

Big Preparation for Bow Before Royalty

Presentation at court involves considerable preparation in advance and those who have been favored with this honor must adhere strictly to the details of the program, says the London Graphic. A few minutes' lateness is unpardonable and would, in all likelihood, result in the disappointment of the candidate for royal honor, which would be a tragedy indeed after having undergone the long and tedious process of preparation. This often means a long string of carriages and automobiles forming for hours before the time set for the reception. Here the debutantes and others to be presented wait sometimes for as long as three hours till the time for entering the palace arrives. It is still daylight when the blockade of cars forms and swarms of curious people walk up and down the Mall close to the curb and gaze through the windows of the vehicles at the faces and gowns of the ladies in their court dress. The scrutiny is far from timid and casual, in many cases quite impudent.

Arrangement of Hair Marks Chinese Wife

It is customary in occidental lands for a married woman to wear a gold band on the third finger of her left hand. Not so in China. You know a married woman in China by the way her hair is trimmed above her brow.

Usually on the night before the wedding friends of the bride trim her hair. It is sometimes clipped and shaved, but in most cases the hair is removed with two twisted threads. These threads are rolled over the forehead with the fingers, the twist of the thread extracting the hair and giving the forehead a square appearance. If you can imagine what you would look like if your hair above the forehead were removed, leaving a clearing of, say, four inches long and one inch wide, you will have some idea of what the Chinese married woman's head is like. After the marriage this must be done at intervals to keep the shape present.

Quail Die of Thirst

Dr. Joseph Grinnell, ornithologist, of California, believes that lack of water explains the disappearance of quail in many parts of that state. He has made investigations and finds that areas formerly supplied with water are now dry owing to climatic changes and reclamation work and have become uninhabited as nesting grounds for the quail.

Doctor Grinnell does not believe that vermin has accounted for the disappearance of the birds so much as the lack of water, as the species of wild birds and animals designated as vermin also have become scarcer during recent years in the same area. Young quail which are hatched more than 400 yards from water and where rain does not fall or heavy dew occurs shortly after they are hatched will die from thirst, says a bulletin of the American Game Protective association.

Louvain University

The restoration of the University of Louvain was brought about by the various nations of the allies. To the United States fell the privilege of rebuilding the library. The University of Louvain was founded more than two centuries before Harvard. At the time of its destruction the library contained but a quarter of a million volumes, but these works had been accumulating for five centuries. The site of the present library is the finest in all Louvain, occupying one entire side of the Place du Peuple. The architect was Whitney Warren, who was chosen by an international committee. The corner stone was laid by Nicholas Murray Butler.

Bees Seldom Inactive

Honey bees do not go into a true state of hibernation during the winter but remain active within the hive, although they do not venture abroad, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. To keep warm, the colony practices a marvelous system of insulation and exercise. A large number of bees form a more or less spherical cluster, those on the outside having their bodies packed close to each other, parallel and with their heads up. This formation constitutes an insulation shell. Inside, the other bees keep up a constant twisting and squirming motion to create heat. This is so effective that the temperature inside the shell seldom drops below 57 degrees Fahrenheit.

Passé

There was a little gathering in the church vestibule, waiting for the new baby to be christened and friends of the family were taking the opportunity to admire the tiny newcomer. Over in the corner, three-year-old Betty Lou sat in lonely state, a wee bit jealous of the attention being paid the baby brother. Finally an observant friend noticed it and cried out tactfully: "What a pretty dress you have on today, Betty Lou!" "Yes," sighed the child disconsolately, "but myself is old."

—Subscribe for the Watchman.

Centuries Unable to Dim Laurel Wreath

Laurel wreaths should be immortal, and it is appropriate that a laurel wreath recovered from an Etruscan tomb over 2,000 years old should still be green.

Who its hero was we cannot tell. His skeleton was wrapped in veils of white and blue. There were leather objects whose purpose is unknown, ornamented with geometrical designs, purses containing glass beads, belts with copper clasps and buckles, and the laurel wreath, but no name. The tomb is one of a great number at Vulci, in Tuscany, Italy, whose existence was first discovered a hundred years ago. The wife of Napoleon's brother, Lucien, was watching a yoke of oxen plowing in a field when they suddenly disappeared, and it was found they had broken through into an Etruscan tomb. Over 6,000 tombs were opened in the next quarter of a century, their contents being distributed over Europe, after which the tombs were filled up.

Englishman at Rest in Odd Burial Place

Among the many curiosities to be found in Wimborne minister, in Dorset (England), is the quaint tomb of Anthony Etricke, the first recorder of Poole. He was for some reason of fended by the Wimborne people, and so made a vow that he would not be buried in their church or out, under the ground or over. To carry this out he cut a niche in the wall and placed there his coffin with the date 1623 inscribed thereon, believing that he should die in that year. He did not die, however, until 1703, when he was buried in the chosen spot in such a way that his body was neither above the ground or below, in the church or out. The date 1703 was then written over the other in gold. He left \$5 a year for the tomb's upkeep, which is still paid.

Canning Machinery

The most useful cannerly inventions in recent years have been of machines for doing the work of the dressing gangs. The one commonly known as the "Iron Chink," now in general use in canneries where such machines are employed, was first used in 1903 at Fairhaven (now Bellingham), Wash. It removes the head, tail and fins and opens and thoroughly cleans the fish, ready to cut into pieces for the cans. By the use of these machines the dressing gang is almost entirely done away with, dispensing with 15 to 20 men. This same machine is now so arranged that the fish, after dressing, are also "silmed"—that is, the thick mucus covering the skin removed and the inside of the fish cleaned.

Timber From the Tropics?

It is recognized, says the American Free association, that the forest resources of tropical America may be a very important factor in our own domestic timber problem. Some believe that those forests will be called upon to bridge the hiatus that is bound to exist between the exhaustion of our wild timber crop, and the harvest time of our man-managed forests. Others believe that they will form a permanent source of timber to replace some of our own special purpose hardwoods.

All are agreed that, in any case, we cannot fully and completely outline our own forestry problem without taking into consideration all the factors that may influence the outcome.

Special Oven for Pie

A huge brick oven was built in a disused corn mill near Huddersfield, England, so that the village of Denby Dale might surpass all its previous efforts in making giant pies. The pie dish, made locally of earthenware, was 15 feet long, 4 feet wide and 18 inches deep. The pie contained beef, mutton, kidney, potatoes and plenty of gravy. About 10,000 people partook of the pie. On the occasion of the last previous Denby Dale pie, in 1896, more than 60,000 people visited the village, which has a population of 1,500. A pie made in 1887 went bad, and was dragged by horses to a wood and buried in quicklime.

Moon's Movements

The Naval observatory says that the moon does not revolve in the plane of the earth's equator, but in a plane inclined to the plane of the equator at an angle that varies approximately from 18 to 29 degrees. In any month the moon may be seen at least 18 degrees south of the celestial equator, and after two weeks at least 18 degrees north of the celestial equator. In some years, as 1913 for instance, the moon may be seen nearly 29 degrees south of the celestial equator. The moon's rapid northerly progress occurs about one week later than its farthest south, and about one week earlier than its farthest north.

Shark Good Eating

Shark meat has grown in favor among the native population of Bermuda until it is now their favorite delicacy. More than 200 kinds of fish can be caught in the warm waters around Bermuda and all are edible. Fishermen find, however, that young sharks are most in demand. These average about four feet in length and are caught alive just beyond the six-mile coral reef that surrounds the islands.

BLISTERS IN EARTH TO ALTER ITS SHAPE

That Is What Noted Scientist Sees for Future.

New York.—The earth's crust probably is not "dead" and finished in shape, the American Association for the Advancement of Science was told by Dr. Bailey Willis of Stanford University.

Instead, even the stable bottom of the Atlantic ocean now may be heating up preparatory to causing land shifts. The theory is that scores of miles down in the rocks that form the skin of mother earth, great blisters form, as big as whole states, and that as they melt the rocks, the resulting upthrusts make the earth's surface what it is, and whatever it may change to.

But there was nothing of possible human catastrophe in Doctor Willis' picture, for he spoke in the new time concept of science, his changes requiring millions of years. He named well known places where on the slow time scale such shifts actually now seem under way.

Great Plateaus of Granite.

Doctor Willis' address inaugurated the annual convention of the association. His subject was "the Origin and Development of Continents." He said all continents are great plateaus of granite, standing high above the sea bottoms, which are of basalt, a heavy rock.

"We know the kind of rock that underlies the sea," he said, "from seismographs. With aid of earthquakes we can sink our plummet more than half way to the center of the earth. We know the velocity at which shocks travel, the depths at which they pass through or around the earth, and the kind of rock they pass through."

"We know that the earth is enveloped about 2,000 miles thick with elastic rock, below which is a core about 2,000 miles in radius, apparently inelastic, very hard, probably iron which may be melted."

"The heat that causes blisters, he said, probably does not emanate from the earth's inner core."

"Compression by gravity," he added, "is capable of producing all the heat of which we have evidence. As rocks heat, the melting tends to extend laterally faster than upward, thus forming blisters—asthenoliths, we call them."

"Conditions favorable to formation of asthenoliths appear likely to develop in those layers thirty to six hundred miles below the earth's surface, and probably only those within less than one hundred miles of the surface directly affect it."

"A blister may grow several hundred miles across, and be ten to twenty miles deep, containing one or more million cubic miles. The cover eventually breaks across the margins, where eruptions follow, and finally the cover falls into the emptied center. Conditions thus theoretically sketched are features of the smaller depressions that are the deeps of the oceans. The Windward and Hawaiian islands are examples of volcanic ridges surrounding such deeps."

Takes Years to Grow.

"A blister requires perhaps several million years to grow. A very large number of eruptions, a great many blisters and an enormous lapse of time must have been required to form Africa, Eurasia and the Americas in this way. The complex structure of each continent corresponds with the multiplicity of actions required by the theory."

Adobe Houses in Old

Mine Town Yield Gold

Monterey, Mexico.—T. L. Crawford, a British mining engineer who has arrived here from Mazapil, an old mining town buried in the heart of the mountains, has found that slag from the smelters operated by Spaniards more than 200 years ago, and long abandoned, carries high values in gold.

Even the old adobe houses are rich in the precious metal, according to assays which he made recently. Some of these adobe blocks run as high as \$500 to the ton of gold, silver and copper. Mr. Crawford has interested a syndicate of mining men in the possibilities of smelting the slag and the adobe-built houses by modern methods.

School Runs Laboratory to Strengthen Pupils

Lebanon, Tenn.—A human laboratory for experiments designed to develop a stronger boy of preparatory school age is being conducted at the Castle Heights Military academy, located here in the Cumberland foothills. Every student is required to take part in some branch of athletics. Only black bread is served the cadets. The school prepares its own flour, dairy dishes and vegetables and dietary measures are part of the school training.

City of 11,500 Guarded at Night by One Cop

Derby, Conn.—Because of an error in police department bookkeeping, this city of 11,500 inhabitants is being guarded at night by only one patrolman. Three men were dropped from the force by Chief Thomas Van Etten when he discovered that through an unexpected shortage there would be only one man left to guard the city for the rest of the fiscal year.

Soothe Doomed Shark by Tickling Its Hide

Few of us would like to tackle the tiger of the seas in his native haunts, but the brown men of Aitutaki in the Southern seas have no such scruples. There, in the calm emerald waters of the lagoon, fringed about with waving palms, are great hollow, in the coral rocks; here, during the hottest hours of the day, the sharks love to bask in the welcome shade.

Ten feet of shark lies snug within the shadow, only a slowly waving tail proclaiming his presence. Then out from the beach creeps a canoe, with a rope of sinnet ready coiled. Silently the Kanakas paddle to the spot, where deep down in the clear water that slaty-gray tail moves slowly.

Poised for a moment while he inhales a deep breath, the brown man waits, the loop of the rope over his arm. Then, in a beautiful curve, he dives. Now he is beside the shark and his hand softly rubs the rasping hide. The shark likes it.

Suddenly the noose is fixed over the flukes of the tail, and a brown form is seen scrambling quickly over the gunwale of the canoe. Then comes a rapid paddling of the frail craft, the line is hauled in and the shark is effectively dispatched with a blow of a club.

Difficulties of Life Have Their Purposes

Very rare are those who have always had their every wish fulfilled or forestalled; but even these should not be envied.

Man is not made to live in perpetual sunshine, and would very soon tire of having all he desires, without having to wait and work for the materialization of his longings. The greater the ease of obtaining what he wants—the sooner it would pall upon him.

Life's difficulties and prolonged trials, says the London Chronicle, are a test of character. If we had no difficulties to overcome and our patience were not tried, we might continue to exist—but our claim to be called "men" and "women" would be slender.

Though we often groan under its weight, we should "respect the burden," and thus retain our cheerfulness and serenity.

Houses in Patriotic Hues

With all the house painting now going on so busily in city and country, the elders who as boys or girls lived on a farm will smile as they contrast the quiet colors used today with the vivid ones common to their youth. Blue and red were favorite colors then. They were the cheapest paints the farmers could buy and mix, except for a standard white.

Barn doors were invariably one of these two colors. A blue pump clashed with the green grass in the door yard. A blue wooden weather-vane rooster swung lazily on a red-roofed barn. Houses were mostly white, but for many years blue and red trimmings were much in favor. In many sections the countryside presented a decidedly patriotic appearance.

Toad's Marvelous Tongue

The Spanish toad that lives in the zoo has a tongue that moves faster than that of the busiest gossip. It moves so fast that observers could not see it pick up a worm placed before it recently. The worm simply disappeared, as if into the air. Furthermore, an ordinary slow motion camera failed to take a picture of that moving tongue. Another film was taken, this time at three times the speed, and in this the tongue was shown moving at a rate quicker than a sixtieth of a second, which means that if the Spanish toad could eat continuously he would devour nearly 4,000 meals a minute!

Land of Many Languages

The principal languages of Switzerland are German, spoken by 71 per cent of the people; French, by 21 per cent, and Italian, by 6 per cent. Other languages are Romansh and Ladin. By the federal constitution of 1848 and 1874 German, French and Italian are recognized in the federal parliament may be carried on in any of the three, while federal laws and decrees appear also in the three languages. The old dialects of Romansh and Ladin do not have any political recognition by the confederation.

Oh, Daniel!

A big-game hunter in Rhodesia tracked down a lion and wounded it. The beast turned on him, beat him to the ground, and was about to finish him off when the flap of the hunter's collar turned over.

Instantly the lion bounded off into the bush.

Wondering at his miraculous escape, the hunter looked down at his collar. He saw, on the inside, his name: "Daniel!"

Mental Processes

A mother was cajoling her little daughter into taking some medicine that evidently was rather of unpleasant taste, saying: "I don't like to take medicine any better than you do, but I just make up my mind to do it, and then I do." "Yes, mother, and I just make up my mind that I won't take it and I don't." The little girl won her point.

Making A Will A Duty

THE making of a Will is a duty that every man owes to himself. And the selection of a proper Executor is part of this duty. More and more prudent men are naming corporate executors rather than individuals. The corporation does not die; it has trained officers to do its work. It is under strict supervision by the State. It offers many advantages, let Us act for you.

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