

HORSE NOT YET OBSOLETE

Will Remain, It May Be Safely Assured, Long After Some Prophets Have Been Forgotten.

Some prophets and sons of prophets who predict that horses on the farms will soon be only a memory will have passed away, and pleasing epitaphs will be carved into the stones which mark their resting place, long before their prophecies become fact. The introduction of the farm tractor will not, as some believe, remove the horses from the fields and from their pastures, Farm Machinery asserts. The advent of the street cars did not have that effect upon horses, neither did the bicycle nor automobile. Today there are more horses in this country than there were ten years ago, and prices are considerably higher. The one thing that the farm tractor will do is to supply the need of power on the farms which horses cannot give. Take away the farm tractors which are in use today and several hundred thousand horses would be required to replace them, or if horses could not be had the lands would have to go unplowed and untilled. The number of tractors now in use will be multiplied many times within the next ten years, but there will be as many horses in this country as there are today, and prices will be even higher than now.

Farm tractors are becoming a necessity, just as electric street cars have become—the same as telephones have supplanted the telegraph in a way and have taken the place of messenger boys and quick delivery of mail. No one will agree that there are not more miles of telegraph wire in use today than ten years ago, nor can it be said that there are fewer messenger boys, yet the telephone is in almost every business house and in many households, doing work for which there was little demand a few years ago.

The farm tractors will simply fit in to the greater needs of the country and will do the heavier chores and drudgery which horses are little fit for. They will not replace the horses, but will simply assist them and make life easier for them. They will also enable farmers to breed better horses because their mothers will be kept for that purpose instead of spending half or more of their time in doing heavy work. Let us not dream too long upon the practicability of the horseless farm. It is a long way off, as yet.

"Bowl of Death."

The latest thriller for amusement parks and similar institutions is a so-called "bowl of death," which turns from a horizontal to a vertical position and then back again as the rider drives his motorcycle at high speed around the rim. A picture of this device appears in the Popular Mechanics Magazine. The bowl is made up of segments of perforated steel, is 13 feet in diameter and is hemispherical in shape except for a flat section at the center and a sharp inward curve at the rim, designed to furnish the rider some degree of protection against the danger of running off the edge. When the motorcyclist begins his ride the bowl is horizontal, with the open side up. As soon as the machine attains sufficient speed to ride on the vertical edge the bowl is slowly swung to a position in which the open side is vertical.

Farming on a Precipice.

On mountain slopes so steep as to appear quite worthless for agriculture, the rice growers of the Philippine islands are producing crops upon made-to-order farms. These famous terraces of the mountain province extend as far as the eye can reach, a work of patience rivaling the pyramids. Imagine a whole mountain laid out in ledge above ledge, the walls almost perpendicular, the strip of field graded just enough to allow the water to flow from one terrace to another without violence, so that every acre is irrigated but not washed out by the current.

The work appears too vast to be the work of human beings. In fact it might better represent some great upheaval of the earth's crust.—Popular Science Monthly.

Growth of Rubber Industry.

The world's production of crude rubber last year amounted to 142,000 tons. This is a substantial increase over 1914. Of this amount of rubber 75,000 tons is used in the United States, and of that amount more than one-half finds its way into Akron, O., the home of the tire industry. It is a matter of record that in 1905 75,000 acres of land were devoted to rubber culture, and in 1915 there were 1,330,000 acres devoted to this industry.

More Noise Than Harmony.

It is said that a din will be produced in a new Richard Strauss symphony by the following instruments: Eight horns, four trumpets, four trombones, two bass tubas, two harps, an organ and celesta, bass drums, kettledrums, bells, cymbals, triangles, tom-tom and a shepherd's bell, also eighteen first violins, sixteen second violins, twelve violas, ten violoncellos, eight double basses, two large flutes, oboes and clarinets.

Plain Duty.

"The customehouse officer who is visiting our Maud is hard to bring to the point, but he certainly is a jewel of a man."
"Then he ought to declare himself."

BEST PART OF FISH WASTED

Public Really Not Educated to Appreciate the Titbits of the Alaska Salmon.

As I saw the Admiral Watson taking on thousands of cases of salmon at Seldovia I asked Mr. Randolph how long the fish then being shipped had been out of the water, relates John A. Slicher, in Leslie's. He said: "Only a day. They go from here to Seattle and can be on your table in New York in three or four weeks after they are caught." Fresh fish!

Mr. Randolph said that one of the choicest delicacies he ever ate was a mess of breaded broiled hearts of the big king salmon. Some of these fish weigh 180 pounds each, while the red or "sockeye" salmon average only eight pounds. "They taste like sweet breads," he added. "It is too bad they are wasted." And so are the fine, large livers, as big as your hand, and the spawn which if it was sturgeon eggs would command a high price for caviar. Plans to utilize some of these products are being studied by Mr. Randolph and by others. Another titbit is the little chunk of sweet, tender meat lodged in the cheek of the salmon, just below the gills. The canners reserve such delicacies for themselves and their friends, but the time will come when they will find special mention on the menus of the highest priced restaurants.

The canners get at wholesale only about thirteen cents for a one-pound can of the best red salmon and only half the price for the pink and even less for the white. The red salmon constituted only three-sevenths of the pack, but three-fourths in value of the entire product. The public prefers the red meat and is willing to pay double price for it. So much for gratifying a taste.

PERFUME LURES THIS AUTO

It Plunges Across Sidewalk Into Big Display Window on Broadway, New York.

Mrs. Harry E. Klein, wife of Charles Dillingham's general manager, was approaching Longacre square, on Broadway, in the new \$5,000 automobile her husband gave her for Christmas, says the New York Telegram. Nearing Forty-seventh street, she made up her mind to run in near the curb and make a purchase. But coming up, "on the wrong side of the road" and heading right at her Christmas gift, was a low, rakish machine of sinister aspect. Mrs. Klein realized her peril. She suddenly turned to the right to save her car and avoid a crash. The machine bounded like a gay torpedo out of peril.

An actor on the sidewalk shouted his best and fled, the Christmas car in full pursuit. Through the plate-glass windows of Peter Feriere's perfumery shop the Christmas gift went. In that window reposed perfumes at nine dollars an ounce. Gasoline and scents of Araby, Hymettus and parts about the Christmas present mingled.

Mrs. Klein, spattered with perfume, climbed out of the car, unhurt.

Wanted Market Price for Votes.

A corpulent negro woman came into the office of Judge George I. Griffith of Kansas City, Kan., one morning and inquired for the "judge." "What can I do for you?" asked the judge. "Is yoh runnin' foh judge again?" she asked. "Yes, I'm trying to get the nomination," the judge replied. "What's the 'sideration foh votes dis yeah?" "What!" almost yelled the judge, beginning to understand the drift of the conversation. "Ah means," explained the negress, "is votes with one dollah er two dollahs dis 'lection?" "Are you aware that it is a serious offense for a person to sell his vote?" sternly demanded the judge. "Ah don' 'zactly undahstan' yoh, judge, but ef yoh means yoh ain't buyin' 'em, dat's all right. Ah believe yoh's no polittish nohow." And with this contemptuous parting shot she left the office.

New Use for Submarines.

It is reported that the Germans are laying mines from submarines. The mines are carried one above another in a vertical air-tight chamber within the submarine. When they are to be laid, water is admitted to the chamber and a door in the outer shell of the hull closing the chamber is opened. The mines are then released, one by one, through proper appliances. The mine anchor sinks to the bottom and, by suitable mechanism, the anchorage cable is unwound to permit the mine to float at the desired depth below the surface. This method of mine laying is absolutely secret, and therefore is proportionately dangerous to the enemy.

Where Accordions Are Popular.

The natives of Madagascar are great lovers of music, and in addition to their own primitive instruments the accordion is very popular. Within the last few years the importation of these instruments has shown a steady increase, about 20,000 being imported annually to the value of about 150,000 francs (\$28,950). These goods have practically all been imported from Germany.

White Crow in Pennsylvania.

A white-feathered crow, according to residents of Logansville, can be seen in Solomon Kessler's woods. Hamilton Joseph says he saw the crow sitting on the limb of a tree with two black crows.

Joseph has a reputation for veracity in all matters.—York (Pa.) Dispatch Philadelphia North American.

PERSIA'S OLD CAPITAL

TEHERAN A CITY THAT HAS SEEN MANY VICISSITUDES.

Now the Center of Warring Interests That Threaten Its Very Existence—Not an Especially Healthy Place in Summer Months.

The capital of a small buffer state between three clashing empires, the English, Russian and Ottoman empire, Teheran in recent years, and more especially since the outbreak of the great war, has had an importance thrust upon it of a most embarrassing kind, begins a war primer of the National Geographic society. Geographically of greater interest to each of the groups of contending powers than any other neutral capital, Persian Teheran is experiencing insuperable difficulties in keeping its destiny clear of those of the warring giants around it.

Teheran, according to the Persian, is very beautiful, but the praise of his country's capital is seldom supported unreservedly by the westerner; for he finds the Persian city of Shiraz far more beautiful and is-fahan the peer of the residence. The capital lies 79 miles south of the Caspian sea, on a plateau of coarse sand and gravel, which is fringed by low, distant hills, and, to the north, by some higher mountains. Mount Damavand is the key to the city's setting, towering in the northeast to a magnificent crest of 19,400 feet high. To the southward stretch level lands, which lose themselves in waste and desert.

The East and West meet and mingle as oil and water in the shah's metropolis. Teheran is, of course, a purely Oriental city, but, like all eastern centers of importance, it has suffered such encroachments from the West as street cars, telegraphs, gas lighting and severely dyed and tailored clothes for men. It is backward in its development and uneven in its improvement. Its Boulevard des Ambassadeurs is more or less of a splendid thoroughfare and it is lined with a European type of shops, two good hotels and a number of fine native palaces. It has one of the largest military parade grounds in the world—550 by 350 yards—roughly paved with strewn cobble stones.

The modern city is not so very old, as it came into existence less than 700 years ago, about the time that ancient Ragha, the crumbling suburb to the south, began to sink into oblivion. Ragha, known in the time of Alexander the Great as Ragae, was the birthplace of Harun al-Rashid, and at one time the golden capital of Parthia. In the days of its supremacy it was as vain and rich and showy as storied Hamadan, the pride of earliest Persia, the city of seven walls in seven colors, with palaces wrought in gold and silver and frescoed with precious stones. Modern Teheran is the inheritor of the traditions and the pride of Ragae and of Hamadan and of the ancient honors of Pasargadae and Persepolis. With the rise of Teheran, Media regained the place that it lost to Persia in the time of Cyrus.

Anarchy has ruled within the capital in a way more or less pronounced during the last several years, and the people of the city have accomplished little toward its modernization and development of its importance as a place of commerce and manufacture. There is an important caravan trade, which passes through Teheran toward the Russian borders, and a certain manufacture of cotton, linen, carpets, shoes and iron products. Its business is enough to give support to a population of about 260,000, in which are included about 600 Europeans.

The climate of Teheran is not a favorable one and especially are the summers unhealthy, when all of the people who can get away go to the foothills in the north. Writing in 1596, a Persian gives a pathetic summary of a Teheran summer. He says that the air was too hot and even smelly, that the water was heavy and unwholesome and, in short, everything so bad that the Angel of Death ran away from it. But, then, this author wrote shortly after a fearful cholera plague had passed over the city. The nearby contrast of the cool summer gardens in the foothills, likely, has conspired to give the Teheran summer a bad standing.

Wisconsin's History.

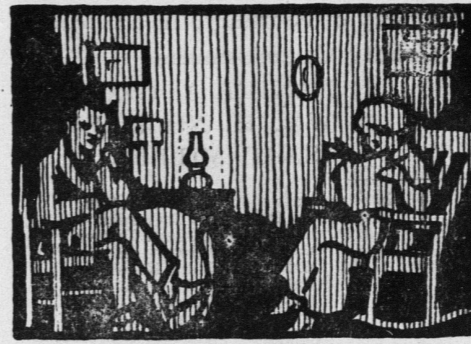
Wisconsin has from time to time been an annex of various other states. Wisconsin from 1805 to 1809 formed a part of Indiana territory. From 1809 to 1818 Wisconsin was embraced in the territory of Illinois. When Illinois became a state all the country north of it, including Wisconsin, was joined to Michigan. After more than forty years of shifting Wisconsin was admitted into the Union with her present boundaries in 1848.

Her Belief.

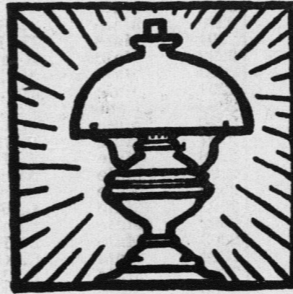
Harlow—My wife is too much of an orthodox to suit me.
Barlow—Makes you get up and go to church Sunday morning, eh?
Harlow—No; but judging from her regular raids on my pocketbook she evidently thinks I am made of "dust."

Newspapers for Moros.

The Habar Sing Tau Sug is a new Moro newspaper, published by the Sulu Press of the Moro mission at Zamboanga, P. I. The publication is printed in Arabic and has as its object the uplift of the Moro people among whom it is widely circulated.



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