

READS PAGE AT A GLANCE

Victim of Disease of Eyes Also Is Enabled to Memorize Article at Sight.

New York—Visual power by which a man can read the entire page of an ordinary book at a glance and repeat every line word for word is the subject of an article by Dr. George M. Gould in the current number of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

The man with the remarkable eyes is designated as "Mr. C." This man can read several books each evening, and usually he can repeat all he has read without error.

The case was easily explained by those who have knowledge of the physiology of binocular, or two-eyed vision, Dr. Gould says. Some time during the middle years of the man's life the central part of the retina, the "macular" region of the right eye, was destroyed by an inflammation caused by eye pain.

"By long, unconscious and forced exercise," continues Dr. Gould, "the healthy zone of the right retina surrounding the macular was educated to such a degree that it could, when unmoved, receive and transmit to the brain the image of the entire page, except that part falling upon the central portion, which has been destroyed."

BRITISH PLAN KID REPUBLIC

Youthful Citizens Will Make Own Laws, Punish Offenders and Work at Some Profession.

London.—On a beautiful farm of 150 acres, in Dorsetshire, is soon to be established England's first boy and girl republic, modeled after the successful junior republics in the United States. The youthful citizens and citizenesses, who will be recruited mostly from industrial schools and reformatories, will formulate their own standards of honor, administer their own laws and chastise their own offenders.

Harold Large, who has been appointed superintendent of the novel institution, recently returned from an inspection of similar communities in America. "Over there," he said, "your junior republics have jails in which delinquents are confined, but we believe we can get along without them. If a lawbreaker remains obdurate he will simply be expelled from his boarding house, and hunger doubtless will bring repentance."

The duchess of Marlborough, who is actively supporting the scheme, is providing one of the girls' cottages.

EAT CARROTS; PROLONG LIFE

French Scientist Asserts These Vegetables Make Skin Clear and Kill Bacteria.

Paris.—Since Professor Metchnikoff has been writing on the value of carrots for general health that homely vegetable has found a regular place on the menu of home and restaurant in Paris. It has been remembered that carrots form part of the daily food at Vichy, and the chefs at the big hotels are inventing recipes to satisfy the taste of the moment.

Cressy soup, as everybody knows, is but mashed carrots diluted with milk, and at the fashionable gatherings in the Bois de Boulogne restaurants on Friday evenings there is scarcely a table where this soup is not served.

Carrots, according to Professor Metchnikoff, contain a sugar that kills a bacillus that prevents our attaining the age of one-hundred; besides this, carrots possess, according to tradition, the property of conferring a fine complexion on all who persistently eat them.

HAS BULLET-PROOF SKULL

Despondent Shoemaker Falls in His Attempt at Suicide—Physicians Are Surprised.

Ely, Cal.—This city will evidently furnish the state with the first case of felony charge under the new law against a man who attempted to commit suicide and failed.

Joe Loussele, a shoemaker, despondent and tired of life, as he claims when in his lodging house room placed a revolver to his head and fired. The bullet, instead of reaching the brain, as would ordinarily be expected, flattened against the skull, creating only a painful wound.

The physicians who revived him declare they are at a complete loss to explain how the missile failed to penetrate and produce instant death.

Yawn Is Fatal to Man. Fort Collins, Colo.—A yawn caused John Cooney of Sidney, Neb., to force a gallstone through the abdominal wall, causing intense pain, from which he died a few hours later. Cooney was spending his vacation at Dale Creek. He was 55 years old, and apparently in the best of health.

BEST TO AVOID MUSHROOMS

Really Have Little Value as Sustenance and There Is Always Danger of Poison.

There are in this country more than one hundred edible species of mushrooms. The popular distinction between mushroom and toadstool is one of name only. Many of the supposedly inferior specimens have proved on careful examination to be harmless, whereas some of those which bear an extremely close family resemblance to favored articles of diet are the carriers of danger in the form of exceedingly powerful poisons.

Mushrooms form an unusually nutritious and sustaining diet. A well-known botanist says that mushrooms might properly be called vegetable meat and used as a substitute for animal food.

It is doubtful, however, if this is true.

The more we learn of mushrooms, the more it becomes apparent that they are scarcely different as regards dietary virtues from the general run of the green vegetables which have never achieved the distinction of any unique or superior nutritive properties. They belong rather to that large group of food materials which we consume for reasons quite apart from the body.

HONEYED WORDS IN TUBES

How the Modern Spanish Swain Finds a Way to Overcome Serious Obstacle.

In Spain, as is well known, a vigorous etiquette governs the business of love-making. A young man cannot interview his sweetheart without her parents' consent, and, indeed, all conversation openly carried on between the couple must be in the presence of the fair one's mother.

Many subterfuges are adopted by the lovers to overcome this difficulty, and the "reja"—the ornamental ironwork on the windows of Spanish houses—has become one of the favorite trying places. Modern life, however, has imposed fresh barriers. If a young man's sweetheart lives on the third floor of a city building he cannot very well meet her at the "reja."

In this, as in other spheres of life, necessity is the mother of invention. London Answers remarks, and some ardent lovers have brought speaking tubes to their assistance. The senior, at the appointed hour, lowers this to her lover, and they are thus able to carry on their love affairs with the assurance that they are not overheard by the people on the intervening flats, as would be the case if the conversation were carried on without such aid.

A deaf woman used to tell this story on herself: At a reunion of Confederate veterans where she was officiating as hostess a man was brought up to her and reintroduced as a Mr. Blank, a former resident of her town, and one whom she had not seen for fifty years. He was so little changed by the touch of time and so free from any of the lines that care and anxiety set upon the face that she presently asked, "Mr. Blank, did you ever marry?"

"I married forty-five years ago," "What he really said was, 'My wife died five years ago.'" Then she, in view of his free, unabashed-of-fate look, said, "You don't look much subdued by the experience." Since then it has become her habit to hesitate for a significant second after the first syllable whenever she speaks of her damaged ears.

UNGRATEFUL BRUTE

It was a very hot day and a picnic had been arranged by the United Society of Lady Vegetarians.

They were comfortably seated, and waiting for the kettle to boil, when, horror of horrors! a savage bull appeared on the scene. Immediately a wild rush was made for safety, while the raging creature pounded after one lady who, unfortunately, had a red parasol. By great good fortune she got over the stile before it could reach her. Then, regaining her breath, she turned round and exclaimed, "Here have I been a vegetarian all my life. There's gratitude for you!"

HIPPOTAMUS DESCRIBED

Johnny, who had been to the circus, says the Youngstown Telegram, was telling his teacher about the wonderful things he had seen.

"An' teacher," he cried, "they had one big animal they called the hippopotamus, dear," prompted the teacher.

"I can't just say its name," exclaimed Johnny, "but it looks just like 9,000 pounds of liver."

MOST SOUTHERLY INDUSTRY

What is probably the most southerly industry of the world, writes Consul Henry D. Baker of Hobart, Tasmania, is being carried on at Macquarie Island, about half way between Tasmania and the antarctic continent.

HEREDITY SHOWN AT SCHOOL

Deductions From the Study of the Records of Three Generations Published.

Berlin.—Do children inherit their mental gifts or shortcomings from parents or grandparents? The question is discussed in an article published in the German Umschau by Dr. W. Peters.

With characteristic German thoroughness the author has visited most of the state primary schools in Germany and Austria with the object of gaining information on this point by comparing the school reports of parents and grandparents, where available, with those of the present day school child. He has complete sets of records of three generations, with the following results:

When both parents had good to average school records to their credit, 76 per cent of their offspring produced the same, while the rest, 24 per cent, fell in various degrees below the average.

When one parent had a good and the other a poor record, 59 per cent of their children furnished good reports and 41 per cent inferior ones.

When both parents were distinctly below the average, only 38 per cent of their progeny turned out well and 62 per cent badly.

The dependence of children on their parents in this respect seems, therefore, to be fairly well proved. Dr. Peters, however, also found that when parents were equal those children whose grandparents were above the average were the best scholars, and vice versa.

Generally speaking, the children's records followed those of the mother more closely than those of the father. Wherever the father, however, possessed distinctly better abilities than the mother the children without exception tended to favor the male exception. From this Dr. Peters concludes that the greater intellectual faculties exercise a stronger hereditary influence on the offspring than the lesser ones.

A curious point in the statistical tables prepared by Dr. Peters and his material is that for reading and writing the marks gained by children corresponded closely to those of the parents; for arithmetic, less so; for grammar, again less, and least of all for "Scripture."

BEHEADING IS LONG AFFAIR

Victim Is First Fed—Not Until He Voluntarily Bows His Head Does the Axe Fall.

Paris.—An execution in Siam is an extraordinary business, according to a correspondent of the Chronicle Medicale. The doomed man, awakened at dawn, is led in chains to the temple, where candles are lit around him. He is exhorted to think of nothing, to disassociate his mind from mundane affairs and is given the best meal of his life, the menu being carefully chosen according to the social status of the criminal.

There are two executioners. One is hidden in some brushwood, while the other, dressed in vivid red, conducts the criminal to the place of sacrifice, bidding him be seated on banana leaves. In order to be entirely separated from earth, the condemned man is then put into position, awaiting the axe. Earth is put in his ears. For two hours or more nothing happens. Siamese law demands that the criminal shall bow his head voluntarily to the axe. This he does finally from sheer exhaustion, and immediately headman No. 2 rushes from his hiding place and does the rest. The executioners are then sprayed with holy water and otherwise purified from contact with the victim's soul.

FIGURED CLOSE IN FINING HER

Woman Is Assessed \$3 for Making Five Inch Error in Guess at Auto Trial.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Mrs. Josephine McMichael in municipal court paid \$3 because of an error of five inches in judgment of distance revealed after the judge, the lawyers and spectators all had puzzled their brains in figuring out an arithmetical problem. She was charged with driving her car within ten feet of a street car discharging passengers.

The spot where the automobile stood was agreed to easily enough. The street then was measured and allowance made for the "overhang" of the street car and the width of the automobile, and it was found that the automobile was just nine feet seven inches from the street car.

DYING MAN IS MARRIED

German, Suddenly Stricken, Sends for Girl—Ceremony Is Performed in Hospital.

Berlin.—A pathetic marriage ceremony took place in a Budapest hospital. A German singer named Erdos, who was appearing in the Hungarian capital, was suddenly taken ill a few days ago. He telegraphed to his sweetheart in Frankfurt to come to him. The girl started at once and arrived in Budapest. They were married immediately in the hospital ward, and Erdos died an hour after the ceremony.

Dog Keeps Watch for Master. Philadelphia.—Thinking that Oswald Saaber, the young master, was still in the Northwest General hospital, Gypsy, a French poodle, kept constant vigil outside the institution for four weeks.

AFRICAN PYGMY AT ZOO

New Yorkers Soon to Have Opportunity to See Rare Animal Captive.

New York.—For the first time on record visitors to New York zoo will shortly have an opportunity to inspect what is probably the rarest animal that has ever been made a part of any such collection—that is, the pygmy hippopotamus.

These pocket editions of the "blood-sweating behemoth" were discovered in 1884 in Africa, and it has taken nearly thirty years to secure these first five specimens, although a few mounted bodies have been shown, since their habitat so far as known is confined to a remote territory peopled by bloodthirsty cannibals. The two specimens which have now been acquired, a male and a female, cost the zoo \$12,000, a figure which indicates their rarity.

According to descriptions that have crossed the Atlantic ahead of the pair, the male is 30 inches high at the shoulders, 70 inches long from the end of his nose to the base of his tail, and his tail is 12 inches long. He weighs 419 pounds. The female, believed to be only two years old, is 13 inches high and weighs 176 pounds.

In comparison, Calliph, the enormous male hippopotamus who now stands in a mounted state in the American Museum of Natural History, stood 4 feet 9 1/2 inches high at the shoulders, was 12 feet 4 inches in length from end to nose of root of tail, his circumference was 11 feet 8 inches and his weight has been given as close to 6,500 pounds.

Beside the enormous bulk of a full grown male hippo of the common species, the pygmy is like a six months' old human infant of thirteen pounds weight beside a man of 180 pounds. In bulk one adult Nile hippo weighing 6,000 pounds is equal to fourteen adult male pygmy hippos.

CANNIBAL RACE IN THE WEST

Evidence Found by R. F. Gilder to Prove Traditions of the Omaha Indians.

Omaha, Neb.—Traditions among the Omaha Indians to the effect that a tribe of cannibals once lived in the Valley of the Missouri have been verified apparently by discoveries made recently near this city by persons operating under the direction of R. F. Gilder, a well-known archaeologist.

The Omaha Indians came to this region from the Ohio river about 300 years ago. These pioneers heard from other Indians who then lived here of the former existence of a tribe that ate human flesh. Inquiry among other tribes that had formerly been in the valley showed that they had the same tradition, and persons interested in uncovering the history of the early inhabitants of America undertook to learn if there was truth in these tales.

The search has been going on for eight years. At the beginning it was found that some race had lived on the bluffs of the Missouri in dugouts, which at times were 10 feet deep and were roofed with poles over which were laid twigs, grass, and earth. In the floors of these were caches in which were stored property and food. These from time to time have yielded evidence of cannibalism, but nothing that appeared conclusive was unearthed until this summer, when in a small dugout, one of eight, were found bones which Mr. Gilder believes show absolutely that human flesh was cooked to be eaten.

"In all there were found parts of at least 16 human skulls ranging from the smallest infant to the senile subject," said Mr. Gilder in announcing this discovery. "Many showed the peculiar color which bones assume on being boiled. In my possession there is a vast assortment of food bones of quadrupeds and birds."

AGED HEN STILL LAYS EGGS

Owner Vouches for "Belva Lockwood's" Years and Productiveness.

Boston, Mass.—Mrs. Hall of Norwell has a hen that is 21 years old this summer and still lays eggs. "I know she is 21," says Mrs. Hall, "because she was one of a sitting of eggs that was set by my mother, and she's been dead 21 years this summer."

Belva Lockwood has laid eggs regularly up to this year. Last year she laid 11, and when she was at the age of 16 she was producing 250 eggs a year with the enthusiasm and industry of young broilers of two years. "The only trouble with her," says Mrs. Hall, "is that she's a little blind. She seems to feel her way, but if I let her out she's likely to get lost, so I keep her locked up."

BOLT MELTS PICTURE WIRES

Lightning Twists Child About and Cuts Up Other Dishes in New Jersey.

Williamstown, N. J.—Lightning performed some weird antics in the home of Albert Eldridge. The current entered by way of a chimney and blew out every chimney stop in the house. It melted picture wires by the dozen, tore off picture frames, smashed a bureau to pieces and cut carpets in several rooms. The current penetrated every room in the house except the parlor, and in the sitting room seized a grandchild of Eldridge, who was playing in the middle of the floor, and turned her completely around without doing her any injury.

ARMY STYLES NEW TO HER

Conscientious Laundress Meant Well, but Her First Efforts Utterly Failed to Please.

At the army post a new laundry had been installed and the management was specially anxious to please and advised that mending would be included in the work.

The major was equally willing to be pleased and sent, among other things, a suit of duck as a first installment. The army officer's washable coats have buttons, but these are not sewed on. Instead, small eyelets are worked in the coat and the shanks of the regulation buttons are pushed through these holes, being held in place by brass rings on the other side. Before being laundered these buttons and rings are removed, to be put in place again after the wash. When the major's coat was returned from the new laundry the eyelets had been carefully sewed up and a bright brass button had been sewed firmly over each. Also the seams of the major's riding breeches, which open from just above the knees to just below, to admit of adjustment over the knees, had been sewed up so tightly that it took the major's wife half a day to rip them. The earnest and conscientious laundress thereupon received a course of special instruction pertaining to the requirements of the U. S. A.

FINE LINEN 6,000 YEARS OLD

Fruits of the Looms of Ancient Times Have Defied the Passing of the Centuries.

In one of the apartments at University college, London, Professor Flinders Petrie has placed on exhibition some remarkably interesting antiquities unearthed at Tarkhan, Heliopolis and Memphis under the auspices of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt.

The great cemetery of Tarkhan, which occupied a mile of desert 40 miles south of Cairo and which dates from the earliest historic age until the race of the pyramid builders, has proved to be exceedingly prolific in antiquities.

What has struck Professor Petrie is the extraordinary preservation of the woodwork and clothing unearthed from these places of interment of long ago. A great sheet of linen which is placed on exhibition is as fresh and as firm as when cut from the original loom—and it is some 6,000 years old. So, likewise, with the woodwork, which, in but few instances, shows signs of decay. Here are boxes that serve their purpose as funeral caskets, built of planks of acacia and siltim wood, and as firm and secure as when lowered into the bosom of the earth in dim antiquity.

Milk Saved the Auto.

A farmer named Richter, of Millwood, in Westchester county, N. Y., sacrificed a load of milk the other day to save a new touring car, in which two women were riding, from being destroyed by fire. The engine of the car began to spit flames. Finally it took fire. The occupants then abandoned it for fear the gasoline tank might explode. Richter came driving along with several cans of milk. With him was his eighteen-year-old son. He alighted from the wagon, and seizing a ten-quart can filled with milk threw the contents over the flames. The floor of the car was safe and burning briskly. He saw he would have to waste several more cans of milk to save the auto. "Come, hand me those cans quickly," he said to his son. He emptied them over the auto as fast as he could. The flames were checked, but not until nearly one hundred and fifty quarts of milk had been sacrificed. The owner of the car asked him what the milk was worth. Richter fixed his loss at seven dollars, but the lady gave him twenty-five dollars, saying, "You deserve all this, if not more."

How Hot Is Lava?

To ascertain the temperature of lava as it is emitted from a volcano has baffled many scientists. The Roman academy has just published the results of the investigations made by Giovanni Platania during the eruption of Etna last year. The eruption began September 10 and the scientist was unable to approach the mountain for ten days, when one crater was still in action. He camped as near as he could to this crater, close to a stream of lava flowing about a yard a second. Using the new "telescope pyrometer," he got temperatures for the surface of the lava flow of all the way from 1,040 to 1,420 degrees.

A second series of observations, taken at a distance of a dozen feet, gave figures as high as 1,500 degrees. The estimates are that the incandescent lava, as it comes directly from the crater, has a temperature not less than 2,200 degrees.

Unforeseen Complication.

Jimpton, in London, had rung up a well known shop in Paris by telephone to communicate an order on behalf of Mrs. Jimpton. After waiting two hours for the connection to be made, he entered the booth and began. Two minutes later he emerged. "My mister," said he to the attendant, "can't you put me on a wire that'll translate what I have to say in French? I can't make that darned business on the other end of the line understand a word I say."—Harper's Weekly.

ALWAYS MASTER OF FINANCE

How John D. Rockefeller Established His Credit in the Early Days of His Career.

Just because John D. Rockefeller has made more money than he can count without the aid of nineteen clerks and forty adding machines, not to mention a well trained corps of coupon clippers, there are many people who come forward these days with stories to show that John, now famous for his wealth, wigs and wit, was once about the cutest person that ever happened when it came to financial strategy.

According to this latest narrative, Rockefeller told a close friend—and that "close" goes both ways—one morning that he wanted to borrow \$5,000 and that he must have it in order to save his business. The friend went down town in the course of his work, and pretty soon met a big banker. "I wish," said the banker, "if you see Mr. Rockefeller this afternoon, you would tell him that I have found a place to put that \$10,000 which he asked me to loan out for him."

The friend gasped like a goldfish, and proceeded on his way, encountering another of the town's leading bankers.

"By the way," said the banker, "when you see Rockefeller this afternoon, please tell him that I have found a man who wants to borrow that \$10,000."

The friend staggered on, and met a third banker, who repeated what the other two captains of finance had said. Then he went back and found Rockefeller.

"John," he said, in astonishment, "when I left you this morning you told me you had to borrow \$5,000, and all day bankers have been telling me that you asked them to lend out \$14,000 for you."

"Well! well!" smiled Rockefeller, "that's fine! I suppose my credit is established in this town. I'll just step out and borrow that \$5,000 I need."—Popular Magazine.

OLD STRUCTURES IN DECAY

Condition of Famous Leaning Towers in Italy Excite Apprehension of Antiquarians.

Reports have been current for some time concerning the safety of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and the Italian papers announce a similar state of things with the Garisenda of Bologna and the Ghirlandina of Modena. The former dates from 1110, and the latter from 1224 to 1319. The Tower of Pisa, which is about 177 feet in height, is 14 feet 6 inches beyond the perpendicular. It is accentuated from the base, but diminishes half way up and onward. The inclination is said to be greater today than it was in 1817. This has been marked in later years. But there are other disquieting signs. Some of the stonework of the windows is giving way, and the steps are said to be cracking. The soil upon which Pisa's Tower was raised, a Paris contemporary points out, is "permeable and friable," and subsoil water is believed to be penetrating beyond the masonry. Architects and other experts are now engaged in a close observation. They fear that below the foundations there are some considerable voids, and they are of opinion that the inclination of the tower has increased since 1859. The commission appointed to deal with the matter concludes that there is no immediate danger, yet there must be no delay in remedying matters. The Garisenda is about 161 feet feet in height, with an inclination of just 14 feet. The Ghirlandina is said to be the highest of the towers, being 331 feet. It is slightly inclined toward the cathedral, which itself is in a feeble state.

When We Meet Our Kind.

"Attendants in European museums look to it that no American may escape meeting his compatriots," a traveler said. "At Mme. Tustard's wax works exhibition the custodian let me wander around alone for an hour, pushing helplessly over British royalty, but when I got in the neighborhood of Harry Thaw he woke up. How he discovered then that I was an American I do not know; I hadn't said anything. But I coughed, and perhaps that betrayed me. Anyhow, 'That's Harry Thaw,' said he. "I thanked him and passed on. At my heels came the guide. He followed me to the staircase. 'Crippen's down stairs,' he said. Three steps further along he called me again. 'And Gatteau,' he announced. "The trio of my fellow countrymen greeted me with patriotic pride, but the custodian had done his part."

Why We Have No Paris.

There can never be in the United States a real Paris of America until we shall get ranks and orders of nobility, and that will only be when our republic shall develop into a grand imperial nation. Under a newly acquired emperor a titled class would follow as a matter of course, and the easiest way to get it would be to sell the titles. Ten million dollars would buy a dukedom, \$5,000,000 the title of count, and \$1,000,000 that of baron. In the beginning of old world nobility titles were granted by the sovereign for eminent services, but when such a system is started in a great country the ours the simplest way would be to establish an aristocracy of wealth. Until then our great metropolitan cities will never be more than mere centers of business and capital.—New Orleans Picayune.