

Bellefonte, Pa., September 28, 1923.

CANNED MUSIC IN YUCATAN Demand for American Talking Ma chines is Brisk, Says Our Consul

at Progreso.

The talking machine is as popular in Yucatan as in the United States, according to a report to the Department of Commerce from O. G. Marsh, United States consul at Progreso. Small, cheap instruments cheer the Indian hut, ordinary machines are found in middle-class homes, and the most elaborate cabinet styles grace the mansions of the wealthy. Perhaps no other modern invention has done more to enliven these homes. An enterprising local dealer has popularized and capitalized this idea in a phrase: "How happy is the home that has its phono-

The American machine has monopolized the market. Old styles with horn have had an extensive sale, but cabinet designs are preferred by most customers. A few portable instruments have been sold.

Practically all orders have been placed by importers direct with factories on factory-price quotations, railway and steamship freight and marine insurance being attended to by American agents of importers or by freight forwarders at American ports. The largest importer, and the one who has done a large part of the local business, has purchased on open credit. Other firms have been, and will have to be dealt with in accordance with their financial standing and credit rating. The most recent shipment, by a manufacturer just entering the Yucatan market, was on a documents against payment basis.

Almost all records sold in Yucatan are of well-known American makes. The most popular have been American fox trots and Latin-American songs and dance music. The principal importers have dealt with manufacturers of records on the same basis as with makers of phonographs, but a considerable number of records enter in a manner difficult to trace and are sold at varying prices by small dealers.

THIS MADE TRIP BETTER

Fall of the Big Brute's Suitcase Gratified the Other Passengers Very Much.

They got on the train together-a gruff, pink-cheeked giant of a knowit-all husband. He didn't help her up the steps. To his credit it must be admitted that he was carrying their heavy suitcase—though maybe due to his absent-mindedness or the presence of a quart inside. He lifted the suitcase to put it on the steel luggage rack overhead. And he grunted that he knew what he was doing when she suggested a fear that the heavy suitcase might break down the rack. She started to insist, but he snapped, cutting her off. So they settled in their day-coach seats.

The little woman uncomfortably kept glancing up at the rack and unconsciously fingering her shoulder as if preparing it for a blow. Again she

ventured, "Dear I'm afraid-" "Mind your own business; it'll hold," he growled.

Bang! The words were no sooner out of his mouth than down came the suitcase. It struck squarely on his head, crushing his new derby hat. The rest of the journey was pleasant for the other passengers.-Hiawatha (Kas.) World.

Smallest Bank.

in the town of Normal, a small suburb of Lincoln, Neb., is the smallest bank in the country. It was organized three years ago with a capital of \$15,000. Today its assets have increased more than tenfold. In a small frame structure only 16 by 20 feet, it represents a total amount of resources which might easily be the envy of some of our big banking houses, for its stockholders are conservatively estimated to be worth upward of \$3,-000,000. While some banks in the last three years have had to charge off a great many losses, this bank has had the perfect record of no losses and no change in the 18 stockholders or in the directors or officers.

A Mean Statement.

As Lawyer Flubdub stepped out of the elevator a man in the corridor fainted. The attorney assisted the man to the sidewalk, called a taxi and helped him in. The unknown showed every sign of collapse. Of course, a crowd gathered. Somebody asked: "Is that a client

of Flubdub's?" And somebody answered: "I guess

"What made him collapse like that?" "Oh, Flubdub probably told him the amount of the fee."-Louisville Courier-Journal.

The queerest cargo ever taken overseas by a British steamer was that repently discharged at a Moroccan seaport. It consisted of 2,000,000 gallons of water, required for the use of the Spanish troops who were fighting rebel tribesmen. A ship conveying idols and images to the west coast of Africa was recently wrecked in the Mediterranean, the coast near by being strewn with "false gods" of all de-

-The "Watchman" gives all the ws while it is news.

NEAT PIECE OF MECHANISM

Clock in San Diego, Calif., Se Adjusted as to Tell the Time in Many Lands.

There is a wonderful clock in San Diego, Calif., which tells the time in all nations at the same moment. That is to say, it gives the time in nearly a score of the principal cities of the world. It has twenty dials, four of them four feet in diameter and the rest smaller ones on the faces of the larger ones. It also gives the hour, minute and second of San Diego time and the day of the week and day of the month. It is twenty-one feet high, and is considered by many to be the largest and best-built street clock any-

where in the United States. The master clock is inclosed in plate glass at the bottom of the pedestal, and the intricate parts and complicated action are plainly visible. It was made in one shep, and cost \$3,000. Fifteen months were required to construct and finish it. The jeweling is of very fine tourmaline, agate, jade and topaz. The motive power is a 200pound weight, and the clock winds itself automatically. It is illuminated at night.

TRACTORS USED IN LOGGING

Have Displaced Ancient Methods as the Mahogany Fields Are Becoming Depleted.

Tractors are being used in increas ing numbers in the mahogany industry in British Honduras, according to a report to the Department of Commerce from Consul Early, Belize. For over 200 years there has been a more or less successful exploitation of the mahogany and cedar forests by means of primitive although expensive methods, but with the depletion of easily accessible timber more modern methods of logging are required for profitable exploitation.

The result has been an increase in the use of tractors for hauling logs. The largest mahogany contractor in British Honduras has invested nearly \$100,000 in tractors manufactured in the United States during the present mahogany season. With the use of about seventy tractors this operator expects to get out about 5,000,000 feet board measure. Several other companies are also using tractors. It is estimated that about seventy-five tractors have been imported in the past twelve months for hauling logs.

A Wrong View. Prof. F. E. Wolfe, the farm expert of the University of Nebraska, said

at a recent dinner: "Farmers don't go in enough for cooperation and tractors, and, in short, the modern method. These things mean cheaper production and larger profits, but too many farmers are like

" 'Farm products cost more and more all the time,' a city chap complained to Dingus one day.

"'Yes,' the old fellow answered. When a farmer's supposed to know the botanical names of the crops he plants and the pharmaceutical names of the fertilizers that grow the crops he plants, and the entomological names of the insects that are killed by the fertilizers that grow the crops he plants-why, naturally somebody's got to foot the bill."

Traveling Such a Bore. Transcontinental traveling may be-

come a bore, even to a miss of five. Betty Jean Thatcher of Los Angeles. age five, is visiting her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Moore, in Ruskin

Mother and daughter got off the Los Angeles train in Chicago en route, and mother started toward the Indianapolis train. Betty, travel-worn, expressed herself:

"Oh, do we have to get on another train! Can't we get on something else?"-Indianapolis News.

Groundless Fear.

"People are worried about having wireless aerials about their homes when these big electrical storms come," said a Detroit radio engineer, "but it really amounts to nothing. They never remember they also have telephone wires running into their houses, and they are theoretically more dangerous than the wireless aerial, because they are strung over a much greater space along the streets than the ordinary aerial."

A Natural Query. "Aaron A. Piffer has had to sell his

dry goods store and move to the city," related the landlord of the tavern at Tomhicken. "He made money in a modern way here, ever since he started twenty years ago. But about six months ago he married a handsome young second wife. Well, she said she preferred death to living in a small

town like this." "But," returned a hypercritical guest, "couldn't she have enjoyed both privileges by remaining here?"

Substitute for Rubber. Chemists have worked out what they claim to be a practicable substitute for India rubber. They use as a basis the oil of the soja bean. Two parts of this oil are treated with one part of nitric acid, and the result is an emulsion. This emulsion is heated to the boiling point of water, when it becomes converted into a uniform gummy mass. Upon being washed in water, this mass is dissolved into dilute ammonia water (5 per cent) and from this solution a precipitate is obtained by neutralizing with some dilute acid. This precipitate is again washed with water and heated to about 122 degrees

SILENCE AT AUCTION SALES

System Employed in Holland Might Be Found of Value in the United States.

Auction sales can now be carried on by electricity through a method that has been tried out in Holland. The proverbial taciturnity of the people in that country accounts for the success of the method there, and no doubt most people would be glad to do away with the objectionable noise that prevails at auctions.

In the present case, the method is applied to selling eggs in the weekly markets which are held in the agricultural districts. The eggs are sold in lots of 2,500 in this case. Each bidder has a numbered seat provided with a push button and electric wiring that goes to the seller's stand. A large dial is set up here and it contains figures around it ranging from lowest to highest prices. Near it is a board with corresponding sets of figures and each one of these can be lighted up by an electric lamp. The seller explains the nature of the goods and then makes a contact to a motor device so that the hand moves very slowly over the dial. When at a certain figure, a bidder presses his button and this lights up the corresponding figure on the board and the hand stops. Then it goes on again and a second bidder can indicate a larger figure, and so on. The board shows at once which is the highest figure bid and an electric register also indicates the number of the seat occupied by the bidder.

ARROWS MADE TO "WHISTLE"

Ingenious Device Employed by the Chinese in Their Conduct of Military Examinations.

In the Chinese collection at the American Museum of Natural History are to be found some unusually fine specimens of whistling arrows. These were sometimes known as "drum arrows" and were employed, in connection with the drum bow, by the Chinese in military examinations. The arrows are made of wood, about three feet in length, have three rows of feathers extending up about a foot from the end and have heads composed of bone or wood in which are apertures, so arranged that as the arrow passes through the air, the wind enters these holes and produces a sharp or deep sound, according to the size of the

The drum bow used with these arrows was shot on foot at a target consisting of six concentric leather rings, alternately red and white with a yellow center. The candidate had to shoot his arrow so that it would pierce the target. It was not counted if it merely touched the target.

Sell Wolverine Fur to Eskimo.

Selling furs for consignment to the Eskimo sounds like a paradox, but that is exactly what took place at the opening day of the sale of the Canadian Fur Auction Sales, Limited. The explanation was more simple than it looked. F. H. Pingres, general manager and also auctioneer for the sale, said that the Eskimos of Alaska have plenty of beautiful seal, fox and sim-

But each Eskimo with any pretensions as a beau desires above all things to have a wolverine headdress for himself and his favored squaws. So the Alaska dealers load up with the choicest skins they can get from the Eskimo and bring them to auction sales in Montreal, where they barter them for wolverine skins, which they take back to Alaska for the adornment of the Eskimo beaux and belles. The Eskimos are satisfied, and the various bartering processes are not done without profit.-Exchange.

Submarine Thawing.

The use of electricity for thawing trozen water pipes of city houses is no longer uncommon. An unusual undertaking, however, was the successful application of the process to a six-inch submarine main, 1,700 feet long, that, resting on the bed of the East river, connects North Brother island with New York city.

When an ordinary waterpipe is to be thawed both ends are cut, and the passage of a comparatively small electric current through the resistant pipe metal generates enough heat to melt the ice in the pipe. Although the same general plan was followed with the frozen submarine main, all the conditions were so different that it took five days of applying powerful electric currents and of constant pumping with a pressure of eighty pounds to do the work.

Most Wonderful of All Prodigies. An eleven-year-old Russian boy, Shuro Cherkaski, who has recently arrived in this country, is pronounced by some well-known musicians to be the greatest piano prodigy that has ever been heard. He plays many of the most difficult compositions with the understanding that is to be found only in old and experienced artists. His family was reduced to abject poverty before the lad was discovered, having parted with all their possessions for the purchase of fuel and food.

Solomon to the Summer Girl. Consider thy apparel, for fine feathers make fine birds, and no maiden with the glad rags is as homely as the Lord made her. Yet be not extravagant in thy attire, lest some youth shall flee from thee, saying, "Wherewithal shall I get the scads to doll up this Jane in the similitude of the fashion plate to which she tomed?"—Miami Metropolis

THIS "FOG-HORN" NOISELESS

Seems an Anomaly, but Explanation Given Should Convince the Most Skeptical.

This is the name given to a signaling device to prevent collisions at sea. Part of it consists of a siren that by means of high-pressure steam will produce powerful air waves with the low frequency of fourteen or fifteen vibrations a second. It is contended that these waves, although too low for the human ear to hear, have a great penetrating power. When they are interrupted by some object, such as a ship, a cliff or an iceberg they are, it is said, reflected or echoed back to a special receiving apparatus on the deck of the vessel,

Since this receiver is fitted with an ingenious apparatus for registering the strength of the reflected vibrations, it may be possible to learn the distance and even the nature of the object that has intercepted the sound waves. The siren is designed to be mounted on deck so that at night or in a fog, when the presence of icebergs or of other ships is suspected, it can be turned in various directions to explore the sea ahead of the ship. The apparatus is said to be still in an ex perimental stage.

FIRST OF LIVING ORGANISMS

Expert Opinion Is That Earliest Forms In Lakes Must Have Been of Vegetable Origin.

Interesting studies have been made ty Monti on the earliest forms of life appearing in the Alpine lakes. One of these, the lake of the Seracs, has been created within human memory, and it seems to justify the statement that the first living forms inhabiting lakes are of a vegetable nature. Only five living species are found in the lake of the Seracs, all of them plants and four of the order of diatoms. In the older lakes of Ong and of Tignaga animal forms begin to appear, feeding upon the diatoms. The first two steps in the populating of a lake, according to Monti's conclusions, are, first, the appearance of diatoms absorbing carbonic acid dissolved in the water, and, second, the appearance of simple animal organisms, such as rhizopods, whose nourishment depends upon the pre-existing vegetable forms. Geologists have supposed that the first living forms in the oceans were vege-

They Met Their Pledge.

Several members of the Butler Uni ersity chapter of the Delta Delta Delta sorority recently heard that a display of late fashions in women's finery was planned at a convention of dry goods merchants in Indianapolis. The young women, who were accepted as models for the display, were to receive \$75. It happens that the chapter pledged \$500 to the Butler college endowment fund, and that one-fifth of the amount pledged was due in September. With unusual loyalty to their school and their chapter, the members banded together and went after the job. They got it, and they planned to apply the \$75 to their \$100 pledge in September, all the while wondering where they could get the remaining

The display was given. It was successful. Out came the man in charge. "You've done your work so well," he said, "that we've decided to make it \$100," and he handed a \$100 bill to the girls.-Indianapolis News,

His Only Solace.

Cortlandt Bleecker, the New York Hubman, said on the Aquitania:

"I was in Berlin one pay day, and it was a funny sight to see the Berlin work people carrying their wages home in suitcases, wheelbarrows and hand carts. A man earning \$20 a week, normal exchange, would have, you know, some 25,000 marks in notes of small denomination. No light bur-

"I spoke to a German banker about the demoralized German mark. I said I supposed it distressed him consider-

"'Yes, it does,' he agreed, and then

he added: "'Sometimes, by heaven, I feel so depressed that to cheer myself up a little I take a few marks out and see how many rubles I can get for them."

Vivacious Engine.

An engineer was giving evidence in a case in which a farmer was suing a railway company for damages resulting from the death of a cow, which had been run into by a train.

The farmer's lawyer was heckling the engineer, and kept reverting to his pet question, which was:

"Now, tell me, was the cow on the track?" At last the engineer became angry,

and answered the question: "Well, if you want me to tell the real truth, the cow was bathing in the stream the other side of the track. But the engine saw her, leaped off the rails, dashed over the bank, and, landing right on top of the cow, strangled her to death without a word."-Milwaukee Journal.

Novelties in Weddings. At a recent English wedding the

seven attendants of the bride were attired in colors representing the favorite flowers of the bride. The effect was very brilliant.

At a similar function there were five child bridesmaids who looked charming in Joshua Reynolds costumes of white muslin with quaint mop caps, blue sashes and bunches of king roses. The little ones looked as they had just stepped from the



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