

Table with columns for space, length, and rate. Includes rates for 1 inch, 2 inches, 3 inches, 4 inches, 5 inches, 6 inches, 7 inches, 8 inches, 9 inches, 10 inches, 11 inches, 12 inches.

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A Happy New Year

And thank the public for their generous patronage during the past year, assuring you that it will be our aim to merit a continuance of the same by fair and honest dealing, and by always keeping clean and fresh stock at reasonable prices.

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Knowing of the mischievous things which are liable to block his pathway, early begins to prepare for them. Against the afflictions of poverty you often find him buttressed with a well-filled bank account.

STATE SAVINGS BANK, MANCHESTER, IOWA.

A Billion and a Half of Us.

The latest German estimate of the population of the world is 1,503,290,000. Of this billion and a half of "souls," Asia has more than half, 819,550,000; Europe, 302,264,000; Africa, 140,700,000; North America, 105,714,000; South America, 38,482,000; Australia with Polynesia, 6,483,000; and the polar lands, 11,000. Europe has 14 persons to the square mile; North America, 13; Australia and Polynesia, 2. A very thinly settled world as yet.

Plenty of Gold in Iowa.

Burlington Hawkeye: And now there comes to the front one William Beeson, who thinks that he has discovered gold in Monroe county. No doubt he has. There is gold everywhere in Iowa. An old German poem tells of an old man who gathers his sons about him as he feels death approaching. He tells them that a treasure is buried in the vineyard. When asked to explain more definitely he replies, "Dig," and he died. And the boys toil and dig in the vineyard, and they prosper amazingly, and in the course of time they learn to appreciate the old man's wisdom. Thus, there is gold in every acre of Iowa soil. All that it requires is steady digging, and it will be sure to be found.

Reduced Life Insurance for Total Abstinents.

Some life insurance companies are proposing to offer a reduced rate to men who are total abstainers. Referring to this proposition, the San Antonio, Texas, Express says: "It may prove to be sound advice to total abstainers to insure against death when the insurance companies make a specially low rate for the teetotalers, and it may be an inducement, also to total abstainers from strong drink by those who may reap their reward in the lessened cost of life insurance. But above and beyond it may be the moral effect of disproving by unerring statistics the shallow fallacy that modern indulgence in intoxicating fluids is conducive to long life. This will afford a text for the temperance people and enable them to successfully meet an argument which has heretofore stumped them to some extent. Without intending to discourage in the least any effort that may possibly advance the cause of temperance, an interesting story may be appropriate. One negro approached another and remarked: 'Dat eye abductor says I got to stop drinkin' or Ise gwine stone blind.' 'De second negro asked, 'What did you tell him?' 'De first negro replied: 'Well, thought about it awhile and den I said, Well, Doctor, I spec' I see 'bout all dere is to be seen in dis world.'"

Child Labor.

IN RENEGOTIATED RUSSIA the employment of children under 12 years of age in any industrial establishment, public or private, is absolutely prohibited. Children from 12 to 15 years of age may not be employed more than 6 hours in each 24, exclusive of meal-times, school attendance, and rest, with not more than 4 hours continuous labor at any time and no work permitted between 9 p. m. and 5 a. m., nor on Sundays and legal holidays. In establishments which are operated for more than 18 hours per day, with two shifts, children may be employed for 9 hours per day, provided not more than 4 1/2 hours continuous work is required. The object of this is to encourage establishments to do away with continuous work for 24 hours, and thus do away with night work and shorten the hours of daily labor to 9 hours per day.

In Russia the law of 1882 prohibits the employment of children under 12 in factories, etc., and limits the hours of labor of children from 12 to 15 to 8 hours per day, and with provision for factory inspection, and other protective measures. The law of June 3, 1885, prohibits night work for women and children under 17 in textile industries.

Furthermore the ministers of finance and of the interior are directed to designate the kinds of work recognized as dangerous to the health of children not yet 15 years of age, to whom such work is accordingly prohibited. 36 categories of industries were thus indicated by the order of May 14, 1893. F. J. Stimson, Report United States Industrial Commission, Vol. 16.

In comparison with which, according to a magazine published by the Iowa State Federation of Labor in November:

In Iowa, FAIR IOWA, there is no restriction of age in the employment of children except that boys under 12 can not be employed in mines. Girls can not be employed. Children under 16 can not clean dangerous machinery while in motion, nor operate or assist in operating dangerous machinery. There is no limit in the number of hours a child of any age may work in any 24. A school attendance of 14 weeks during the school year is compulsory for all children under 14.

There is no prohibition of night work, nor of labor on Sundays and legal holidays. There is no restriction of the number of consecutive hours that a child may be compelled to work, nor stipulation for intervals of rest. And last, Iowa recognizes no occupation as being dangerous to the health of child laborers of any age.

Why Not?

If fretting would help, when it's wet To dry up the puddles, I'd fret. And if the world would help, when it's dry To moisten the pastures, I'd sigh.

If scolding would help when I'm cold, To make the sun shine, I would scold; If scolding would help the forlorn To have joy and good fortune, I'd moan.

If grieving would ever relieve Their burdens who have, I would grieve; If weeping would shorten the sleep I would weep.

But to frown or to scold or to fret Serves only to lengthen regrets; Why not give up grieving and sighing And try the brave's heart and the smiler's? —S. E. Klier.

Concerning Weather Forecasts.

Some of the ablest scientists of this country and Europe have devoted much time and labor to the study of this problem. They have consulted weather records of all countries, taking note of the dates of heavy storms, making comparisons with the position of the moon and planets, to determine if there is any discoverable connection between the movement of those minor bodies and the sweep of storm-teddies in earth's atmosphere. The consensus of opinion has been that there is no foundation of fact or philosophy for that system of long-range forecasts. So thus far, there has been entire failure to establish a scientific and practical basis for any kind of trustworthy predictions as to the occurrence of storms, floods or droughts in specified localities and at certain dates in future months or seasons. Though such foreknowledge is very desirable, yet at the present stage of human progress it is beyond possibility of realization. In this field of scientific research the wisest students have been most deeply sensible of the limitations of human knowledge; but charlatans and pretenders claim to hold a key to mysteries in earth and the heavens that are hidden to the balance of mankind. Quackery in meteorology is well represented in the extraneous and extravagant pretensions of its practitioners. Modern astrologers following closely the lines of their ancient prototypes, give the sun a minor or passive role, while the moon and planets form an all-star aggregation in the ever-shifting scenes of earth's drama. To each planet is assigned some special act on the stage, each producing a different type of weather; and when two or three act in conjunction the complex results are startling. In the program as presented by a long-range weather almanac, the leading role in developing regular storm periods is given to "Vulcan," though that hypothetical planet modestly keeps out of sight. The almanac says: The Vulcan period is the foundation and frame work around which all storm disturbances grow.

According to this almanac, the planet Mercury, in contrast of the sprinkling apparatus, causing mist and drizzles in summer, and damaging sleet in winter. Just how mercury produces such an effort on earth is one of the curious things in occult science. The almanac says: "Mercury moves and operates at such distance from the sun as to admit of much vapor and humidity. At the same time its nearness to the sun causes perpetual evaporation and steam and vapor in its atmosphere and skies, and this is in some degree the indefinite way communicated to our own and other planets in our system. * * * This peculiar infection infused into the sun by the Mercury perturbation, we hold, may reasonably take on such forms as to be thrown out by the solar energy, being reconverted into something like its original elements in our own globe and atmosphere. Hence our thick, prolonged cloudiness—our mists and drizzling rains and sleet storms during the Mercury disturbances."

Now this abstract statement be translated into plain English signifies that the planet Mercury when its gets into a "disturbance," throws water into the face of the sun, and that body retaliates by turning his hose on the whole planetary family! That relieves great Jupiter Pluvius from some measure of blame for excessive humidity.

Another extract from the almanac will throw more light on this problem. It says: "The disturbances of each and all the planets are communicated to all the rest of the planets, not directly, but through the perturbations caused by the planetary equinoxes to the sun. * * * When the plane of each planet's equator cuts the sun, this force is violently antagonized, the center of energy is put out of balance in the great solar orb, and perturbing waves react upon all bodies in our system, resulting in the phenomena which we witness in our earth and skies and which we denominate as meteorological."

In reading over this almanac's dramatic story of how the planets are continually "perturbing" the sun, and how the sun hurls it back at all creation, one is reminded of a lot of boys poking sticks into a mammoth hornet's nest, and the stinging "reactionary disturbance" issued from that previously passive body.

Really, it is difficult to treat such ludicrous matter with becoming dignity and seriousness. The chapter in the almanac's descriptive of "Each planet's peculiar phenomena" is absolutely irresistible as a mirth-provoker to any reader who possesses a sense of the ridiculous and some elementary knowledge of meteorology and astronomy. One is impressed by the evident earnestness of the author, and yet it seems

that he must be too intelligent to believe in his absurdly fantastic theories. They are no more believable than the myths and legends of the ancients. It is inconceivable that a learned astronomer and meteorologist actually believes that the sun is passive except when it is "perturbed" by some planet's equinox; that mists and vapors are injected and infused into the sun by Mercury's perturbation, and then thrown out by solar energy to form mists and sleet on earth; and that during the so-called "Jupiter period" the carrying capacity of earth's atmosphere becomes disordered and weakened, so that it cannot transport and diffuse humidity, thereby causing consuming droughts in places and destructive cloudbursts in other localities. One actually believes that kind of absurdity is really beyond the reach of influence by evidence and argument. The bare statement of such propositions is a sufficient refutation.

Students in the primary class in meteorology learn that the ever-changing phenomena of the weather are all referable to the action of the sun upon the earth and its atmosphere, vapors and gases; that the constantly radiated energy of the sun supports heat, light and electric force in the solar system. The planets possess no form of independent energy whereby they may "perturb" the sun and increase its potency. Gravitation is only a name given to the static relation of all matter in the universe, and it is a physical constant. There is absolutely no proof of any "perturbation" or increase in storm energy when the sun crosses the equator of the earth or any other planet. That is merely a hypothesis, supported by a priori assumptions and occasional coincidences. People often confound coincidence with consequence. Planetary weather forecasts are too far-fetched to be practicable. The prophets in that line work at the wrong end of the problem. When there is a little more than the usual degree of heat, or storminess, they peer into the nebular spaces to see what caused the disturbance on earth, and then allege that it was done by Jupiter, or was the malign work of Saturn, which in their philosophy causes epidemics and pestilential contagious diseases. Possibly also they may discover that it is due to Saturnian potency that we have rings and comets in human affairs; why not?

True science, in the last analysis, is plain common-sense applied to the study of nature's problems. In erecting philosophical structures the foundation should rest on the earth. Begin with facts as the solid basis of theories. Reason from the known to discover the unknown. In forecasting a storm, observe the good, old recipe of the cook book for cooking a hare—first catch your storm, and then predict its future course and time schedule. A storm in hand (i. e. on the map) is worth two in some nebular hypothesis! It's mighty easy forecasting storms if one is allowed a broad range as to the exact locality and a long range as to the exact locality and a long range as to the date. Storms are coming and going all the time, somewhere, on all dates, as well as the specified days of the almanac's storm period.

It is probably true that cyclones, or storm eddies, are practically as much in evidence one day as another, considering the earth as a whole. So one may safely predict storms for every day in the year with the certainty that they will rage somewhere. It would keep the moon and planets mighty busy with their equinoxes to maintain the continual stream of atmospheric eddies flowing over the face of the earth. But really the moon and planets are not charged with that duty. In respect to light, heat and power of gravitation these bodies are infinitesimal as compared with the sun, which is the prime cause of weather phenomena on earth. J. R. SAGE.

An Orator's Voice.

"In the church," says Emerson in his essay on eloquence, "I call him only a good reader who can read sense and poetry into any hymn in the hymn book." The test is a severe one, for there are hymns which are wanting both in sense and poetry. The essayist doubtless intended to call attention to that charm of a good voice which enchants attention and indicates a rare sensibility in the reader. "The voice, like the face, betrays the nature and disposition and soon indicates what is the range of the speaker's mind. Many people have no ear for music, but every one has an ear for skillful reading." John Quincy Adams was said to be so good a reader that no man in his time could read the Bible with such powerful effect. Mr. Emerson, who heard the ex-president speak when his fine voice was broken by age, records that "the wonders he could achieve with that cracked and dissonant organ showed what power might have belonged to it in early manhood."

The Compromise.

She—How sweet of you to own that you were in the wrong! He (absent-mindedly)—Yes; mother always taught me that it was easier to give in to a woman than to argue with her.—Detroit Free Press.

A Hint For Health.

Physicians say that those who sleep with their mouths closed have the best health. If you awake in the night and find your mouth open get up and close it.—Kansas City Journal.

Among all forms of mistakes prophecy is the most gratuitous.—Ellot.

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Abstract

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