

Alexandria Gazette.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 9, 1899.

OMAR KHAYYAM.

Deep in the spring their empty pitcher dips...

ISOTHERMS.

Facts About Isothermic Maps That Are Rarely Learned at School.

Here are some definitions of isotherms that appear in American textbooks of geography.

"Those lines which are drawn through places with an equal average of temperature are called isotherms."

"Isotherms are lines connecting places having the same mean temperature for particular periods, as the whole of the year, the winter or summer months, etc."

"If upon a map all places having the same mean temperature are connected by lines, such lines are called isothermic lines or simple isotherms."

These definitions are part of the truth, but not the whole of it. It may not be a great calamity, but the fact is that most boys and girls leave school with a misconception as to what an isotherm is, and they rarely find out in later years.

They all know that two elements, latitude and altitude, are the main factors in determining the mean temperature of a place; that the farther a place is from the equator and the higher it stands above sea level the cooler its climate is. But they do not know that isothermic maps take into account only one of these elements, and that latitude.

They eliminate the influence of altitude. The isotherm passing over the top of Pike's peak does not show the mean temperature at the summit of the mountain, but what the mean temperature would be in that immediate neighborhood if the land, instead of rising high above the sea, stood at the level of the ocean island.

Do you see the reason for this? It may be easily explained. Most of the land does not rise so high above the sea that the temperature is greatly affected by altitude. To the majority of mankind latitude is a far more important climatic element than altitude. Now, the effects on temperature of both latitude and altitude cannot well be shown on one map, and isothermic maps were devised to show the effects of latitude and near other element, such as position near the sea or in the far interior.

An isothermic line, therefore, does not show the actual mean temperature of a place on it, unless that place is at sea level. But it is easy to deduce from the isotherm the actual mean temperature of a place, if we know its elevation above the sea. How this is done is very clearly explained by Dr. H. R. Mill, the British geographer, as follows: "The air grows cooler by 1 degree F. for every 270 feet of elevation above sea level, but isothermic lines show the sea level temperature. In using isothermic maps we must therefore remember that places 600 feet above the sea level have a temperature 2 degrees lower than the isotherms indicate; places 6,000 feet above the sea, 22 degrees lower; that 12,000 feet above the sea, 45 degrees lower, and the mountain slopes 18,000 feet above the sea no less than 66 degrees lower than the sea level temperature shown by the isotherms. This accounts for the fact that none of the important towns in the temperate zones is situated more than 2,000 feet above the sea, while in the tropics they are built at as great elevations as 8,000 or 10,000 feet."

Weather charts are an exception to this rule. They record the actual meteorological readings at the points of observation.—New York Sun.

BUCKLE'S ARNICA SALVE. THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Itches, or no cure required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Ernest I. Allen.

An Honest Medicine for La Grippe. George W. Waitt, of South Gardner, Me., says: "I have had the worst cough, cold, chills and gripe and have taken lots of trash of no account but profit to the vendor. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the only thing that has done any good whatever. I have used one 50 cent bottle and the chills, cold and gripe have all left me. I congratulate the manufacturers of an honest medicine." For sale by J. H. Janney, Druggist, 701 King St.

Food does more harm than good when not digested. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests what you eat. It prevents wasting diseases and cures stomach troubles. It cures indigestion, sour stomach and belching, and allows a workout stomach rest. It acts instantly. Edgar Wardell, Jr., corner King and Pitt streets.

Through Sleeping Car to Aiken and Augusta, Ga.—Southern Railway. Beginning Monday, January 30, the New York and Aiken sleeper on the Florida limited, leaving Washington at 5:50 p. m. week days, will be operated to Augusta, and the New York and Augusta sleeper on the Washington and Southern limited, leaving Washington at 10:45 p. m. daily, will be operated to Aiken.

Mardi Gras Carnivals, New Orleans, Mobile, and Birmingham.

For the above occasions the Southern Railway will sell tickets to the points named at one fare for the round trip. Tickets on sale February 7 to 13, inclusive. Final limit February 25. Double daily fast trains, carrying Pullman sleeping and dining cars.

Mardi Gras Festivities, Birmingham. For the above occasion the Southern Railway will sell tickets from all points on its line to Birmingham, Ala., and return at one fare for the round-trip. Tickets on sale February 7 to 13, inclusive. Final limit February 25th. Two fast trains daily for Birmingham, carrying Pullman sleeping cars, day coaches and dining cars.

To Charlottesville and Return. For the occasion of the State convention, R. Y. P. U., at Charlottesville, Va., February 21 and 22, the Southern Railway will sell tickets from points in Virginia and Washington, D. C., to Charlottesville and return at greatly reduced rates. Tickets on sale February 19 to 21, inclusive. Final limit February 27.

Mardi Gras, New Orleans, Feb. 14. For the above occasion the Southern Railway Company will sell tickets to New Orleans at one fare for the round trip which from Washington will be \$27.50; tickets on sale February 7 to 13, inclusive; final limit February 25. Double daily fast trains for Birmingham at 10:45 p. m. daily, will be operated to Aiken.

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REMEMBER, that we carry the largest assortment of BOOKS, new and second-hand, in Virginia, and on the best terms. A. Holden Patent Book Cover given away with each book. The strongest and best book cover made. Remember they can be had only at FRENCH'S BOOKSTORE.

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Opening and Closing of the Mails. Northern mails, week days, close at 7:30 and 11:45 a. m. and 1:15, 2:50, 6:50 and 8:30 p. m.

W. A. SMOOT & CO., DEALER IN FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES, 113 North Royal Street, Alexandria, Va.

W. A. JOHNSON & CO., WHOLESALE GROCERS, GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS, AND DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF LIQUORS.

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1000 POUNDS MOCHA and JAVA COFFEE for sale at 35c by J. C. MILBURN.

MEN'S WORKING GLOVES greatly reduced at A. C. SLAYMAKER'S. EXTRA QUALITY GINGER SNAPS 10c; good Ginger Snaps 6c. J. C. MILBURN'S.

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STEAM FLOORING & PLANING MILL. Manufacturers of DOOR AND WINDOW FRAMES, MOULDINGS, etc.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE. HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY, ALEXANDRIA, VA. EXCHANGE, 309 KING STREET.

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