

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

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WOMEN RANK HIGH

Bureau Report Tells Their Standing in Educational Work.

Some States They Appear to Have Almost a Monopoly of the Higher Positions in the Public School System.

Washington.—How women have advanced from the educational ranks to the higher administrative positions in the public schools is revealed in figures just compiled by the United States bureau of education. Four states—Colorado, Idaho, Washington and Wyoming—have women at the head of their state school systems, and there are now 495 women county superintendents in the United States, nearly double the number of ten years ago.

In some states women appear to have almost a monopoly of the higher positions in the public school system. Wyoming has a woman state superintendent; the deputy state superintendent is a woman, and of the fourteen counties in the state, all except one are directed educationally by women. Montana, where there are thirty counties, only one man is reported as holding the position of county superintendent.

The increase in the number of women county superintendents is most conspicuous in the west, but is confined to that section. New York reports forty-two women "district superintendents," as against twelve "school commissioners" in 1900. Other states showing marked increases are: Iowa, from 13 in 1900, to 44 in 1912; Kansas, from 26 in 1900, to 53 in 1912; Nebraska, from 10 to 42 in the same period; North Dakota, from 10 to 24; Oklahoma, 7 to 14. In only two states is a decrease reported; Tennessee had 9 in 1900 and only 5 in 1912, and Utah one less than a decade ago.

With the advancement of women in the administrative branch of education has come a demand for women in local school boards, and this demand has been recognized in many municipalities. The following cities of 10,000 population or more report one woman on the school board: New York, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Washington, Minneapolis, Rochester, St. Paul, Denver, Columbus, Worcester, Grand Rapids, Cambridge and Fall River. Many smaller municipalities have adopted the idea. In commenting on the facts a head of the bureau of education says:

"The important place assigned to women in American education has come so usual as to excite little comment in this country; yet American conditions in this respect are a reverse of those of most nations. It is probably safe to say that in no other country in the world are there many women proportionally as in the United States; in fact men teach greatly outnumber the women in most European countries."

ASCERTAINING THE COST.

Efforts are being made by the navy department to ascertain the cost of building the two fuel ships authorized by the last naval appropriation act. The cost not to exceed \$1,140,000 each, that they shall be built at yard and that one of them will be built at a navy yard on the Pacific coast, leaving it discretionary with the navy department at what the other shall be constructed. With a view to ascertaining the cost of construction at the different yards tentative plans have been prepared. The estimate from the New York navy yard is greater than that from the Mare Island navy yard in California, and the navy department has decided to build both at the latter yard. However, as the estimates are not based on sufficiently developed designs, it is expected that the supplemental bids will result in a decision to build one of the vessels at New York and the other at Mare Island. The vessels will be tank ships, and the view of the increasing use of oil in ships of war is the reason for the construction at Mare Island. The collier Jupiter, authorized in 1908, and in which is being installed an experimental apparatus for a system of electric-drive propelling machinery, is under construction at Mare Island, and is a little over 82 per cent. completed. This yard also has just completed the construction of two gunboats, the Monocacy and Palos, designed for use in Chinese rivers.

PREDICTS BIG BATTLESHIPS.

It is predicted by Richard H. Robson, the naval constructor, who designed the new battleship Pennsylvania, that the battleships built here from now will have such a draft of such a length as to prohibit their entering any American port save that of New York, and but few of any other country. Warships ten years hence, says, will be so large that they will be barely able to squeeze through the locks of the Panama canal; that is, they will be little less than 1,000 feet long, about 106 feet beam, have a draft of about 36 feet and a displacement of approximately 55,000 tons. New York harbor is the only harbor of the United States that would admit ships of these great dimensions. There is not a drydock, not a coaling station, not a yard to care for a ship of this size. It means that harbors not only will have to be deepened and further dredged, but that naval stations will have to be increased in size.

UNSOLVED MYSTERY

Hope to Unravel Secrets of Easter Island.

It is a Queer Little Spot on the Great Ocean Fourteen Hundred Miles From the Nearest Land.

Two recent events have revived interest in a mystery that has puzzled the world for 200 years, or at least since the Dutch navigator Jacob Roggeveen discovered the triangle of land known as Easter Island, on Easter morning, 1722, 27 degrees and 30 minutes south of the equator, 2,000 miles from South America, and 1,400 miles from the nearest land, Pitcairn Island. The two facts that may prove the keys that will unlock the secrets of Easter Island are the sailing of an expedition in an auxiliary schooner yacht fitted out by the British museum, as an expedition of research and investigation, in charge of W. Scoresby Routledge, and some late conclusions by Prof. W. E. Safford of the United States department of agriculture, botanist and ethnologist, who has traveled among the islands of the Pacific and also in South America to trace points of similarity, if they exist, between the as yet unsolved sculpture and untranslated language of this 42 square miles of land and the monuments and peoples of Peru and Bolivia.

On this bit of territory have been counted 550 sculptured statues, created upon cyclopean masonry, according to the latest bulletin of the Pan-American Union. Also there are stone houses, some more than 100 feet in length, with walls six feet thick, built like forts. There are tablets in a strange language, terraces on headlands, with wall towers the sea, sometimes 20 feet high and more than 200 or 300 feet long. On the land side of the terraces are large stone pedestals for the images.

Most of the effigies and inscriptions are cut from rough solid lava. Forty are inside the crater of one volcano and outside are as many more at the foot of the slope, where they were placed for removal to different platforms. Some platforms measure only three or four feet in length, while others are eight feet in extent. The largest is in an unworked state. If erected upon its pedestal it would stand seventy feet in height. The smallest figure is but three feet high. All are of the same grim, frozen-faced type, with the head long, eyes closed under heavy brows, nose large, low bridged and very broad at the nostrils, the upper lip short and the lips pointing backward. The lower part of the face is broad and heavy, but perfectly formed. Ears are long and pendent. The shape generally ends at the shoulders or waist. The expression is profoundly solemn, disdainful, rudely picturing supercilious scorn.

One of the most remarkable features of the mystery is the fact that only one of these images stands in its original position upon a platform. All the others were thrown down. The work of these ancient sculptors suddenly. But why? For two centuries this question has remained unanswered. Was it the eruption of a volcano that did it? Some of the largest of the images are buried to the neck in ashes and fragments of lava.

The recorded writings of the race of stone artists is cut into wooden tablets. Their alphabetic words and sentences, significant thoughts, are expressed by pictures of men, animals and various geometrical designs. To read a page in this supposedly fascinating recorded thought, provided you had the lexicon, you must read from left to right. Then you must turn the wooden page upside down and continue to peruse from left to right. Then again must the student invert his tablet, reading as before, until the record is finished.

Professor Safford, a man of great learning, has made the interesting discovery that the language of the less than 200 inhabitants today is essentially Polynesian and like that of Hawaii. Nearly all the words in the language spoken by the natives could, by observing certain fixed laws of changes, be converted into Hawaiian. Some of the gods have the same names as the ancient Hawaiian gods. Although the islands are separated by 2,000 miles of water. Contrary to the theory of others, Professor Safford believes that the handful of present-day inhabitants are the descendants of the ancient lava carvers.

Easter Island, with its buried yet visible mysteries, now belongs to Chile, which has discovered ceremonial accepters, clubs, idols of stone and hard wood with eyes of glassy volcanic rock and shell, ceremonial paddles, feature head dresses and small clubs for beating the bark of paper mulberry trees for tapa cloth.

Held Dead Man Negligent. In Morse vs. the Commercial Travelers Accident Association the supreme court of Massachusetts had before it the case of an accident insurance company which refused to pay a policy on the life of a person drowned while canoeing. The facts showed that the insured had continued on a "leisure trip on a lake in a high wind when persons familiar with the location had warned him of his danger and when no other canoes were out. The court decided that the insured voluntarily exposed himself to unnecessary danger and was negligent and that no recovery could be had.

OLD WALLS STRONG

Withstand Cannonading of the Most Modern Guns.

American-Owned Stores in the Business District of the City of Mexico, and Other Modern Buildings, Shattered by Shell Fire.

Old Spanish architecture which has defied nearly four centuries of earthquakes, again has proved its value. Close examination of the damage done during the days of terrific cannonading in the City of Mexico shows that even the most modern guns do not make great headway against the heavy stone walls which typify most of the prominent buildings in the Mexican capital. Much greater damage was done the modern edifices, whose thin walls barely turned rifle balls.

Little real damage was done the national palace, which was the target for the heaviest guns Gen. Felix Diaz had in his possession. The greater part of this massive edifice, which presented a face 675 feet long to the direct fire of the rebel batteries, was built during the time of Cortez. It has been added to in more recent years, but the original plans were closely followed.

The walls have an average thickness of ten feet. The roof is flat and offered a poor target. Great shells and heavy cannon balls expended their might in vain against this long gray pile of Aztec-hewn rock. Splintered stone and a great coat of dust found their way into every nook of the shot-tortured structure, and some projectiles entered through windows and skylights, but a few thousand pesos will cover the cost of obliterating from the palace all signs of the recent struggle.

Less damage was done the municipal palace, which forms another boundary of the palace square, or Zocalo. But down 16 de Septiembre street, which leads from the Zocalo toward the Ciudadela, the arsenal which sheltered the doughy rebels, the loss is much greater. This is the department store district and the big French dry goods houses, with their easily damaged stocks, were not in a position to escape loss from fire and flying debris. Employees of these stores stayed in the buildings, and, at the risk of their lives, extinguished the fires which often followed the path of a shell.

Several of the largest German hardware stores are in this district, which was swept by the direct fire between the Ciudadela and the palace. The Germans control the hardware business of the republic and most of the stores in this section of the city do a wholesale as well as retail business. Millions of dollars' worth of goods were stored in these houses, but the nature of the stocks prevented any great loss.

American-owned stores are scattered through the business district and suffered along with the others, but the greatest loss, in nearly all cases, is to the buildings, which, for the most part, are owned by Mexicans. Practically all of the important buildings erected during the last decade have steel frames, which support concrete, brick or stone walls. These walls offered little resistance to the artillery fire. But the steel work was little damaged, which will make the work of repairs much less than it would appear from the present demoralized appearance.

He Was a Gentleman. A Euclid Heights car—one of those horrible ones where you have to sit with your feet in the aisle—was lumbering along Euclid avenue yesterday afternoon, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. A very handsome and polite young man entered at East 30th street. The only possible place to sit down was at the side of a broad lady who was trying to occupy a whole section.

"I beg your pardon," smiled the young man. "Is this seat occupied?" "Yes, sir," answered the wide lady, with a baby stare. "I am keeping it for a gentleman."

"That's me," grinned the young man, sliding into the seat. "How did you know what I was?" "Merely an incident. The leathery faced man in the smoking car was reading a newspaper and chewing tobacco. Suddenly he leaned forward. Then he hesitated, and cast a rapid glance at the advertising cards strung along on both sides of the car. The particular card he was looking for was not there. It had been taken down. Still he hesitated. There was a policeman sitting within three feet of him. The policeman leaned forward. Then the man who was chewing tobacco decided that he ran no risk, and— He didn't hesitate any longer.

NEW MONEY DESIGNS

Great Transformation Wrought in Bank Notes.

Equal in Beauty to Those of European Countries—The Size to Be Much Smaller and All Will Be Very Artistic.

Washington.—A great transformation, more radical than anything in the past, will be accomplished in the paper currency of the United States when the new issue in all denominations, recently decided upon, is put into circulation. The notes will be smaller, much smaller. They will be backed in every denomination with a design regarded as the masterwork of Kenyon Cox and as the last word in artistic development of paper currency.

America enthroned between Peace and Prosperity—three draped female figures—and Labor bringing his products to Prosperity as a gift to America, and Peace dispatching Mercury on a mission of commerce to distribute the commodities of America to the world, two additional partially draped maeculine figures, the whole without background of any sort—this is the group that Kenyon Cox has drawn.

The design has been accepted by the United States. There is not a sign of a dollar mark or any value figure or lettering except the "U. S. A." that appears under the central figure. The fine arts commission has approved the design. The secretary of the treasury has directed the bureau of engraving and printing to begin the work of engraving the plates. More than a thousand will be needed.

While the back is to appear on notes of all denominations, only the design for the face of the one-dollar bill has been accepted. This bears the portrait of Washington in miniature, inclosed in a medallion, with no other engraving surrounding it except the border of the note, a simple design in scroll work, with the value in a circle at the lower corner. Other past presidents' portraits are to adorn the notes of other denominations.

The new notes will be six inches long by two and a half inches in width. This is about two-thirds the dimensions of the money now in circulation. "The new money will look as paper money ought to look," according to the designer, "tested by modern standards of artistic taste and practical convenience for handling. It is generally acknowledged that our American currency is clumsy and antiquated in style, as compared with that of European nations—France and England, especially.

"Foreign bank notes, as a rule, are economical in size, fine in texture and simple, though with elegance and dignity, in the pictorial designs printed upon them. These are qualities which fittingly characterize a great nation's currency—not a maze of complicated lines or a tangle of meaningless scrolls, or large surfaces of heavily shaded engraving, such as is ordinarily put in on a portrait plate of a line reproduction for black-and-white printing of the effects of an oil painting."

Mr. Cox is especially pleased that all the official features of the bank note, all numbering, lettering and signatures will be on the face of the bill, leaving the back a clean slate for the allegorical design. All precautions against counterfeiting, he considers are safely entrusted to the bureau of engraving and printing.

The figures were studied from models. America was drawn from a professional model who has figured in other works by the artist. The model of Mercury was his own fifteen-year-old son, a tall, slim, good looking youth.

Mr. Cox does not regard his design as revolutionary or iconoclastic. A cabinet conception or a post-impressionist figure would have justified such criticism, but he considers his work as most conservative even in the novelty that it extends to the new money of the United States.

It Has Often Happened. A man may lack force and still go through a fortune with considerable speed.

WEST POINT MEALS

Kitchen There Is a Model of Economy.

Records Are Kept to Show Supplies Issued and the Disposition Made of the Material—Absolutely No Food Is Wasted.

West Point's famous kitchen is the secret of the ruddy cheeks, the up-beld heads and bright eyes of the sturdy young cadets, the Housekeeper asserts. An enticing menu for breakfast, dinner and supper is daily furnished at an average cost of 61 cents per day per cadet. The 61 cents a day includes besides the foodstuffs the wages and board and service for fifty-six help, the table linen, china, pots and pans, breakage and wear and tear and laundry, everything save rent for the building, light and heat.

The average housekeeper struggling with increased prices will inquire wearily "How?" Well, West Point does not do it by economy—that is, as economy is generally understood. It buys the best of everything, and serves everything in unlimited quantities. Steaks served are sirloin or porterhouse, roasts are prime ribs, butter and milk are the finest the market affords. Of course, the institution gains an advantage by purchasing in large quantities.

The cold storage rooms running off on all sides of the main kitchen always boast a full supply of meats, butter, eggs, vegetables and fruits, while the dry storage rooms hold a still greater supply of dry foods. Usually there is at least \$15,000 worth of food on hand. But the saving effected by buying in large quantities is negligible when compared with the saving effected by good management.

How many housewives keep an account of wasted food, of spoiled food, of damage done to pots and pans and linen?

West Point records show every day the supplies issued to steward, baker, chef, peeler. They note the food spoiled and condemned and destroyed, its weight and value, the weight and value of all wastage, the wear and tear on machinery, the breakage of china. An account of all food is kept, an average of the cost of the day's rations. The record for service is also carefully made out. With fifty-six help the service for the cadet mess is costing 9 56-100 cents a day.

This sounds, in ordinary phraseology, like more bother than it is worth. But this enormous kitchen has but three men to run it and one is frequently away on army business. A set of carefully planned record cards and two small books comprise the bookkeeping supplies, and it takes the sergeant in charge but a small part of his day to keep things up to date. And such records breed thrift. They show that West Point was using too much butter. The officer in charge, Capt. C. G. Estes, and his assistant, Sergt. George D. Kees, put their heads together to decide upon reducing the supply. They wanted the cadets to have all the butter they desired, but they thought the amount used enormous. At that time the butter was served in large lumps on a platter and the men helped themselves. Then the officers had the butter cut in the kitchen, but the dishes proved so faulty that much time was lost. The market was searched for a suitable dish, but none was found. So some army officers, recognizing an emergency, designed a dish, had it made of tin, found it successful, then had it made of china. The butter is cut in the kitchen. Every man has all he wants. But West Point is saving \$341 a month on butter.

"Throwback."

When William Faversham went to live in his present summer home in England he had some difficulty making his employees understand that a man could be a gentleman and work at the same time. It was a shock to them if he wanted to drive a nail or saw a piece of wood.

"I was not only a mystery to the neighborhood, but a positive scandal," states Mr. Faversham, recalling some of the amusing experiences he had before the natives learned his ways. A friend one day overheard the following conversation which took place between two of my gardeners and two of the stable men of a 'big top' who lived next door:

"'E haint no gentleman," the stableman said. "Why, 'e works."

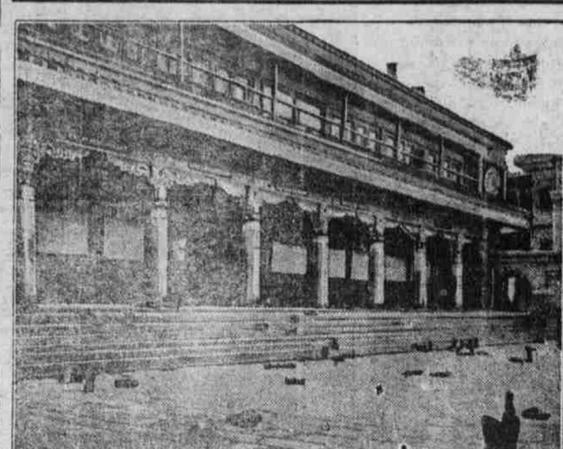
"'Yes 'e his," said my man, 'e's of a good family. I know his mother but America has spoiled him."

"'E may be of a good family," said the stableman, sticking to his guns, but 'e's a throw back.' I was like some of the early barbaric members of the family, he meant."

Safeguarding the Young.

A clause in the German law measure for the reform of the criminal law in Germany and the establishment of special courts for juvenile offenders provides children who are publicly charged with severe misdemeanors with the services of advocates or assistants. For the latter appointments women as well as men are eligible, and feminine influence will thus not be entirely shut out from these courts. The German courts will differ from those already established in Australia and America, as special juries drawn from state school teachers (who are otherwise exempt from this duty) and other male persons who have first hand knowledge in the training of the young will be appointed.

Temple Court at Kumbum



This is a view of the interior court of the great golden temple at Kumbum, northwest China. The scattered boots seen are cast off by the lamas when they enter the building for service. This famous monastery is situated on the borders of Tibet and Mongolia and as a center of Tibetan Buddhism it ranks little below the great monasteries at Lhasa and Shigatse. It is inhabited by some 4,000 lamas and its abbot is considered to be the reincarnation of Tsongkaba, the saintly reformer of Tibetan Buddhism.

WAGNER'S CAP IN BAD LANDS



The "Bad Lands" of South Dakota contain many "strange rock freaks. Large rocks are balanced on little ones; pillars with singular looking gaps are seen; other rocks are eaten away until they resemble honeycombs; mushroom forms are common, and a great many rocks have distinct facial expressions. Such peculiar forms, when presented in the many colors, which distinguish the "Bad Lands," and accompanied by the almost universal silence, which pervades the region, are impressive to a degree. The rock shown in the photograph has been called Wagner's Cap, as having a resemblance, from some viewpoints, to the cap with which the famous composer, in portraits or marble busts, is usually crowned. Wagner's Cap is said to show, from various angles, seven different distinct outlines of human or animal faces, in the strange and curious shapes assumed by the rocks in this district." The Indians found a supernatural influence and many are the explanatory myths.

SAVED BY CARRIER PIGEON

A bird was recently the means of summoning a doctor to the Scottish mainland, to attend to an injured man. A carrier pigeon conveyed the news that an accident had taken place on Allis Craig. Almost at the same moment as the look-out man at Orkney, Ayrshire, some ten miles away, had noticed the flame—the usual signal that a doctor is required—the pigeon arrived with a message, stating that a man had been badly injured. A boat with a doctor put off at once, and it was found that a laborer employed by the Allis Craig Granite company had fallen down a cliff, and had been seriously injured. The man left the workmen's huts for the purpose of collecting birds' eggs, and, as he did not return, a search party was organized, and he was found unconscious at the bottom of a cliff, with his legs badly injured. He had lain where he was found all night, in a torrential rainstorm. A number of carrier pigeons are kept and trained on the rock so that urgent messages may be sent to the mainland.

HOLLOW LOG TRAPS FISH

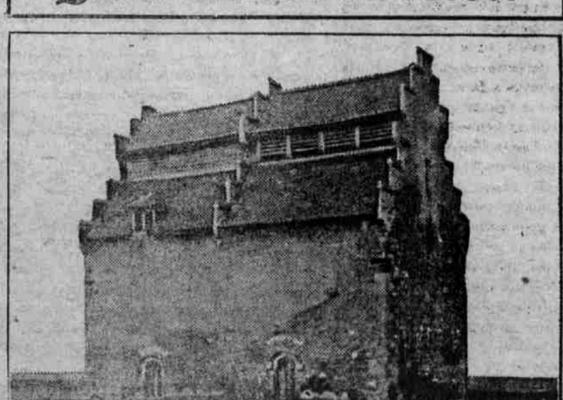
A hollow log sunk in the Forked Deer river, near Humboldt, Tenn., forms one of the most efficient fish traps imaginable, and for many years it has yielded P. L. Draper and J. L. Henderson, near whose farms it is located, all the fish they cared to use and left some over for their neighbors. Recently they took fifty-four pounds of catfish from the log at one haul, one weighing thirty-six pounds and another eighteen pounds.

Messrs. Draper and Henderson claim that they are violating no anti-trapping game law in taking fish from the hollow log, as they did not put it in the river and are not to blame for the fish getting into the log.

BRAYS AT RAILWAY CROSSING

"As little sense as a donkey," is a favorite expression of contempt, but sometimes the four-footed creature shows intelligence far greater than the two-footed species. There is a donkey at Laredo, Tex., whose daily performance is entitled to special mention. The donkey is attached to a water cart, a two-wheeled vehicle used by Mexicans to peddle water among the homes of some of their countrymen. It is driven across a railroad track about ten times each day and each time as it nears the track the donkey stops and brays vociferously. No amount of persuasion can get the animal across the track until it has stopped and given notice to trains on the right of way that it is coming.

Queer Ancient Dovecote



Of unusual form and great interest to antiquarians is the old dovecote here pictured. It stands in the village of Willington, England, four miles from Bedford, and dates from the reign of Henry VII. The Bedford Club is taking steps to preserve the ancient building from destruction.