

KNOW LITTLE ABOUT OLD NEPTUNE'S BED

Scientists Have Arranged to Make Discoveries.

The discovery of a plateau only 150 feet below the surface of the water of the Atlantic ocean was recently announced.

This is only one of many discoveries, made in the last few years, which show that our knowledge of the ocean bed is remarkably poor.

Then, in 1901, the cable ship Britannia discovered a mountain range in the South Pacific which was in every way like a range on the dry land.

Several small islands are only the peaks of a mountain range which have broken the surface. The Bermudas rise straight up from a depth of two and a half miles, while St. Helena and Ascension island are also mountain peaks.

It is curious that although the bottom of the sea has not changed for a million years, man still knows little about it. Many expeditions are now setting out with the object of salvaging some of the \$1,500,000,000 worth of gold which is hidden in the depths, and these expeditions will, no doubt, make many discoveries concerning undersea scenery.

Diving apparatus invented during the last few months enables man to descend to depths undreamed of ten years ago; but the terrific pressure at great depths is still a great obstacle. Quite as important is the invention of a mercury vapor lamp, which enables films to be taken at great depths.

Make Money From Pest

The extent to which rabbits and hares are a pest to the farmers and stock raisers of New South Wales, Australia, is shown to some extent by the numbers slaughtered each year, notwithstanding which these little animals do immeasurable damage.

The flesh of these animals forms a common article of diet both in the cities and towns and in the country, especially in the winter, when large numbers of men are engaged in their capture and treatment. The year 1919-20 was the record year for the export trade, the total value of exports being \$15,650,000.

A Woman's Way

An unusual weapon with which to fight a burglar was used by Mrs. Clara Remick, of Lodi, when she was awakened by a noise early one morning. Mrs. Remick, fully satisfied that there was someone in the house, jumped from her bed and, grabbing a feather pillow, dashed into her kitchen and chased a burglar from the room.

Pigs That Speak French

Some time ago a French girl visited some farmers in Illinois. She heard two boys quarreling.

When asked the cause of the misunderstanding the older boy said: "Well, you see, mademoiselle, that's about old man Tyson's pigs. I was telling Bud those pigs are French, and he said they are not."

The foreman, rather puzzled, inquired, "What makes you think Mr. Tyson's pigs are French?"

"Well," answered the boy, "because from morning till evening those pigs grunt out-ou."

Brazil Advertising

Business interests in Brazil, one of the large coffee producing countries, have turned to advertising as a means of coping with the so-called coffee boycott started by some South American coffee drinkers.

Get your job work done here.

Mankind's Advance in Comfort and Health

Just a hundred years ago Thomas C. Wales, a Yankee boot and shoe merchant of Boston, bought from a wandering sailor a number of crudely made shoes fashioned from "India rubber" by South American natives.

Mr. Wales, however, saw in them what Doctor Johnson once called "the potentiality of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice." He conceived the idea of shaping rubber shoes over the standard lasts so that they might be worn over shoes to protect them from the weather.

It was not until 1858 that Mr. Wales patented the waterproof and cold-proof overshoe made of cloth and rubber together. He called that invention "Wales' Patent Arctic Gaiter," and from this name arose the familiar appellation of "arctics" for overshoes that is heard even to this day from the lips of the elder generation.

We little appreciate how modern many of the comfortable things of life are. For example, the fathers of men now living knew nothing of window screening, and the plague of flies in the house was something of which we today have little conception.

Insect Evolution

The earliest insects on earth had six wings—one pair of wings to match each pair of legs, according to the results of the researches of Dr. Herbert Bolton, director of the Bristol (England) museum. Doctor Bolton discovered the remains of these strange creatures, the first living things that ever conquered the air.

Another Breed of Pups

Charles Ponzi, who made a fortune in Boston some years ago through the manipulation of foreign exchange, and then smashed horribly, said in Jacksonville the other day:

"I'm down here in Florida to try and make another fortune. Florida real estate, you know. I want to pay back all my creditors, too."

"I'm like the chap who complained at his club about the heavy losses he had sustained in Wall street. But a broker slapped him on the shoulder and said:

"Cheer up, brother. You mustn't go on like this because you've dropped a plunk or two. Come down to my office some morning and I'll give you a few pointers."

"It isn't pointers I'm after," said the loser; "it's retrievers!"

Use Newspapers

When you find the woodbox empty, go for the pile of newspapers. Take half a dozen sheets and roll them up cornerwise. Fold the roll to the size required, perhaps doubling into thirds, and tie together. Place some crushed paper in bottom of grate and lay four or five of the rolls over this. Scatter coal over it and light from the bottom with a piece of newspaper, just as you would a wood fire.

Colon Gone Wrong

A teacher of English was sorely afflicted with conditions that seemed to mean a surgical operation. One examination after another, with the X-ray liberally applied, finally disclosed the source of the pain.

"You have no disease in your appendix," said her medical advisor, "nor elsewhere that I can discover, except in your colon."

"Dear me!" she exclaimed. "Here I have been wrestling all my life with commas and periods and semicolons, only to be told, at my age, that my colon has gone wrong."

Turning to Water Power

All of the countries of Europe, save England, have, because of the high price of coal, been making rapid progress in harnessing their water powers to produce electricity. For the three years ending in 1923, 3,400,000 horsepower of water-power produced electricity was added to the total capacity of the European hydro-electric generating stations.

SHARK GOD'S WRATH OF LITTLE MOMENT

Overcome by Peace Offering, or by Cement?

Hawaiian natives prophesied calamity when ground was broken in October, 1909, for the construction of Pearl Harbor, America's strongest naval station, on the shore of the island of Oahu, near the city of Honolulu.

When, on February 17, 1913, the immense coffer dam collapsed, the natives fancied that the shark god had avenged himself for the desecration of his temple. The construction company in charge of the naval works believed that faulty engineering rather than one of the ancient island gods was responsible for the collapse, and requested authority to proceed with the project.

When work began anew in December, 1914, the natives, believing that another disaster was inevitable, did what they could to avert it, and retained a female "kahuna" or priestess. They believed she possessed the ability to appease the wrath of the shark god by making offerings, and engaged her to conduct her rites on the shores of Pearl Harbor during all the time that the dry dock was being reconstructed.

The pumping began. It was noticed that a muddy streak arose in the water within the docks. The Hawaiians then insisted that the shark god was again attempting to break down the structure by boring through the basin. As the last foot of water was pumped out the remains of an immense shark were revealed on the bottom of the dock, and naturally the Hawaiians believed that it was the god which had destroyed the first dock.

Engineers who have studied both the first and second dry docks have been inclined to scout the efforts of the priestess in appeasing the shark god, and to credit the success of the second work to the fact that the present basin has a concrete thickness of 16 feet, while the collapsed dock had a base of only 8 feet.

Cancer on Increase

A careful analysis of cancer statistics gathered by the United States census bureau over a period of about twenty years in ten Eastern states reveals definitely that cancer mortality is from 25 to 30 per cent higher than it was about twenty years ago, according to Dr. J. W. Schereschewsky of the United States public health service, who made the statistical analysis and reported it to the American Medical association.

Plan Prehistoric Park

Twenty-seven acres of land just south of Hollywood will be converted into a prehistoric park by the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art. A large number of bones of prehistoric animals have been found in the asphalt beds in this small area.

Counting the Pennies

"Getting to work from an all-night poker party is sometimes something of a problem," says a downtown business man. "The other morning after an awfully bad session, I found I had just a few minutes in which to reach my office several miles distant. I had only \$1.24 but I called a taxicab. I kept one eye on the meter and when the bill amounted to \$1.10, I ordered the driver to stop. I wanted the ten cents for coffee and sinkers and the four cents for luck.—Detroit News.

Little Choice

First Casualty—What happened to you? "Been teaching my wife to drive the car." "Ah, ha! Why didn't you act sensibly, as I did? Mine wanted me to teach her, and I refused."—Judge.

She Knew the Game

Traffic Cop—I'm sorry, miss, but I've got to tag your car. You know what that means? The Sweet Young Thing—Certainly. Now I chase somebody else and tag them and then they're "it."—Life.

Doughnut Revealed as Poison Gas Producer

Life seems to be just one pence after another. Here is a man who has died from the fumes of cooking doughnuts. Having reached the saturation point with all the other sorts of major threat, and damage for the time being become measurably adjusted and reconciled to them—bolshivism, communism, anarchy, foreign wars and complications—just when we are all growing a bit easier in mind this most unexpected and unnatural peril arises.

Eyes Need Extra Care When Lights Are Poor

Autumn and winter months are trying where artificial light is not of the best. The eyes need great care if they are to remain in good condition under the strain.

If the eyes give any definite trouble an oculist should, of course, be consulted at once. But a simple home treatment will not only act as an efficient "refresher," but will also rid the eyes of all harmful secretions of dust. Make a weak solution of borax powder (about one teaspoonful to a pint of boiling water) leave to cool, bottle and cork tightly. Use this in an eye-bath which can be bought of a druggist.

Night and morning give the eyes a good "bath," using a fresh bathful of the solution for each eye. Once you have started the treatment you will find it so beneficial that you will continue all the year round, much to the improvement of your eyes.

Where Columbus Trod

"All day long we eat the sun," is the delightful way in which a Santa Fe cafekeeper described life in that city about Christmas time. When you consider that a cool wind from the snowy Paraganda gives zest to the sun feast, this City of Sacred Faith, where Moorish feet have never trod, deserves mention, especially as a rendezvous for Americans. For over its Pinos-Puente Columbus once journeyed on his way to France after he was repulsed by Spain as a visionary, and it was on the same bridge that stands today that the queen's messenger caught up with him and told him that his plans were favored, and, weeping for joy, he turned to make Spain his embarkation land on his memorable voyage to America.

Happiness in Duty

Whoever goes to his work rejoicing in the vigor of a generous motive; whoever abandons a vice because fascinated by the idea of self-control and the loveliness of the better way; whoever goes aside to do a kindness out of the pure love of the neighbor, manifestly finds the ground of his content in the surrender of himself to what seems to him richly to deserve the service he pays. The content is loved not because it is a gratification, but because it is the frame which suits this service.

The Boneyard

The men with pick and shovel seem able to uproot human skeletons, no matter in which part of the earth they toil. This world must have been quite a burying ground during the last 1,000,000,000 years. The delvers with the Franco-American expedition in the Sahara turned up the bones of some human that must have been over six feet high and is thought to have been a woman, at that.

Pigs Live in Nests

Wild pigs make nests in Siam, according to K. G. Gairdner, writing in the Journal of the National History Society of Siam. In India, Mr. Gairdner says, it is reported that the pigs make nests of grass but in the evergreen jungles of Siam there is little or no grass and the nests are made of sticks. The sticks are all bitten off from the surrounding trees and they vary in thickness from the width of a finger to an inch in diameter.

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