

WHY Some Plants Grow Rapidly in Hours of Darkness

Other things being equal, corn probably grows most rapidly on warm nights. Many plants, including corn, continue to grow after dark, notwithstanding the fact that photosynthesis takes place only while the plants are receiving sunlight.

Why Old Bridal Custom Called for White Horse

The ancient Britons often ascribed to the horse human and sometimes divine qualities. At one time no English wedding ceremony was complete without the presence of a white horse to carry away the bride, and this old custom had a very deep significance in British folk superstitions.

Why Called "Nasby"

Postal officials are called Nasbys from the fact that D. R. Locke many years ago wrote a series of articles on a Toledo paper and signed them "Petroleum Vesuvius Nasby, Postmaster at X Roads, which is in the state of Kentucky."

Why Windows Were Broken

Attention of Rockville Center (L. I.) police was called to what looked like bullet holes in several store and office windows. Patrolmen Sam Griffiths was sent to investigate.

Why Glider Stays Up

The modern glider is a soaring plane. It is, for all practical purposes, an extremely light airplane without an engine, while the construction is greatly simplified, all parts being made as light as consistent with strength and the lifting surface so designed and set as to give high lift at low speeds.

Why Called "Balkan States"

The Balkan states have been so named since early in the Nineteenth century. It is the name given to three southern prolongations of the European continent. The name is Turkish for mountain, and though in modern usage applies only to a part of a mountain belt lying south of the lower Danube.

Why Day Is Remembered

Probably the most terrific hailstorm in history was that which swept across France and Belgium and into Germany on a very hot day—July 13, 1778. The natives still remember it, after a century and a half.—Boston Globe.

Why Soap Cleanses

Do you know how soap cleans your skin? It does this, in chief part, by its power to emulsify fats and greases on your skin, alkali being liberated, and renders the dirt easily removable in the washing process.

MURDER CHARGED WITHOUT VICTIM

Fail to Find Body of Boy Men Are Indicted for Killing.

Wooster, Ohio.—First degree murder indictments against Charles Hannah and Earl Conold in connection with the mysterious disappearance of four-year-old Melvin Horst were returned recently by the Wayne county grand jury despite the fact the boy's body has never been found.

The grand jury's action in returning the murder indictments without Melvin's body having been found and without a scintilla of direct evidence other than Hannah's questionable confession to indicate a crime has been committed probably has few parallels in legal annals.

May "Scare" Prisoners. Voting of the murder indictments, further complicating an amazing and tangled mystery, was regarded as a criterion of the sentiment in Wayne county against Hannah and Conold.

Unless Melvin's body is found the prosecution itself has little hope that the murder charges will stand, but the indictments were returned, it was reliably reported, on the belief this action would "scare" the two defendants into giving more information.

The authorities handling the investigation endeavored to administer "twilight sleep," a drug supposed to make a person unwittingly tell the truth, to Conold. He resisted the efforts and the potion was not administered. "Twilight sleep" was administered unsuccessfully to Hannah.

The indictments against Conold and Hannah were returned after the grand jury had heard the testimony of eighteen witnesses, many of them county and local officers conducting the investigation into the disappearance of the four-year-old Orrville boy the night of December 27, 1928.

The murder and child stealing indictments were voted without recommendation of the prosecution. Prosecutor Graven said, and were based on the evidence the prosecutor and his aids assembled since Melvin's disappearance and in the month Hannah and Conold have been held in the Wayne county jail for questioning.

Graven said he was not greatly surprised that the murder indictments were returned.

"I merely presented the evidence, and the grand jury saw fit to vote against both men," the prosecutor said. "I believe we have plenty of precedent for returning such indictments even though the body has not been found. This is an unusual case. We are going about it in an unusual way with unusual results."

While the plans for the trial of Hannah and Conold go forward, both will remain the center of the investigation seeking to determine Melvin's ultimate fate which, the prosecutor admitted, was apparently no nearer disclosure than it had ever been.

Authorities will continue to question Hannah.

Conold has refused to answer questions unless his attorneys are present.

Because of the murder indictments oath will be held without bail. Since they were held to the grand jury on charges of child stealing three weeks ago they have remained in jail in lieu of \$10,000 bond each.

Based on Confession. The evidence on which Hannah and Conold were indicted on both counts is reported to have been largely circumstantial, the exception being Hannah's most recent confession, which was presented to the grand jury by Graven.

In this confession Hannah said that his ten-year-old son, Junior, brought Melvin Horst to the garage where Conold kept his car and that there he (Hannah) killed the boy by striking him over the head with a scapling. He asserted Conold buried the body. But every place Hannah indicated as the burial spot failed to hold any trace of the body.

This confession, like two previous ones, was repudiated by Hannah. He said: "The authorities weren't satisfied with the truth, so I told them lies to get some sleep."

Hannah's first statement was obtained by the prosecutor a month ago, after Junior, under rigorous questioning, had told the story of taking Melvin to Conold's garage on Cleveland avenue in Orrville.

Hannah then related that Conold killed the missing boy and buried his body.

The night after Hannah made this statement Conold was questioned in vain for nearly twelve hours. He apparently "broke" after that siege and dictated to Mayor A. U. Weygant of Orrville a terse statement, without the slightest detail, that Hannah had killed the boy in the garage.

Girls to See West

Missoula, Mont.—Mary Howe, East Pepperell, Mass., girl, whose hitch-hiking trip to western Montana induced a nation-wide search last summer, is coming West again; but this time she will not be alone. Mary plans to lead a bevy of girl acquaintances into the wild West so they can see for themselves if her descriptions of the beauty and charm of western Montana were exaggerated.

Fur Farmers Get Million for Pelts

Winnipeg.—Fur farming in Manitoba is making big strides, the last available figures showing 280 farms in the province as compared with 12 in 1928 and two in 1920.

In the last fiscal year pelts to the value of \$1,286,537 were taken in the province, muskrats being the most numerous, numbering 238,004 with a value of \$285,204. The rest, in order of importance, were weasel, mink and wolf.

Famous Shot Tower Is Aglow After 150 Years

Baltimore.—The famous Shot Tower, still preserved here as a memorial of the Revolutionary days of 1776, is aglow again for the first time in more than 150 years. But this time the glow is not the result of a seething cauldron of fire for turning lead into liberty bullets, for which it originally was used.

Today, it represents merely a novel method of illumination, to be permanently maintained as a living memorial of fire to the heroism of Continental troops.

Clouds of steam are generated below in an automatic boiler and then released from the crest of the tower to be reflected, in turn, in the glare of cleverly concealed red and amber lights.

The lighting effect, according to illuminating engineers who designed and supplied the equipment, portrays in realistic fashion a fire under a boiling pot of lead, a familiar scene in the heyday of the old shot factory.

When recently turned on for the first time, with what appeared to the uninitiated to be flames swirling upward from the crest of the old tower and dense volumes of smoke ascending skyward, the effect was said to be so realistic that witnesses stood aghast, lamenting the passing of a historic landmark.

Since completion of the installation, the lighting effects are turned on each night. The method here employed is said to be similar to that used for illumination of the famous War Memorial Shaft of Kansas City.

Court Docket Read Like a Bill of Fare

Pittsburgh.—When Magistrate Leo Rothenberg looked over his calendar in Central police station recently he found it was a menu card instead of a police docket.

The names were Earl Lamb, charged with being drunk; Mike Coffee, charged with vagrancy, and Frank Sinker, charged with being drunk.

Lamb was arraigned first. "Were you stewed last night, Earl?" Rothenberg asked.

"Then I guess that makes a lamb stew," Rothenberg concluded when Lamb admitted he was.

"I guess you had better go for five days where they will enjoy lamb stews."

"So your name's Mike Coffee and you are a vag, eh?" Rothenberg addressed his next prisoner.

"Guess you had better join Lamb, since no lamb stew would be complete without coffee," Rothenberg said as Coffee was led away for a 30-day stretch.

"And last we have Frank Sinker," Rothenberg said, "and sinkers always go with coffee, so join the procession with Coffee and Lamb."

Research Puts Cost of Average Baby at \$110

Chicago.—How much does a baby cost? The answer may depend on whether the stork flies over the Gold Coast or "back of the yards," but the expenses incident to the arrival of a new heir can be covered by an outlay of \$110, including layette, care of mother before birth, doctor's services, hospital and miscellaneous items, according to the American Research foundation.

A recent survey of 540 newly-born babies in a community of 300,000 people, says a bulletin of the foundation, indicate that the expenditures for the average baby work out as follows: hospital care, \$26; doctor's services, \$47; nursing, \$8; baby's clothes, \$23; medicines, \$1; and miscellaneous expenses, \$5.

"Only 42 per cent of the cost of the average birth was devoted to the doctor's services," says the bulletin.

To Pay \$213.50 Fine at Rate of \$5 a Week

Marshall, Mich.—Lewis Burt will pay for his indiscretions on the installment plan. He was fined two weeks' probation as a down payment and the remainder of a \$213.50 penalty imposed upon him after he was convicted of breaking and entering will be paid at the rate of \$5 per week.

Auto Salvaged From Pile Is Worth \$1,000

Calumet, Mich.—An automobile made in 1902 and salvaged from a junk pile 20 years later by Alfred Paulson is one of the main attractions at fairs in this region now. Paulson has refused \$1,000 for the reconditioned machine, which he pilots before the grandstands at 10 miles per hour.

STOLEN JEWELS BACK AFTER YEAR

Diamonds Taken During Divorce Suit Returned Through Mails.

Kansas City, Mo.—More than a year from the day she was held up by bandits and robbed of \$10,000 in diamonds and jewelry, Mrs. Howard J. Vrooman of this city received back all her valuables by mail. Where jewel thefts have provided mysteries, this strange turn of affairs has provided even a more puzzling aspect.

In a plain package, bearing a Kansas City postmark and addressed in pencil, were all the jewels and diamonds taken the night three bandits robbed Mrs. Vrooman and her daughter, Miss Howard Jesse Vrooman, as they were entering their home.

The robbery occurred during the height of the marital difficulties of the Vroomans and as a result of curtailed finances during the divorce and separation litigation, Mrs. Vrooman was forced to drop the insurance she carried on her valuables. The result was she stood the loss of \$10,000 herself.

Wife Gets Divorce.

Recently Mrs. Vrooman was granted a divorce from Howard J. Vrooman, former judge of the County court, a position similar to the county commissioners in other states. During the long litigation as result of the marital tangle, the husband once was accused of assault with intent to kill Floyd Jacobs, Mrs. Vrooman's attorney.

Later the charge against Vrooman was dismissed and a settlement was reached whereby the wife obtained the bulk of her demands in the divorce action.

With such a chain of events behind them, Mrs. Vrooman won the sympathy of friends for her bit of bad luck of being robbed at a time when her gems were not insured. Police worked on the case for weeks and charged off the crime to a band of diamond thieves active at the time in holding up roadhouses.

Gems Worth \$10,000.

"The jewelry is worth fully \$10,000," Mrs. Vrooman said when it was returned, "although I listed it to police as being worth less than that. Many of the diamonds cannot be duplicated for four times what they cost us. I shall take no further chances with it and from now on will leave it in a safe deposit box."

Mrs. Vrooman, a social leader as well as an active club woman, said she had no intimation where the jewelry came from and said she had never been approached concerning its return.

She said the writing on the package appeared to have been disguised but she also said she did not intend to pry into the matter further.

This is not the first time Mrs. Vrooman received such an anonymous gift. A year ago she received a floral piece and in it was her original wedding ring. The marital difficulties of the couple were reaching their climax at about that time.

Boy Father's Brother by Act of Adoption

Newark, N. J.—If a petition for adoption by his maternal grandparents is granted, twelve-year-old Harry R. Tryborn, of Newark, will be legally brother to his mother, brother-in-law to his father and his own uncle on both sides. He is already his father's brother, and the latter is trying to bring the situation back to normal by adopting his son.

The father, Henry A. Tryborn, was shell-shocked during the war. While he was in France his wife died. When he returned he was not in condition to take care of his son, so the boy was adopted by his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Augusta C. Tryborn. Last month Mrs. Tryborn died, leaving an estate of \$10,000 to her two "sons."

Thereupon the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Rendy, of Boston, filed a petition to adopt the boy. The father, now recovered, filed a petition to adopt his son. Both are pending.

Mexican States Trap Rats by Wholesale

Mexico City.—Agents of the department of agriculture are waging determined warfare against a plague of rats, which recently have invaded wide areas in the states of Jalisco and Michoacan.

In response to appeals from the farmers of the affected districts, enormous traps have been constructed and, according to latest reports received at the agriculture department, the ranks of the rodent army are being reduced rapidly. The capture of 50,000 rats in a single night in a trap half a kilometer long was reported by one of the agents operating in Jalisco.

Change Religion to Gain More Wives

Belgrade.—Yugoslavia has issued a decree forbidding Serbian Christians to change their religion. The authorities are alarmed at the number of Christians who have become Moslems in order to have more than one wife.



A DEALER in hogs received an unexpected order for a large shipment. In his desire to fill the order promptly he was willing to sacrifice some profit and offered to buy at 1 1/2 cents above the market price. Hogs were scarce in his section at that time. While making inquiries by telephone among farmers with whom he regularly did business, however, he learned of a distant farmer who had a number in good condition. He called him up and secured fifty hogs for immediate delivery. The deal netted the farmer an extra profit of \$150.



The Modern Farm Home Has a TELEPHONE

A Bank Account with the maintenance of a proper balance not only gives one money in hand for present needs, but what is much more valuable, establishes a certain credit with the Bank.

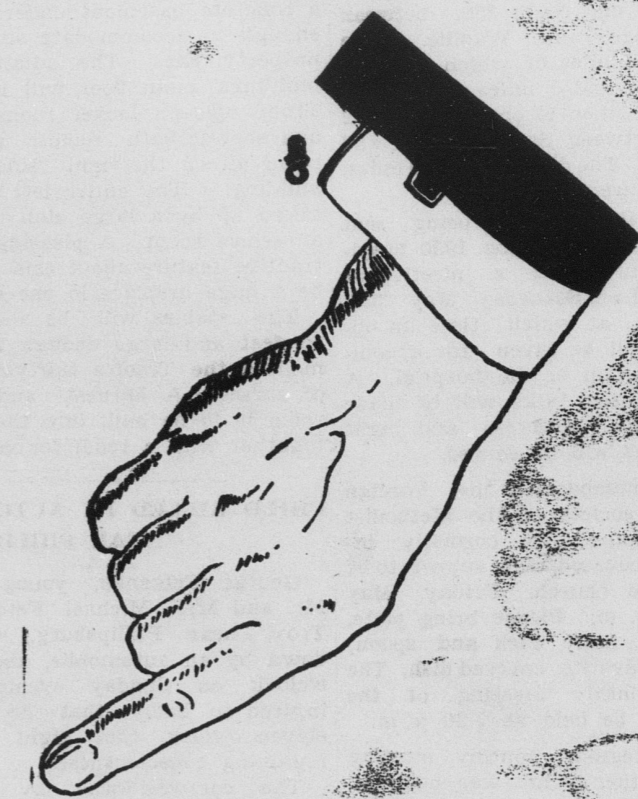
The banker knows this, and prospective borrowers who tell him they have no bank account, show a lack of business sense, and are at a disadvantage.

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