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FIRE PROTECTION AT SUMMER RESORTS.

Two seaside hotels, the old Grimes house at Seaside and The Breakers at Long Beach, have been destroyed during the year by fire. The Grimes hotel was burned at the height of the season, but, more fortunately for seashiders, the destruction of The Breakers did not occur until coast visitors had all returned to their homes. When the Grimes house burned the occupants were compelled to flee for their lives, and few saved their personal effects. Had the Long Beach hostelry burned during the season there would have been much greater loss, and possibly loss of life.

The destruction of those two hotels points out the need of fire protection at the north coast summer resorts. The fires are bound to frighten the timid and to injure the business of the beach resorts. People who go to the seaside have every reason to expect protection from fire, and it is time that both resorts should take some steps to secure more efficient fire-fighting service. Seaside is quite a town and capable of supporting a good fire department. It is the duty of the town council to provide fire protection, even if it is necessary to make some slight increase in municipal taxation. Either the seaside places must have fire-fighting equipment, or else their business will dwindle away.

Here's a problem for the Seaside council to wrestle with during the long winter months which are approaching. A very moderate display of the right spirit ought to remedy the existing neglect.

WILL THE JAPS OFFER PEACE?

Military experts at Washington, and there are many there, of various nations, are reported as having reached the conclusion that the present would be a good time for Japan to extend the olive branch to Russia, as her best possible strategy at this juncture, and they are not backward in offering the suggestion to Japan, not through the usual diplomatic channels, but through the press.

Certainly Japan has things very much her way as the matter stands now, and Russia has very little encouragement for continuing the struggle. If she were reasonable she would gladly receive any offer that would give her "peace with honor." Russia stood on false ground when the war began, and it was largely because of that fact that the war came. Backed by two other nations, she enacted the part of the highwayman and "held up" Japan, depriving her of the fruits of her well-earned victory over the Chinese. Should she now offer to cease hostilities one of the terms naturally would be that Russia should relinquish all her claims to territory in Manchuria, where she located herself by force, fraud and intimidation, and where she has no business to be. And, according to latter day practice, Japan would have the right to demand indemnity of Russia for her expenditures in the war. It is possible, however, that Japan might waive that point and be content with Russia's retiring from the territory over which she seeks to extend her "influence," which means, practically, her empire, and which properly belongs to Japan if to any outside power. Winter is coming on and both armies will naturally cease hostilities and go into winter quarters, ceasing active operations until spring. This will give ample opportunity for the consideration of the question of settling the war by negotiation.

In the meantime, Japan will naturally follow up her advantages and push the flying, demoralized Russians, taking care, however, not to extend her lines too far into the interior, remote from her communications, which would prove an advantage to Russia. She already holds many important posts, and these she will, of course, retain, as she can easily do. Instead of continuing to be "lured" she will naturally concentrate upon Vladivostok, and make sure of that before the winter sets in. And it is important to her plan that she should do this.

IS COEDUCATION PROPER?

Dr. Ely Van de Warker, a physician of Syracuse, N. Y., is gaining considerable cheap notoriety by denouncing coeducational institutions as breeding grounds for immorality. He published a book on the subject last spring, and now emphasizes his statements in the most vigorous manner possible, says the

Chicago Chronicle.

Dr. Van de Warker has never had practical experience in coeducational colleges. He claims that he bases his objections on cases that have come under his own eyes as a practicing physician, and says he is ready to prove his position, but the evidence he produces must be of a more convincing character than any he has yet brought forward if the advocates of coeducation are to be persuaded he is in the right.

Coeducation in universities is on trial. The time was when boys and girls were not allowed to go to school together. After awhile separation of the sexes did not begin until the high school age. In time youths and maidens were sent to the same high school, but were separated by partitions except during recitation hours. Finally, when it was found that the manners of both girls and boys were improved by the presence of each, and that the desire for good scholarship was stimulated in the same way, there was no longer a question of the advantage of coeducation, so long as pupils were more or less under their parents' eyes.

On the moral side of coeducation university presidents and professors have the best opportunities of judging. Should complaint on this score come, it should come from them or from parents. The fact that there have been few real scandals in connection with university life—less, probably, than outside the college walls—is evidence that the ease is not as Dr. Van de Warker would make it out.

In future battleships none other than armor-piercing guns are likely to constitute the main batteries and British naval designers are seriously considering the idea of the Italian chief constructor, Cuni-berti, to have the main batteries composed of 12-inch guns solely. Italy, as usual, was the first in thus improving the fighting efficiency of battleships by discarding guns of 6-inch and less caliber and substituting guns of 8-inch caliber, the penetrative power of which is about 5.67 inches of Krupp armor at a range of 5000 yards. Four battleships, the Vittorio Emanuele III, Napoli, Regina Elena and Roma, of 12,425 tons and a calculated speed of 22 knots, have been laid down for the Italian navy since September, 1901, and two of these are nearly ready for commission. The main battery of these ships is composed of two 12-inch and 12 8-inch guns and the secondary batteries consist of 12 14-pounders and 12 3-pounders. Their hull protection varies from 9 3/4 inches to 4 inches of armor and that of the gun positions from 8 inches to 6 inches, so that neither the hull nor gun positions would be seriously hurt by the fire from guns of less than 8-inch caliber at 3000 yards range. Sacrifices have undoubtedly been made in order to attain the great speed of 22 knots and the advantage of guns that are effective even beyond three miles range, but the vessel that can choose its distance from an enemy and can shoot farther and hit harder than its opponent would seem to have decided advantages over the slower vessels, the guns of which are ineffective at very long range.

A flock of 600 young turkeys is being herded on the Mottinger ranch, in Klickitat county, Washington, just across the Columbia river from Switzer's island, says the East Oregonian. Never before in the inland empire has the raising of turkeys been gone into so extensively by any one person. The birds are all in excellent condition and will be marketed about Thanksgiving time.

From the manner in which those Russian cruisers are showing up at Pacific coast ports, one might very logically conclude that Russia intends putting her entire navy out of reach of the Japs by surrendering them to the requirements of international code.

That Portland motorman who held up a street car for a joke is certainly a humorist of rare ability. Now, just imagine what a complete joke it would have been had the policeman who happened to be on the car shot the joker full of large holes.

Judge Parker has done down to New York to talk with Dave Hill. In the meantime Fairbanks and several other industrious republicans are out around the country talking to the voters.

Discovering that the object of the present war is not to supply gifted correspondents with copy, R. H. Davis has indignantly packed his grip and started for home.

The Homestead plant has just closed a contract with Japan for enough nickel steel armor plate to keep the mills making it busy for three months, Banzai!

Watermelons growing wild have become a pest in southern California. Now there is a clue to a possible solution of the race question.

Poultney Bigelow thinks the Americans are "losing prestige as marksmen." What! Has some one been shooting at Poultney at last?

Bruce Polworth hasn't deserted his party for several days. Surely something has gone wrong at Cathlamet.

PIMPLES

"I tried all kinds of blood remedies which failed to do me any good but I have found the right thing at last. My face was full of pimples and black heads. After taking Cascarets they all left. I am continuing the use of them and recommending them to my friends. I feel fine when I rise in the morning. Hope to have a chance to recommend Cascarets."
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The Absent-Minded Professor.

"This gentleman was left at home alone one evening with the children. His wife knew he was at work upon a magazine article on the subject of Shintoism or the Memphian hieroglyphics, or something equally abstruse, and so, though she dreaded his absent mindedness, she thought it would be safe to trust him by himself for once.

"When she returned, about 9 o'clock, the house was very still. She had left the children playing, but now they were nowhere to be seen. She asked what had become of them, and the professor said that their noise had disturbed him and he had put them to bed.

"I hope they gave you no trouble," she said.

"One did," the professor answered. "The one in the cot there fought like a young tiger when I went to undress him. He kicked and screamed and bit. A bad child. I got him in though, hard and fast. He howled a while, but in an hour he fell asleep."

"The professor's wife tiptoed over to the cot.

"Why, she cried, "that is little Harry Brown, from next door."

Three of a Kind.

Representative Rodenburg accompanied one of his distinguished constituents, Judge Charles W. Thomas of Bellevue, Ill., to the marble room recently, where the two were joined by Senators Dolliver, Hopkins and Cullom.

"This meeting," declared Mr. Dolliver, "reminds me very forcibly of a visit I made to Belleville not many months ago. I was the guest of Judge Thomas, and passed the night in his fine old colonial mansion. After several hours of refreshing sleep I attired myself and descended, filled with thought of the splendid entertainment given me. All at once there was a hoarse voice from an adjoining room, which said, in a contemptible tone:

"Where the dickens did you come from?"

"I felt rather cheap at being spoken to in such a way, and was looking about for the person who had thus addressed me. It didn't take me long to discover that the first sign of inhospitality I observed in the mansion came from the judge's parrot. He was as wicked a bird as it was ever my fortune to encounter."—Denver Times.

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