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There is an oil well near Calgary, in western Canada, that yields an extraordinary oil, as clear as water, containing 72 per cent of benzine and capable of being used crude in the engine of a motor car.

WHAT MAKES STARS TWINKLE

Scientists Explain That the Rays of Light From Them Are Bent by Our Atmosphere.

The question of childhood "What makes the stars twinkle?" was answered probably by a bit of verse or poetic fancy. But men asking the same question sought scientific explanation and found it.

Although we live upon its surface, we are not on the outside of the earth, but at the bottom of the sea of air which forms the earth's outermost layer and extends above our heads to a height of many miles, says a University of Wisconsin press bulletin. We cannot see the stars save as we look through this atmosphere, and the light which comes through it is bent and oftentimes distorted so as to present serious obstacles to any accurate telescopic study of the heavenly bodies.

Frequently this disturbance is visible to the naked eye, and the stars are said to twinkle—namely, to quiver and change color many times a second, solely in consequence of a disturbed condition of the air and not from anything which goes on in the star.

This effect is more marked low down in the sky than in the zenith. It is worth noting that the planets show very little of it because the light they send to such comes from a disk of sensible area, while a star, being much farther from the earth, has its disk reduced practically to a mere point whose light is more easily affected by local disturbances in the atmosphere than in the broader beam which comes from the planet's disk.

At all times, whether the stars twinkle or not, their light is bent in its passage through the atmosphere, so that the stars appear to stand higher up in the sky than their true positions.

ADAM SURELY TO BE PITIED

First Citizen of His Time, But Had None of the Joys of Election Day.

Adam was the first citizen of his time, but there could not have been much satisfaction for him in that. Election day was just like any other day to Adam. The joys and the sorrows of the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, he never knew. He never marched behind a band, or never carried a transparency, or shouted himself hoarse for a stout stranger in an automobile.

Not for Adam the bulletins on the screen, not for him the glad shoving to and fro in a crowd of patriots blowing fish horns. Not for him the thrilling news that somebody had carried the Twelfth precinct of the Forty-fourth ward by nine votes.

Poor old Adam! Unthought by candidates, undisturbed by machines, uninitiated in the mysteries of marking a ballot, he must have led an empty and colorless life.—New York News.

Sea Took Toll of Daring Sailors.

Intercourse between Russia and England began in the middle of the sixteenth century by the White sea. It was a hazardous and costly voyage. The crews of two of the three ships with which Richard Chancellor made his first trip in 1553 were frozen to death. Sir Hugh Willoughby among them. On his second venture in 1554 Chancellor brought back with him a Russian ambassador, Ousp Nejev. Two of the ships were never heard of again, and the Edward Bonaventura, after four months at sea, was wrecked on the Scottish coast. Chancellor, many of the crew, and seven Russians perished, but Ousp Nejev was among the survivors, and the English lords and merchants went out in state beyond Shoreditch to welcome this "duke of Muscovia."—London Chronicle

Remarkable Eyesight of Birds.

The keenness of birds in hunting out food was once attributed to their sense of smell, but it has been shown that it is due to their remarkable sight.

For Wet Boots.

Boots and shoes, however damp, will polish in a few minutes if a drop or two of paraffin oil be added to the blacking. It also prevents the leather from cracking.

PRIME FAVORITE WITH THE GOTHAM FANS



Roger T. Peckinpaugh, the clever shortstop of the New York American league club, was born in Wooster, O., February 5, 1881, and began his professional career with the New Haven club of the Connecticut league in 1910. His home being in Cleveland, he was watched closely by Cleveland scouts and purchased by that club in the middle of the season. The following year he was farmed to the Portland club of the Pacific Coast league. His work was of high class there and he was recalled and started off the 1912 season as a regular. He was a great favorite of Harry Davis, then managing the Naps, and despite many bad plays and lack of hitting, Davis kept him in the game, believing that he was due to come through with some great ball. When the Naps picked up Chapman, Peckinpaugh was turned over to Frank Chance's New York club. He immediately began to play sensational ball and his cool and brainy work at critical times caused Chance to appoint him captain at the start of the season. Although not a hard hitter, Peckinpaugh has delivered many timely wallops and is a favorite with the Gotham fans.

NOTES of the DIAMOND

Art Fromme has been canned by the Giants.

When Chief Bender is in pitching he does most of the directing.

Miller Huggins says that the biggest asset the Braves have in their fighting spirit.

Omar, the Dodgers' shortstop, has developed into one of the best in the league.

Bill Donovan has taught his players to take advantage of every opening in the game.

Cory Dolan is doing a lot toward making Bob Hecher a bench warmer this summer.

Owners Rupert and Hurton say that they are well satisfied with their New York investment.

Lajoie does not look as if he should be discarded by his club, much less the Cleveland Indians.

No one ever heard a crowd hoot anyone who was doing his best all the time, no matter what the result.

Hank O'Day was 200 to 1 in the Kentucky Derby—but why do they carry baseball odds into racing?

McKee, the young catcher of the Tigers, is making a bid for the premier honor in the American league.

The fans of Philadelphia are not taking kindly to Larry Lajoie, because they are sore over the fact that Eddie Collins was let go.

"Holt," shortstop for the Tiptops, who has carried that name for two seasons, arises to announce that his name is Holt and not Holt.

Earl Baldwin, rookie White Sox catcher, has been shipped by Manager Rowland to Peoria in the Three-l league for future reference.

Lajoie isn't an Eddie Collins at second by any means, but the big Frenchman is still there with the punch, as the fact that he is in the 300 class proves.

Manager Tinker says he has no players for the Colonial league. Al Drennon says it might be a good place for him to go until he recovers his throwing ability.

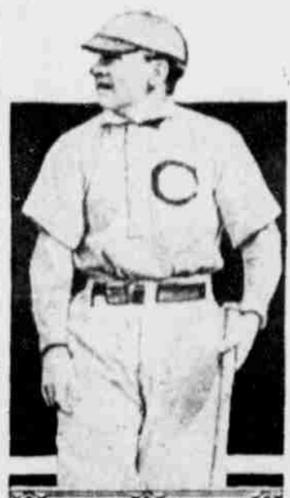
Of course no baseball club owner is going to quit—but we notice several of them counting their chips carefully—and in a poker game, you know what that means.

Manager Herzog of the Reds, last week shut down on golf. There are one or two players on his club, but they don't get paid for that and the manager decided that they'd better play better baseball without the golf.

PENSIONS FOR BALL PLAYERS

Suggestion Made to Enable Veterans to Make Retrograde Movement Easy—One Case Cited.

It was a genuine pleasure I had recently when Billie Sullivan stepped up to the plate to catch for Minneapolis, and yet there was an indefinable feeling came over me that something was not right here. He didn't look natural, says a writer in Milwaukee Sentinel. He had on a different uniform than I was used to and the general setting was unnatural. Some way it seemed to me that "Billie" Sullivan was in the right church, perhaps, but certainly in



"Billie" Sullivan.

the wrong pew, if you'll pardon the quotation.

While thinking about him and what a magnificent representative of the species sportsman he is and the wonderful service he has rendered, the thought came to me that regardless of his case and experience, the lot of a professional ball player is "not a happy one." True, the professional player is well paid, but his earning capacity is limited and his rights at all times are subordinate to those of his employer. He may serve faithfully and well many years and suddenly be turned away without seeming thought or consideration. There might be a pension system devised which would apply to faithful servants in baseball, like the pension systems which apply to faithful employees in the industrial world. Then when a player is forced out of the "big noise" after years of faithful service, his pension, together with his minor league salary, would enable him to ease off the going and make the retrograde movement less embarrassing.

I haven't worked this idea out very well, but there is food for reflection even in what has been written.

Watch Work of Discards.

George Stallings, who in his great generosity saved Sherwood Magee from the Feds, will please keep the work of Whitted and Dugay, who were given in exchange. Likewise John McGraw, who spent much time and effort before he finally saved Hans Lobert, is requested to keep the work of Demaree, Stock and Adams.

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