

OIL MAY REPLACE COAL

Owners of a Steel Plant Are Planning an Experiment With New Process of Heating.

Geologists and other experts differ as to the period that must elapse before the coal fields now actively mining will show signs of exhaustion.

In the meantime vast changes in the production of power for manufacturing purposes are certain to take place.

A century hence the smoke nuisance in cities may not be understood, for the simple reason that all power used in factories and heat for domestic purposes are likely to be supplied by water-generated electricity.

No more interesting experiment with oil fuel has been made, however, than that which the owners of a new steel plant at Pottsville, Pa., are planning.

LUMETER A NEW INSTRUMENT

Device Made By British Opticians to Measure the Surface Brightness of Illuminated Objects.

The "lumeter" is an instrument designed by J. S. Dow and V. H. Mackinlay, British opticians, to measure the surface of brightness of illuminated objects, and it gives a simple means of studying the distribution of lighting.

History vs. Nonsense

Little Robbie came home one day considerably agitated over a question that had come up in school.

"Say, pa, who was Demosthenes?" Robbie's father was one of those individuals who was dissatisfied with the general trend of modern education.

"Demosthenes," he answered sharply, "was one of the early kings of Egypt. I don't see why the schools don't cut out some of their nonsense and teach history."

"Women and Dress." In the matter of dress variety is to the civilized woman what fiery is to the savage.

A Novel for Teenagers. Tenyson would have scooped the idea of a limit of 150,000 words for novels.

Merely an Exception. A man in Massachusetts aged fifty-two, has been sent to the workhouse because a woman aged seventy complained that he kissed her.

Very Much So. "Don't you think the old stories of wife killers so far from being horrible, are really in their allusion, highly amusing?"

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LITTLE BOY HAD A POSER

School Superintendent Could Not Tell Sammy Whether a Duck Has Eyebrows.

"Do not sneer at the juvenile intellect," said John T. Chickering, district superintendent of school in New York.

"It's all right," said she, "until natural history hour comes. Sammy Jones lives on a farm, and he thinks he knows more about natural history than the man who invented it."

"So," said Mr. Chickering, "in the pride of my manhood I told her I would come to her rescue. One short, sharp answer will denote to Sammy that the matinee is over."

"What is it, Sammy?" I asked. "Has a duck eyebrows?" asked Sammy.

CERTIFICATES FOR BRIDES

Campaign That is Being Carried on by Swiss Society of Public Utility for Women.

If the influential "Swiss Society of Public Utility for Women," which has branches in every large town in Switzerland, and has done a great deal of good work, has its way, young Swiss women, both married and unmarried, will be physically and medically examined, like their brothers, who are obliged to enter the army.

The society calls upon Swiss women to undergo the test voluntarily, and hopes to inaugurate the service next year. "We feel ourselves responsible," says the society, "for the health, homes and character of our people, and call upon Swiss young women to undergo a temporary ordeal for the sake of herself, her husband, her children and her country."

"If every young man before his marriage asked for a health certificate of his bride," said a supporter of the scheme to me, "it would be in force tomorrow. The scheme wants the support of both men and women, old and young, of every class, for the benefit of not only Switzerland, but mankind. Every government in the world would be glad to support the movement when once launched. We shall try."

Father's Fortune III Luck to Child. As an indirect result of a fortune inherited by John Caser of Passaic, N. J., his four-year-old son Joseph died recently after two days of suffering.

The family, which had been poor, was preparing a welcome for the father, and among other things to be included in the feast on his return were two large hams. The pot containing the hams had been removed from the stove, and the mother left the room temporarily, when little Joseph stumbled into the big pot and was terribly scalded.

A physician was called and remained with the boy almost constantly, but could not save his life.—New York Herald.

These Dangerous Hatpins. One of the many objections to the big hats which the women are wearing nowadays is that they need to be secured by pins of proportionate magnitude, and that the points of these pins protrude in a manner which renders them a menace to all who come within their reach.

The Veerforted Phrase. "You do not seem much impressed by fervent oratory." "Nope," replied Farmer Corbush. "Did you ever notice a poll parrot's vocabulary?"

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ODD GRAFTING EXPERIMENTS

Prolific Result of the Union of Tomato With Egg Plant and Red Pepper.

A Michigan gardener has been grafting tomatoes on to egg plants and red peppers. He began his experiments in 1896, and named his first achievement—Crimson Cushion tomato grafted to an egg plant—the Kaiser.

Both the Kaiser and the Roosevelt tomatoes responded with alacrity to this particular form of graft. The Kaiser often produces fruit weighing one and a half to two pounds, and will yield a bushel to the plant on suitable soil.

Both are pleasing in shape and color, have a fine flavor and solid flesh, and even in the largest specimens there is no waste. They are excellent for all cooking purposes; e. g., canning, catsup, jelly, etc., since they are not watery, and contain few seeds.

HE DOESN'T LIKE HOLIDAYS. Methodical Man Says They Interfere With His Work and the Routine at Home.

"I don't like holidays," said the methodical man; "they interfere with my work. I recognize fully the fact that days off, days of abstinence from labor, are necessary for our bodily and mental welfare and I take a day off weekly, my day being Sunday, but for many years I have worked on every other day in the week regardless of holidays. Anything that breaks in on me in this observance is disturbing."

SLINGING RED HOT RIVETS. Daily Show in Skyscraper That is Being Erected Attracts Crowds in New York.

At the northwest corner of Broadway and Reads street, New York, they are erecting a new skyscraper. The ironworkers who are putting up the steel framework give a free show every day to people on Broadway by slinging red hot rivets.

French Fashions in Danger. Is Paris losing the lead in feminine fashions? The alarm is given by the French chamber of commerce in Milan.

Tobacco and Theology. It was a Frenchman who discovered a vital connection between English tobacco and English theology. M. Mason visited these shores during the closing years of the seventeenth century, and in 1697 he wrote a book entitled "Memoirs of Travels Over England."

Individuality in Musicians. The musical performer has a twofold duty to the music; he must support and must not contradict. Supplement because no composer can indicate on paper more than the mere shell of the music, but also, never imagine anything that the composer might have indicated, but did not. Might not this train of thought be perhaps carried further? It seems arguable that it applies not only to rhythmic problems, but to the whole field of musical interpretation.

Made of Goggles. In a local restaurant the other day a clerk, when ordering his lunch, made up his mind to try a dish of Hungarian goulash perka. He ate part of the stew in silence, then he observed to the man who sat on the stool next to him: "Odd dish, this goulash."

Not Tragedy Sitting Down. The queen of Prussia received me on the tragic note. At last to shift the ground I asked her to sit down. There is nothing that cuts into a tragic scene better, for when people are seated it becomes a comedy.—Napoleon (Quoted from the "Corsican").

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SHALL CHINESE QUEUES GO?

Oriental Nation Agitated by Proposition to Discard the Ancient Custom of the Manchus.

The great question now agitating China is the proposed abandonment of the queue. It is a matter of pigtail, with which not even threatened partitions by Japan nor the "open door" ranks in importance.

WHAT MISS LIBERTY SAID. Verbatim Report of Her Protest Against the Flying Machine That Whirled Around Her Head.

"These queer flying machines make me so nervous," said Miss Liberty, according to the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "I don't like 'em. They haven't any right to be whirling and chugging around a lady."

"I may be French, but my standing in this community has never been impeached.

"The other day three of these impudent things came whirling around my head, one after the other. If I hadn't been busy holding up my torch I might have done something I'd be sorry for. Really, I never saw such a reckless disregard for common politeness. When the first of the saucy things came toward me I just closed my eyes and averted. How did I know he wouldn't staff the nose of his flying contrivance into my ear?"

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ONLY ABOUT COLLAR BUTTON

Spaniards Become So Excited and Angry Over Every Small Topic of Conversation.

Two Spaniards were conversing earnestly, then excitedly, at last angrily. The young American woman who passed them looked with frightened eyes toward her Spanish guide.

SOME DANGERS OF ARSENIC. Drug Used by Thousands of Women to Bleach Their Skin is an Accumulative Poison.

"You no doubt have observed the lily white complexion of some women. These women are sacrificing years of their lives for that beautiful skin by the use of arsenic," said D. V. Duvall, a chemist of Manchester, England.

"It is a well known fact that thousands of women in all countries of the world use the poison in small quantities to bleach their skin. It is an effective means of whitening and clearing the complexion, but the complexion given by its use has no permanency unless the absorption of the drug be continued.

"Arsenic, as science has long told us, is an accumulative poison. When one takes it either by prescription for the upbuilding of an appetite or for the bleaching of the skin he does not feel any ill effects for several years. The effect of the drug is bracing and makes a person feel like eating. It also aids the digestion. The average user of the poison takes it in such small quantities that he does not realize how much of it will accumulate in his system in the course of four or five years.

"Being an accumulative poison it often takes that length of time to see the results of the drug. Then the user may complain of not being able to control his fingers or toes. Subsequently he loses control of his hands and arms. Arsenical poisoning is the result.

"Five years ago in Manchester there was an epidemic of paralysis. Several thousands of persons were stricken. Several hundred died and the medical profession of England made a thorough investigation of the malady and traced it to beer. The investigators discovered that the brewers were using arsenic in the brewing of their product, which was found to contain a small quantity of arsenic. The drug, imbedded in small quantities in beer, had gradually accumulated in the bodies of thousands of persons, had impoverished their blood and left a great percentage of them helpless."—Washington Post.

SOME FAKES OF CHINATOWN

"Heiress to Enormous Fortune" Talks Freely of the Way in Which Guileless Tourists Are Fooled.

The "heiress to an enormous fortune" walked out of the dive in Chinatown, New York, the other night, and stretched her arms widely. She had scrubbed the painted lines off her face, and had abandoned the kimono of histrionics for the close-fitting tailor-made of Broadway. She looked like what she is—a "wise" person, but neither degraded nor depraved. Once she was an actress in a burlesque show, and, because of illness, failed to get an engagement. So she posed as the "lost heiress" in one of the shows put on in Chinatown for the delation of gullible tourists.

"On the level," she said frankly, over a scuttle in what used to be "Nigger Mike's." "I'm glad the cops have closed this Chinatown dump to the comedians. I'm a sort of an actress, all right, and I played my part the best I knew how. But I got mighty tired pretending to smoke opium, and handing out that talk about being the daughter of wealthy parents, who had fallen for life in the 'Chink village. It was two-day for me for the past year, and I've made money at it.

What's more, I've saved it. These heathen Chinks, that the yaps come down here to see, aren't the worst in the world. When they found I was on the level they sure treated me white. I'm going to take a trip to Europe before I go back to work. I've got the glitter all packed away."

"No doubt," said the man who bought the beer, "your surroundings during the year have been unpleasant."

"I didn't mind that," said the "heiress" candidly. "I was brought up in an alley. What else me sick was to see those rubes stand for the hot air this guides shove at 'em. Hoopie, I want to get out where I can see 'wise' people—if I have to go to the island."

Some National Anthems. The Portuguese will have to seek a new national anthem, for the one hitherto in use is by no means suited to a republic. It was composed by an emperor, Dom Pedro of Brazil, and, like the British anthem, is an invocation on behalf of the sovereign. Possibly the new anthem will be shorter than the old one, which drags somewhat toward the end. The length of most national anthems is in inverse ratio to the size of their proprietary countries. There are only 16 bars in the Russian anthem, and 24 in "Hail Columbia." But in the Siamese anthem there are 74 bars, and the inhabitants of San Marino require 97 bars to express their patriotic fervor.—London Chronicle.

The Right Spirit. "A painter," said Robert Heart, in one of his luminous addresses in New York on art, "should have something of Constable's feeling."

"I hear you sell all your pictures" said Constable to a younger artist. "Why, yes," was the reply. "I'm pretty fortunate that way. Don't you sell all yours?"

"No," said Constable. "I don't sell any of them, and I'll tell you why. When I paint a bad picture, I don't like to part with it, and when I paint a good one, I like to keep it."

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