

DRAWN UP WITH WATER

Explanation of Showers of Fish Are Reported as Occasionally Occurring.

Shower of fishes occasionally fall in parts of the world, exciting astonishment. Instances of this nature occurred in England. On a shower of small three-spined sticklebacks fell near Merthyr-Tydfil, Wales, sprinkling the ground over a large area. If caught by a whirlwind from any beachy ponds near the sea, in this species of fish abounds, they have been conveyed through the distance of almost thirty miles. A similar instance occurred at Mull, in which were found strewn on a hill side from the sea and 100 feet high. Such downfalls are more frequent in tropical countries. In a shower of fishes varying from a half to three pounds in weight has been reported. Sometimes they are living, more frequently dead, and sometimes dry or shriveled. They are always of kinds found in the sea or fresh waters of neighborhood. The occurrence of a shower of fishes is readily explained by a vacuum and strong up-draft produced in the center of a storm. Such a whirlwind column, if over the surface of a lake or of the sea, may suck up a considerable quantity of the water along with living creatures that may be carried for a considerable distance, and is discharged as a shower of fishes when the energy of the whirl is spent.

that assault the eye wherever one looks. The letters of the alphabet are so familiar to the eye that when we see a sign the eye at once begins tracing the letters. This doesn't mean that we read all these signs. Our eye is just unconsciously attracted to the familiar type—and this type is about all it sees on a building or a vacant lot.

Education.
A well-rounded education that makes its possessor a citizen of the world, open to all the manifold impressions the world contains, one who "sees life steadily and sees it whole," can make only for physical improvement and does make for physical improvement. The quotation just written is from Matthew Arnold; he used it of Sophocles. And is it not a strange coincidence that in the festival procession at Athens this same Sophocles, the great tragic poet, was required to walk naked, because of the physical perfection of his beautiful body? Apparently his many-sided culture and profound thought were mirrored in the beauty of his body. So it will always be. The soul will find its expression in the body. And that mold will be transmitted to future generations, for race is all—Exchange.

Jewish Records Buried.
The first ceremony of its kind in Scotland has taken place in the Jewish part of Pithershill cemetery, Edinburgh, where a large number of Hebrew books, scrolls of the law, phylacteries, and utensils used in the synagogue were buried. The custom is observed to prevent misuse and for preservation, and was rendered necessary owing to the amalgamation of three Jewish synagogues. Relics accumulated during a hundred years were contained in ten sacks, and were lowered into a grave lined with boards.

Teeth of Elephants.
Elephants have only eight teeth—two below and two above, on each side. All baby elephants' teeth fall out when the animal is about fourteen years old, when a new set grows.

Best Waterproof Material.
Salmon skin is about the best waterproof material that can be worn. The Eskimos use it for both shoes and shirts.

Chopped Dollars.

A "chop," in China, is a trademark. It represents incidentally a guarantee of value, which may be greater or less in proportion to the commercial standing of the firm whose chop it is. The silver dollar in that country is chopped by each firm or money-shop through whose hands it passes. A clean, unchopped dollar is looked upon askance. The chop affixed may be merely an ink stamp, or it may be put on with a sharp die, defacing the coin. Thus a silver dollar, after being in circulation for a while, becomes unrecognizable. A properly guaranteed chop assumes a cup shape, and not infrequently with a hole through the middle. The Chinese silversmith exacts a percentage from the dollars that pass through his hands by scooping out some of the silver.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The Mother of Ballooning.

A washerwoman was the mother of ballooning and it all started in France about 1780. The washerwoman wished to dry a skirt more rapidly than could be accomplished by air and sunshine, so she traced it up over the fireplace. The hot air soon dried the cloth and the woman was astonished to see it round out like a ball and float up to the ceiling. A neighbor named Montgolfier saw the strange occurrence and it gave him the idea from which he made the first balloon.

Something Important.

"How do you like your new boss, Emmentruide?"

"He's an awful pill, Imogen. Why, he sometimes makes me wait five minutes while he's trying to think up a word."

"My boss is worse than that. When I make a mistake in copying a recipe somebody has given him he carries on as if the firm had lost a million dollars."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Truly Cosmopolitan Flag.

A United States flag has been made in Jamestown, N. Y., which is unique in that it was made of wool, sorted by a Yankee, scoured by an Albanian, carded by an Italian, spun by a Swede, warped by a German, dressed by an Englishman, drawn by a Scotchman, woven by a Belgian, supervised by a Frenchman, inspected by a Yankee, dyed by a Turk, examined by an Irishman and dressed finally by a Pole.

Horse and Hen Fast Friends.

A man in New Brunswick has a horse that is very friendly with a hen. The hen gets in the horse's manger and lays an egg, while the horse stands back. As soon as the hen flies off the nest, the horse steps up and eats the egg.

Realty Mortgages Outdistance All Railroad Papers

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 9.—Real estate mortgage loans have far outdistanced railroad securities as the leading investment held by life insurance companies, according to original statistics submitted to the 15th annual convention of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents here today.

Speaking on "A Decade of Life Insurance Investments," Asa S. Wing, president of the Provident Life and Trust Company of Philadelphia, stated that the real estate mortgage loans of the life companies have doubled in ten years, increasing from \$1,228,000,000 at the end of 1911 to \$2,468,000,000 on October 31 of this year.

Investments in railroad securities were \$1,383,000,000 at the end of 1911 as against \$1,783,000,000 at the end of 1920. Real estate mortgage loans form more than 32 percent of the total assets of the companies now while railroad securities, which formed more than 35 percent 10 years ago, have dropped to 26 percent. Policy loans of \$820,000,000 rank third and United States government bonds of \$772,000,000 are a close fourth, being 11.30 percent of the assets. Other investments include state, county and municipal bonds and real estate. The total assets of the companies are in excess of \$7,300,000,000.

Forces Along Rhine Are Going to School

(By Associated Press.)

Coblentz, Dec. 9.—Winter training plans for the American Forces in Germany as announced recently at army headquarters in Coblentz call for at least three hours daily military exercises for officers and men in addition to the opening of schools for instruction.

Training will consist of drills, marches, tactical walks and rides, terrain exercises, map problems, lectures, conferences and schools for officers and selected enlisted men.

One course of instruction is in a school of languages for the study of either French or German.

It is not an uncommon sight in Coblentz to see majors and colonels and generals too, sometimes, with school books in their hands, when going to and from billets to their offices. Many an American, who reached the Rhine without knowing more than two or three words of German, has learned enough "to get by"

as they say over here, while others, particularly those of German descent now speak the language fluently.

The training program, which is to continue until March 31 next includes chemical warfare service de-

signed to teach proficiency in the use of gas masks and in giving gas alarms.

The reaction from idealism is a reactionary.



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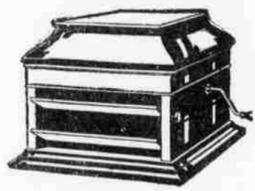
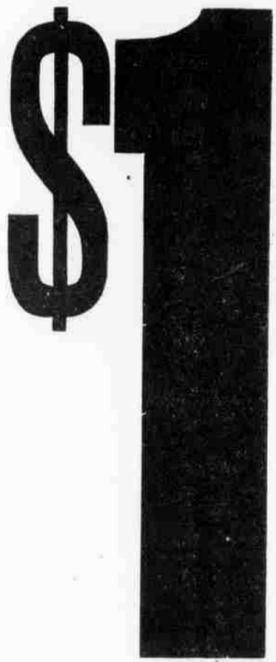
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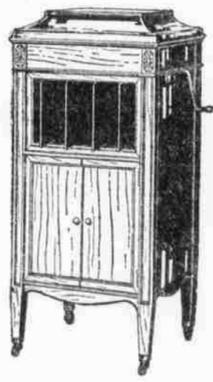


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