one of the greatest factors in the future in reducing the cost of producing beef. It is only within the last few years that silage has been fed beef cattle.

At the Indiana station an experiment including a ration of sixteen pounds of shelled corn, three pounds of cottonseed meal and thirty pounds of silage was compared with a grain ration containing fifteen pounds of silage and five pounds of clover and also with a third ration containing ten pounds of clover but no silage.

The price per steer was as follows: \$21.50 for the full feed of silage, \$15.80 for the half feed of silage and \$12.75 for one lot receiving no silage.

Industrial Education.

In England, as well as in this country, manufacturers are taking a lively interest in industrial education. A scholarship and an exhibition have been founded at the University of Leeds for the purpose of giving the holders a training such as will enable them to assist in the development of the industry. A sum of about \$22,500 has been placed in trust for the purpose by two Whitehaven manufacturers engaged in the leather and coal industries, and this will provide a scholarship of the annual value of \$450.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA

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