#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* LIOW=

MEANING OF WORD "SHREW" HAS BECOME TWISTED .-In Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew," a scolding, perverse woman is tamed by her husband. The woman is a shrew. As its history reveals, the word "shrew" itself has been tamed, though by the vicissitudes of language rather than by the dominance of an individual.

Shrew is an old word, having been in the English language some four hundred years. According to Webster's New International dictionary, its early meaning was, "wicked or evil person; a scoundrel; villain; outcast." Satan was occasionally called a shrew. From this harsh use the word came to mean, as in Shakespeare's famous comedy, "a vexatious, perverse, or turbulent woman."

The change in meaning of the word shrew is a taming of a different sort from the farcical victory of Petruchio over Katharine, in the play, but it is a taming none the less. Katharine is the heroine. "She is rich, young, and beautiful, but so illtempered that no one will marry her. Petruchio, however, does so and, assuming great severity, finally sudues her by rough treatment."

Sir Roger L'Estrange (1614-1704), an English political writer, wrote: "A man has got a shrew to his wife, and there could be no quiet in the house for her." It was such a shrewish wife, one remembers, that drove poor old Rip Van Winkle into the hills from which he did not return for 20 years.

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### How Chicken Gets Air

Before It Breaks Shell It is supposed that the air sac at the large end of an egg performs an important function in the development of the embryo chick. The chick makes use of the air in this pocket during the brief period between the time when it begin to breathe and the time when it is strong enough to break through the shell with its beak. This air sac enlarges very materially during the period of incubation, and in a normal egg the chick at hatching time always has its head toward the large

end of the egg and the air sac. It is the opinion of the United State. bureau of animal industry that the air sac is formed by the contraction of the contents of the egg immediately after it is laid. The temperature of a hen's body is about 107 degrees Fahrenheit, and it is reasonable to suppose that as soon as an egg is laid the yolk and white contract somewhat. The air space is nearly always formed at the large end because of the peculiar shape of the egg. Now and then the air space occurs on the side, but it is never found at the small end.

How Famous Song Was Written The writer of the song "Silem Night" was Rev. Joseph Mohr, an Austrian Catholic priest, who wrote it for Christmas, 1818, when he was assistant clergyman in the village of Laufen, near Salzburg, Austria. He was born at Salzburg in 1792 and died in 1848 after serving as priest in various places. This hymn, which is one of the most popular of all Christian hymns, is the only one of his which has been translated into English. It was set to music by the schoolmaster and organist of the neighboring village of Arnsdorf, Franz Gruber, and it appears probable that Gruber made use of old folksong music in doing so. Gruber died in 1863.

## How Storm Glass Is Made

The type of barometer known as a storm glass is not seriously considered by meteorologists. It consists of a glass vial about 10 inches long and 34 of an inch in diameter, which is nearly filled and hermetically sealed, with a mixture consisting of camphor, nitrate of potassium and chlorate of ammonium, dissolved in alcohol and distilled water. The changes of the solution specify the following: Clear liquid, bright weather; crystals at bottom, thick air or frost; dim liquid, rain; dim liquid with small stars, laws. thunderstorms, etc.

### How Truffles Are Located

In France truffles are located and oug out of the ground with the aid of dogs and pigs. The latter are commonly used in Perigord, their rooting instincts and fine nose for scent being furned to account. A trained sow will miff the peculiar pervasive odor exhaled by the ripe tuber and will make directly for it, either laying it bare or prooting it. Dogs are used in the same manner, especially by poachers.

How Water Affects Trees Plants of the desert have created special methods for storing up the oisture they are able to raise from he dry, reluctant soil. At the other extreme, says Forests and Mankind, the palms in the rainy portions of south America get too much water and have produced huge leaves that rain the rainfall outward, and so keep water away from their roots.

## WITH ONLY 55 DAYS LEFT TO SERVE, CONVICT FLEES

Few Hours of Freedom May Bring Him Back to Prison for 15 Additional Years.

Ossining, N. Y .- John Santanella, a convict with only 55 days left to serve, escaped from Sing Sing recently by the simple expedient of walking off from the prison farm. Four hours later he was discovered roosting in a tree a mile away by a young man from Ossining, who is anxious to become a policeman and is in a fair way toward achieving his ambition. And Santanella, because of his brief taste of liberty, faces charges which may force him to spend from seven to fif teen years in jail.

When a man is nearing the end of his term it is reasonable to assume he will not jeopardize his position by attempting to escape, Sing Sing officials feel. Therefore, they let Santanella and nine other short term prisoners outside the walls to work in the garden under the supervision of Keeper Thomas Curry.

At about 10:30 a. m. Curry missed Santanella, who was sentenced in General Sessions in 1926 to two years for assault, was paroled near the end of his term, and returned to prison to serve the balance of his sentence when he failed to live up to the conditions of his release.

Curry was not alarmed. He searched for the prisoner in casual fashion for half an hour and then reported his disappearance to officials. The siren was not sounded, but 50 guards who knew Santanella were sent out to search the woods for him.

Even with his long start Santanella was not able to get very far before the gaards picked up his trail. Almost running into two of his pursuers in the woods near the hamlet of Sparta, a mile northeast of the prison, he hid until they passed and ther climbed up a tree.

There he was spotted by Philip A. Brown, a would-be policeman from Ossining, who will collect the standing state reward of \$50. Brown summoned Keepers John Shanahan and John Farrell by his excited shouts, and they induced Santanella to surrender. In the prisoner's pockets were found a razor, a sandwich, and \$5. The money and the razor are contraband.

The Westchester grand jury will be asked to indict Santanella for jail breaking, which carries a penalty of seven to fifteen years. The prisoner was placed in "solitary."

He is twenty-nine and comes from Providence.

## Tomb of Alexander Is

Being Sought in Egypt Cairo.-The antiques department of Egypt has been authorized by the government to search for the grave of Alexander the Great at the mosque of Nebi Daniel. On giving its permission to proceed with the search, the authorities conditioned that should the body be found under no circumstances must it be touched.

Alexander the Great died in Baby lon on June 29, 323 B. C., at the age of 33, having contracted a malignant disease. Nine years previous to his death he founded the City of Alexandria. About fifty years ago excavators discovered a sarcophagus, which is accepted to be that of Alexander the Great. The discovery was made at Sidon in Syria. In the sarcophagus was found a strange liquid in which was preserved the body of a man in perfect condition. Through careless handling the fluid was spilled and the body shriveled and turned into dust.

Excavators at the time were of the opinion that the body was that of one of Alexander's favorite generals.

### Opium Takes Big Toll of Babies in India

Geneva.-Of every 1,000 babies born in India 446 die in their first year from opium given to them by their

This tragic statement was made by Mrs. Tarini Sinha of India in a moving speech at the closing session of the congress of the Women's League of Peace and Freedom, which has been discussing the dope evil.

An outspoken criticism of Switzerand's part in the traffic was made by Dr. Gertrude Woker of Berne, who said her country had now outstripped Germany in the production of heroin. Doctor Woker declared that certain Swiss manufacturers could make and sell vast quantities of narcotics for

The congress, dealing with the pium question, urged the council of the League of Nations to convene at the earliest moment the manufacturers' conference proposed by the British government at the last assembly.

illicit trading without infringing Swiss

## Japanese Admirer Plans

Shakespeare Garden Tokyo.-So ardent an admirer of the works of William Shakespeare is Dr. Sanki Ichikawa, that he has established what he calls a Shakespeare garden at his home in the Tokyo suburbs. Doctor Ichikawa, who is president of the Japan Shakespeare society, has made a list of the 100 odd shrubs and flowers mentioned in the bard's work and has commissioned a horticulturist here to collect them throughout the world for his garden. The anniversary of Shakespeare's birth was celebrated here at a special meeting of the Japan Shakespeare society.

# Poland Today



A Village Street in Rural Poland.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

OLAND'S importance among the nations of Europe has been recognized by the United States by the raising of the United States legation at Warsaw to the status of an embassy. There has been a marked friendliness since the World war between the great republic of the Western hemisphere and the new republic of Central Europe, and a loan of many millions has gone from the former to help place the latter on a strong financial foundation.

American business methods have captured the imagination and admiration of the Poles, and scarcely a work on scientific management is published in America today that is not translated into Polish. Poland has industries that were begun before the discovery of America, but some of them are being rejuvenated by American methods under the guidance of Amer-

ican engineers. Oldest of Poland's industries to be affected by new methods are her salt mines which were adding to the savor of Central European foods as early as the Tenth century. The first iron forge began operations in 1333 and may be looked upon as the beginning of the iron founding industry which now contributes millions of dollars worth of values each year to Polish manufacture. An important lumber industry, based on timber lands covering 52,000 acres, was begun in the Eighteenth century. A tree must be ninety years old before it is cut. The entire forest area of the country is

more than 22,000,000 acres. One of Poland's most interesting industries is a plant for building railway equipment that was started in Napoleonic times as a wagon factory. The textile industry keeps more than 3,000,000 spindles busy, and there are numerous factories for the manufacture of paper, chemicals, and meta articles.

Only Germany, which is Poland's nearest western neighbor, exports more goods to the country than does the United States. In a recent year the United States furnished approximately 16 per cent of all Polish

Old Poland Resurrected.

The Poland of today is not an entirely new entity. She is rather a resurrection of the old Poland which once was one of the greatest nations of Christendom. In size she outranked nearly every nation of the continent. Russia alone of the European nations is larger than Poland was at her greatest. In population she stood at the forefront of Europe: only Russia and Germany had greater populations before the war than are to be found in the lands that once were Poland; for unpartitioned Poland had an area of 282,000 square miles, and the lands that once lay within her boundaries support a population of approximately 50,000,000. In area she was as large as the former German empire, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Denmark together; larger than Great Britain, Italy and Greece combined; larger than Austria-Hungary and Servia in one. Within what were her boundaries there dwells a present population larger than the combined populations of Great Britain and Belgium; larger than those of France, Belgium and Holland together; and matching that of the old Austria-

Poland was three times partitioned, and these partitionings were readjusted between the partitioners by the congress of Vienna in 1815. Where the original partitions had given Russia 181,000 square miles, Prussia 54,-000 square miles, and Austria 45,000 square miles, the reapportionment of the Vienna congress gave Russia 220,-500, Prussia 26,000, and Austria 35,-000 square miles. Much of the land which Prussia secured, and particularly Kiev, had been identified with

Russia generations before. Poland, in the days of her greatest area, extended from a point within 50 miles of Berlin, on the west, to the meridian of the sea of Azov on the east; on the north it reached nearly to the Gulf of Finland and on the south

down to the Khanate of Crimea. Former Russian Poland. What was known before the World war as Russian Poland is that neck of territory stretching westward between the Prussias and Galicia. This territory has an area almost exactly equal to that of New York state, yet, in spite of the fact that its extreme southern boundary lies north of the latitude of Winnipeg, its population is as great as those of New York and New Jersey combined.

Former Russian Poland, in this limited sense, consists of a great plain,

somewhat undulating, with an average elevation of about 400 feet, sloping upward toward the highlands of Galicia on the south and toward the swelling ground paralleling the Baltic on the north. It joins the lowlands of western Germany with the great plain of western Russia. Its rivers are slow and sluggish, with their mouths often but a few dozen feet below their sources and seldom more than a few hundred feet below. Their basins intricately interpenetrate one another, and the frequent inundations of these basins have covered them with a very rich alluvial soil.

Russian Poland usually has a winter somewhat similar to that of New England. There is an even cold, with not a great deal of snow, but often with razoredged winds from the northward. The rivers of this region usually freeze over about the middle of December, and the Vistula is under ice for approximately 80 days during the average winter.

In the Eighteenth century, when the city of Warsaw, next to Paris, was the most brilliant city in Europe, this flat plain was unusually rich in herds and geese flocks, though almost bare of

manufactures. Poland's history has been a tragic one through the ages. Next to the Russians, they are numerically the most important of the Slavs. They first appeared in Great, or North, and Little, or South, Poland in the Tenth century, where they found other Slavic tribes in possession. The wise policy of their kings early induced the whole nation to profess Christianity.

People Have Changed Little. Of medium size, with round heads and healthful faces, the blond more common than the brunet, their physical appearance has apparently changed little. The working classes, who constitute nine-tenths of the nation, have lways been laborious, frugal, enduring, temperate rather than abstemious, and intensely patriotic. Their szlacta, or nobles, have shown themselves impetuous, brave to rashness, chivalrous, insubordinate, emotional, artistic.

During the formative period Polana was consolidated by the dynasty of the great Lithuanian, Jagellon, the Polish Wadislaus II—a succession of princes unsurpassed in constructive ability. Union with the Lithuanians doubled the population and the national resources. Together they crushed the Teutonic knights at Tannenberg in 1410 and half a century later at the peace of Thorn pushed them east of the Vistula. The Polish lands on the Baltic, together with Danzig and Marienberg, were recov-The Duchy of Mazovia, of ered. which Warsaw was the center, five centuries independent, voluntarily joined the kingdom which a few years later spanned Europe from the Baltic to the Black sea. The Reformation, regarded with a suspicion as having a German origin, only for a time disturbed the country.

The advantageous situation of the kingdom, the admirable qualities of its common people, and the development already attained, seemed to assure the greatness and permanence of the Polish state. Yet in Poland's history there is disappointment on every page. The brilliant passages are episodes without connection or result. Nowhere else is so much valor wasted. The chasm was always widening between the nobles and the common people. The people paid all the taxes. The nobles, all equal, possessed all the wealth and power, but had no sense of obligation or responsibility. Intrepid in battle, they were ready to fight for the country only

when so inclined. Downfall and Partition.

The system of government was oligarchic in the extreme. Succession to the powerless throne was elective, native or foreigner alike eligible. Each election was an orgy of turbulence and bribery. Twice the throne was put up at auction. The liberum veto, established in 1652, whereby the negative vote of a single member of the diet nullified any act or all the acts of all the rest, culminated in anarchy and eventually brought about the destruction of Poland.

Yet the criminal follies of a priv ileged class in no way excuse or palliate the iniquity of the three partitions of Poland in 1778, 1798 and 1795 by Prussia, Russia and Austria.

Poland has enriched the world in music, art, and literature. The national dances, the polonaise and the mazurka, were always accompanied by singing. Copernicus is Poland's greatest name. Sienkiewicz, victim of the World war, by many considered the most brilliant writer of the day, was a Pole, as is Paderewski.

Little Willie came to his mother with the following query: "Mother, what would you do if some one broke the large vase in the parlor?"
"I would whip him," responded

After a few seconds elapsed, Willie, with a broad grin, said. "Well, you'd better get ready. Papa broke

Haffen: "Do you know what she old me last night?" Haffen: "Howdja guess it."

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