

HEALTH SCHOOL

Pennsylvania State Department of Health.

Questions.

- 1. What is the high limit of temperature for a schoolroom?
2. Why should window blinds be open out of school hours?
3. What is the objection to the feather duster?

THE SCHOOL JANITOR

The Janitor of the Sampleville schools had a wooden leg.

That is the reason he was janitor; that and because he was brother-in-law to the Secretary of the School Board.

Sampleville was a fourth-class school district, which means its population was something less than five thousand.

Mr. Carter, the new Principal soon discovered the Janitor was not qualified, either by experience or understanding, to properly perform the duties of his position, and asked for his removal, the wooden leg was, of course, no disqualification, but he insisted that the selection of such an important school functionary should be made for a reason and not an account of an excuse.

Mr. Carter, who was somewhat of a diplomat, called a conference of his teachers, including the Janitor, and told them as they, with him, were accountable for the health of the children in their charge, he assembled them for the purpose of discussing and putting into effect every possible means to promote School Health.

He called attention to the heating plant, a good one—dry air—the cold air brought through a tight shaft from the outside to the heating chamber.

The air did not pass through a sheet of water, according to the most approved system, before entering the furnace, but the outside intake was above the surface of the ground and covered with several layers of cheese-cloth to keep out the dust.

"Every one knows the danger from dust," he said. "When beathed into the lungs, it not only acts as an irritant to the air passages, but often carries dangerous disease germs. The Janitor stands on the front line of our defense. We want him to keep the outside opening of the air intake covered, to change the cheese-cloth when necessary and to look out for breaks and loose joints in the pipe. The school code requires a thermometer in every room, but a thermometer is valueless unless used. Each teacher must appoint a Monitor to record the temperature every hour. These records must be sent to the office of the Principal at the end of each day. The temperature must never be higher than seventy (70) degrees."

The matter of lighting and seating were passed over, but Mr. Carter spoke of the germ destroying property of air and light and directed that at the close of each school day windows should be thrown open and the school house thoroughly aired and that at all times out of school hours which includes Saturdays and Sundays all blinds should be wide open.

The Janitor, interrupting, apologized for going back to the subject of dust, but suggested as mud carried into the school room on the children's feet afterward becomes dust, it might be well to have a mud scraper on the outside step. "Last week I wore out two brooms in sweeping," he said.

"Good," said Mr. Carter. "We will have the scraper, we will also put the brooms in the discard."

The Janitor shook his head. "How can we sweep without brooms?" "Use a soft bristled brush."

"It won't take up the dirt, especially where the floor is rough."

"We will oil the floor and before sweeping, sprinkle it with dust down—if we can't get that we will sprinkle with dampened saw-dust, which is always available."

"I suppose I might as well throw away my feather duster, then?" answered the Janitor; "as there won't be any dust."

"Oh, yes, there will be some dust, but you may throw away your feather duster just the same."

Mr. Carter then explained that the feather duster does not remove dust, but merely alters its position.

The ideal duster is a slightly dampened cloth which removes as well as cleans.

"We will continue the discussion at another meeting," said Mr. Carter, "at which time we will take other subjects, for the present we will put into practice the two principal topics discussed—the keeping down of dust and the keeping down of temperature. From now forward let our slogan be 'No dust and the room temperature never over seventy.'"

Horticultural.

Dyer—Miss Gray was married the year she came out.
Ryer—What you might call nipped in the bud.—Judge.

BUFFALO ON THE INCREASE

Latest Reports Show That the Animal Is Not Likely to Become Extinct, at Any Rate.

The fear that existed not long ago lest the native buffalo would soon become extinct is dispelled by a report of the American Bison Society, which states that there were 3,393 wild and tame buffalo in the United States in January, 1920. This is an increase of about 300 per cent since 1908, in which year there were 1,116 wild and tame buffalo in this country.

Of the nine government-owned herds, two of the largest under the care of the United States Department of Agriculture are located in the Wichita national game preserve, Oklahoma, and on the national bison range at Dixon, Mont. The herd on the Wichita preserve now numbers 154, including 28 calves of this year. In this herd four bulls and 12 cows are ten years of age or over, and one cow is twenty-nine years old. The 15 animals that constituted the original Wichita herd came from the New York Zoological park.

It is planned this year to dispose of some of the surplus buffalo in the government herds in accordance with the provisions made by the 1919 appropriation bill for their care. Public parks and municipalities are the largest patrons. By distributing the animals over the country, if disease or misfortune overtakes the main herds, there still will be stock left with which groups could be built up again.

WHY DRUGGISTS ARE BALD

Seemingly Their Duties Are Manifest, if They Would Satisfy Their Various "Customers."

"Now, what do you think of that?" said the druggist's clerk. "She wanted to know what Thanksgiving is for. Some people think a drug store is an information bureau."

"The other day a woman came in and wanted to know who discovered America. She said she had an argument with a friend about it, and they decided I must be the referee."

He had perched himself on top of a ladder and was trying to juggle three or four boxes at a time when a woman came in and after waiting a minute to be waited on knocked on the counter.

"I want a two-cent stamp in a hurry," she said. He gave her the stamp and made change from a \$5 bill.

"Would you please give me the same kind of medicine that you gave to my mother the last time she came in?" she said.

"Who is your mother?" he asked.

"You know my mother—the fat lady that always buys a bottle of soda every night."

Various Causes of Death.

It is illuminating to read the causes of death. In 1917—a typical year in which the figures were not complicated by the war—14.2 of every thousand persons in the United States died; out of every hundred thousand deaths 153.2 were from diseases of the heart, 149.8 from pneumonia, 146.4 from tuberculosis, 107.4 from kidney troubles, 82.9 from apoplexy, 81.6 from cancer, 79 from diarrhoea, 25.3 from diseases of the arteries, 17.2 from influenza, 16.9 from diabetes, 16.5 from diphtheria, 16.3 from bronchitis, 108.8 from accidents of all sorts. Arterial diseases and diabetes show an increase that is really alarming; for in 1900 only 6.1 per 100,000 died of the former and only 9.7 the latter. The e with those of the heart and kidneys are diseases that result directly from the strain and stress of modern life.—Popular Science Monthly.

The Sick Miner.

Judge Elbert H. Gary, on his return from Europe, discussed the English coal strike at a luncheon.

"The men demanded an unconditional two-shilling increase," he said "but the government couldn't very well grant them that, because each former increase had been followed by a decrease of output. So many miners you see found that they could make enough in three or four days to keep them all the week."

"So many miners, in fact, were like the sick miner. As the sick miner pale and drawn, lay in his bed the doctor entered."

"The doctor examined him and then said: 'I prescribe complete rest. You tired yourself out in the last strike.'"

Gave to "Unworthy Poor."

A Missouri man has left a will establishing a fund for the aid of the poor of his town, Eldorado Springs, Mo., every Christmas. It is especially suggested that the gifts be distributed to unfortunate persons, "whether they are worthy or unworthy according to the standards of society."

Those in a position to give money to fellow beings in misfortune so long have insisted that the poor to be aided must be "worthy" that it is a great relief to find one man who does not attach the obnoxious string to his act of generosity. The ne'er-do-well with an empty stomach probably feels just as hungry as the pious person whose fortunes have fallen.—Detroit Free Press.

War Memorial on Mountain.

The furious battles fought during the war on the Hartmannswillerkopf, in Alsace, will be commemorated by the erection upon its apex of a huge cross which will be visible from the Rhine valley. The monument will be erected on a portion of the summit of the mountain which will be considered as sacred ground.

HAVE FUN WITH BRIDEGROOM

Harmless Teasing by Bridal Attendants Is a Feature of the Afghan Wedding Ceremony.

The ceremony of the mirror, is perhaps, the oldest custom in connection with the Afghan wedding ceremony. A mirror is placed before the bride, and the bridegroom is asked to sit at the bride's left. A shawl is held over them, and the bride unveils and looks in the mirror. Husband and wife see each other's face for the first time. It is their first real meeting, says Ikbal Ali Shah, in Asia magazine. The bride is shy and does not open her eyes, and the bridesmaids and others chaff her freely.

An engraved silver bowl is then brought, with a little sherbet and a plate of white rice pudding. The bridegroom drinks a little of the sherbet and offers the bride a sip. She closes her lips tight, but force is applied and a spoonful put into her mouth; so also with the rice pudding. A shower of roses announces the termination of this rite. When the bridegroom attempts to rise, he finds he is held down to the floor; a corner of his coat has been sewed to the carpet. There is a roar of laughter. The offender is found—probably a younger sister of the bride. She refuses to undo the stitches unless a gold coin is given to her. As soon as this toll is paid, the bridegroom calls his attendants to bring his shoes, but one of them is missing. Some one declares she knows who has the shoe. It is returned on payment of two gold coins, and the bridegroom is freed from his tormentors.

BEAUTY IN COMMON THINGS

Kitchen Garden Will Furnish Really Exquisite Ornaments for the Living Room Flower Vases.

Have you ever thought of going to the kitchen garden to find something wherewith to fill your flower vases, when nothing can be found in your garden proper? asks a writer in Christian Science Monitor. Why wander aimlessly around that said garden, just because it is a flower garden, when a little farther on in the kitchen garden that gorgeous blaze of pale lemon color is just the thing to go with your deep-blue jars and jugs. "But," you will probably say, "that's cauliflower gone to seed, and who ever heard of decorating a drawing room with cauliflower?"

Prejudice, mere prejudice! Cast it to the winds, you will never regret it, and go and cut spray after spray of those delicate lemon blossoms, being careful to strip the leaves from the stems, then collect all the deep-blue Chinese jars and wedgwood jugs you can muster, arrange the cabbage flowers therein, and, judiciously placed on chests, window sills and bureaus, their effect will be absolutely charming.

The blossoms seem to arrange themselves, each spray standing out clearly from the parent stem, not all falling together as laburnum has a way of doing, when one tries to arrange it in vases. A combination of warm-gray stone walls, old prints, pale blue and mauve chintzes, and the pale-clear lemon of cauliflower blossoms in blue jars in quite delightful, though other color schemes would give an equally happy effect.

Unwittingly Set Fashion.

An anecdote in connection with the glove shows how fashions are started. A young and beautiful duchess, having promised to be at an entertainment given for a charitable object, in Trouville, France, found herself late in preparing. She hurriedly took up her gloves and put them on in the carriage. As she entered the brilliantly lighted room, she found, to her dismay, that she had put on one black and one white. The mistake had arisen from the maid having laid out two pairs, not knowing which her lady would prefer—black or white.

Imagine the surprise of the duchess on perceiving that, in all subsequent entertainments of the season, the ladies wore odd gloves, corresponding with the colors of the dress.

Gorgeous Insects.

To gain some idea of the splendor of some of the world's moth and butterflies one should glance over nearly complete collections of them from the tropics as they occur in South America, Asia, Africa and the great eastern and western archipelago, with certain parts of Australia. Such collections are to be found in the United States National museum in the reserve and duplicate series. There is a superb species that comes from Africa, wherein the "tails" to the hinder pair of wings are over eight inches in length. Then we have the gorgeous Atlas moth of the East Indies that measures a foot across from tip to tip of its upper wings.

Glow-Worms.

Glow-worms haunt the open, weedy-covered water-tables beside high roads. Here, after dusk, they scatter the grass with points of golden-green and liquid light. It is a genial rather than a cold radiance—warmer than many stars. At short range its brilliance is extraordinary; but it does not penetrate and only reveals a few grass blades and inches of earth round the source of light. Yet upon those grass blades and grains of sand and soil exist many invisible creatures, who must see, or feel, the glow-worm's little lamp; and to them her passing is far more tremendous than to us would be the blaze of a great comet.—"A Shadow Passes," Eden Phillips.

FARMER OWES MUCH TO MULE

Animal Is Hard and Rugged Worker and Almost Indispensable in Many Localities.

The mule, like everybody else, has his place. He is considered a bad actor. Fathers caution their sons about going near any animal with long ears and rosy tail. The sons know what the animal will do because they have been looking over the "funny paper" each Sunday and were delighted in seeing the mule fold up and let loose with a kick that sent a man through the side of a barn or over the fence. But in spite of this undesirable advertising the mule is with us today on more farms than ever before. He is a hard and rugged worker and is especially adapted to the more hilly farms of our agricultural sections. Even through the Middle West there are some counties that have more mules than horses. In 1867, the mules of the United States numbered 822,000, with an average value of \$66.94. In 1890 the number was 2,321,000, valued at \$78.25. By 1914 the number had increased to 4,123,000, with a value of \$119.84 per head. On January 1, 1920, the number was 4,995,000 and the value per head was \$147.

The mule has gained rapidly in popularity, in many localities taking the place of the horse, and has also prevented the introduction of the tractor in many places. There are not a few mule ranches over the United States, the owners finding it a paying kind of stock to raise. The demand is increasing and those having them for sale cannot supply the market.—Thrift Magazine.

CONDEMN TERM "FAIR SEX"

English Women Go on Record as Opposed to Phrase "Belonging to a Bygone Age."

It has been officially declared in England that women, en bloc, are neither "weak" nor "fair." At least the Women's Freedom league, under the leadership of Councilor Margaret Hodge, has put a ban on the terms "fair sex" and "weaker sex." "Spinster" and "mother-in-law" have also been put on the feminine index. Further, it is averred, once and for all time that: Woman's judgment is as good as man's.

Women talk less than men. Women can keep a secret. "One irritating custom," said Miss Hodge, "comes from an age when to be fair was woman's first and foremost duty. The only women who counted were for ornament rather than for use. Women may be the weaker sex physically, but certainly not morally. The name mother-in-law is still the standard of farces and comic literature. It is an idea from some bygone age."—London Chronicle.

Chinese Art.

The applicability of Chinese art for interior decoration of any period is being strikingly illustrated in a recent gallery opening in New York. The idea that anything Chinese is gaudy is being gradually displaced. In the carving of gems, the working of metal and in tapestry designs the Chinese are without rivals. The owner of the new gallery has fitted up half a score of rooms in period designs—there is the old French and English, the American colonial, the early Italian and the Holland rooms. Fitting snugly into the general tone of the room are marvels of Chinese craftsmanship in the form of hangings, carved woodwork, tapestry and lamps. It is a revelation to many and has a new conception of Chinese craftsmanship.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Big Task.

One of the big causes of delay in the movement of freight is the heating of the journal boxes of car axles, commonly called "hot boxes." When one journal box in a train gets seriously hot it is necessary to stop the whole movement of traffic until the condition can be remedied. This makes very timely a series of tests now being carried on at Purdue university, to determine accurately the benefit to be derived by using ventilated lids instead of the solid lids now almost universally used on the axle journals. The tests consist of eight-hour runs with heavy loads at high speed, during which accurate records are kept of the temperature attained in each class of apparatus.

Perfume Hunters.

There seems to be no good reason why in this country the gathering of sweet-smelling herbs and flowers for the perfumery trade might not be found profitable. It has recently become a considerable industry in rural parts of England, a great many women and children having taken it up. In April the picking of cowslips begins, those flowers being in demand as a cure for sleeplessness, and also for "potpourri" and sachets. Broom and elder flowers follow. Mullein and mallow, bergamot, peony petals, rose petals and red poppy petals bring good prices; likewise raspberry leaves, sage, mint, balm and thyme.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Telephone Statistics.

Telephone wires in the United States have reached the enormous total length of 22,827,188 miles, the new government census reveals. There are 11,716,520 telephones, connected through 53,234 organized systems or lines. The total number of messages in 1917 was 21,845,722,335, or 211 per capita.

Shoes.

Shoes.

\$2-98 \$2.98 \$2.98

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200 Pairs Children's Shoes

—sizes from 6 to 2. These shoes have been sold in the last year at prices as high as \$5.00. The lot includes Misses' good quality Vici Kid and Youths' High Top Genuine Elk Shoes, with buckle tops.

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In Voiles we are showing a wonderful line of dark and light grounds—all the new Georgette designs.

In Silks we are showing all the new weaves at prices that will be pleasing to all.

Handsome Spring Coats and Suits

A wonderful line of Spring Coats and Suits now on display for Easter at very reasonable prices. Come in early and select your garment while the choice is good.

Sweeping Clearance Sale

All Winter Coats and Suits at less than cost in order that they are not carried over. All must be sold now at less than manufacturer's cost of today's low prices.

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