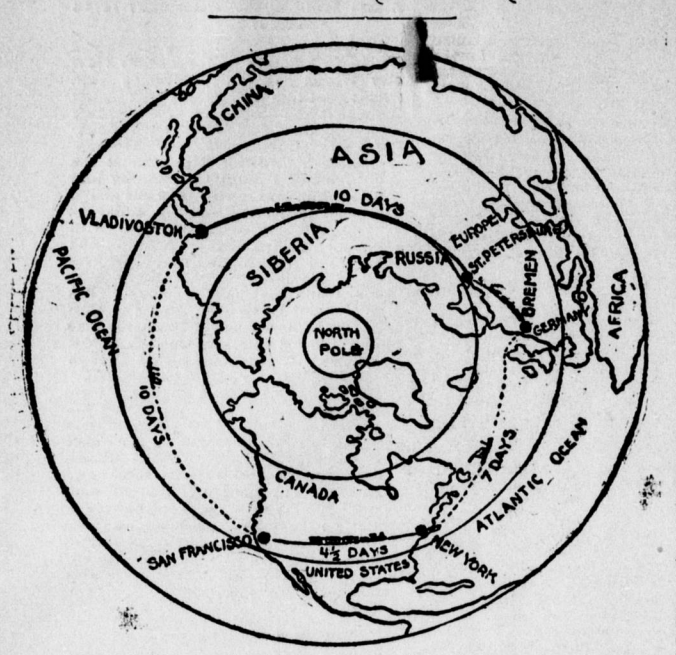
AROUND THE WORLD IN THIRTY-THREE DAYS



The world's record for swift travel around the world will soon be cut in twain. Prince Hilkoff, Russian Minister of Communication, stated at the recent meeting of the European railway managers that when the new Siberian railway is completed it will be possible to travel around the world in thirty-three days. At present the best possible record is sixty-six days. Prince Hilkoff arranges his thirty-three-day itinerary.

In calculating this run Prince Hilkoff estimates speed on the Siberian railway at the very modest rate of but forty-eight kilometers, or thirty miles, per hour. Faster communication both by sea and land will doubtless soon reduce the minimum time to thirty days.

PRINCE HILKOFF'S TIME TABLE.

	Days.
Bremen, by rail to St. Petersburg	1½
St. Petersburg to Vladivostock	10
Vladivostock to San Francisco	10
San Francisco to New York	4½
New York to Bremen	7
Total	33

PRESENT TIME TABLE.

	Days.
New York to Southampton	6
Southampton to Brindisi	3½
Brindisi to Yokohama by Suez Canal	42
Yokohama to San Francisco	10
San Francisco to New York	4½
Total	66

PHILIPPINE TRIBES COMPLETELY CLASSIFIED.

An Ethnographic Map.

A simple classification of the Philippine Archipelago's population may be made with the assistance of the accompanying ethnographic map taken from Harper's Weekly:

1. The Moros, or Sulus (Mohammedan Malays) occupy the small southern islands, the southern and western coasts of Mindanao, and the southern extremity of Palawan. Their capital is Sulu. As for their number, the estimate in the Nouveau Dictionnaire de Geograpraphie Universelle, by M. Vivien de Saint-Martin, is 200,000 to 300,000.

2. The islands of the central group are inhabited chiefly by Visayans (Roman Catholic Malays). Of the Visayans proper there are about 2,500,000; but if we include the cognate tribes scattered from Northeastern Mindanao to Mindoro and the Calamianes Islands, the total number is probably much greater.

3. The Tagals, Tagalogs, or Tagalos (Roman Catholic Malays), from whom Aguinaldo has drawn the larger part of his forces, inhabit central Luzon. Their number is uncertain, though for the present we may accept Saint-Martin's estimate—1,200,000.

4. Tribes of Malays, which are numerically of less importance, are not always clearly distinguished from Tagalogs and Visayans—e. g., the Ilocanos, Pampangos, and Zambales of Northern and Western Luzon, the Bicols (or Vicols) in the extreme southeast of Luzon and in adjacent islands, the Subanos of Southern Cebu, etc.

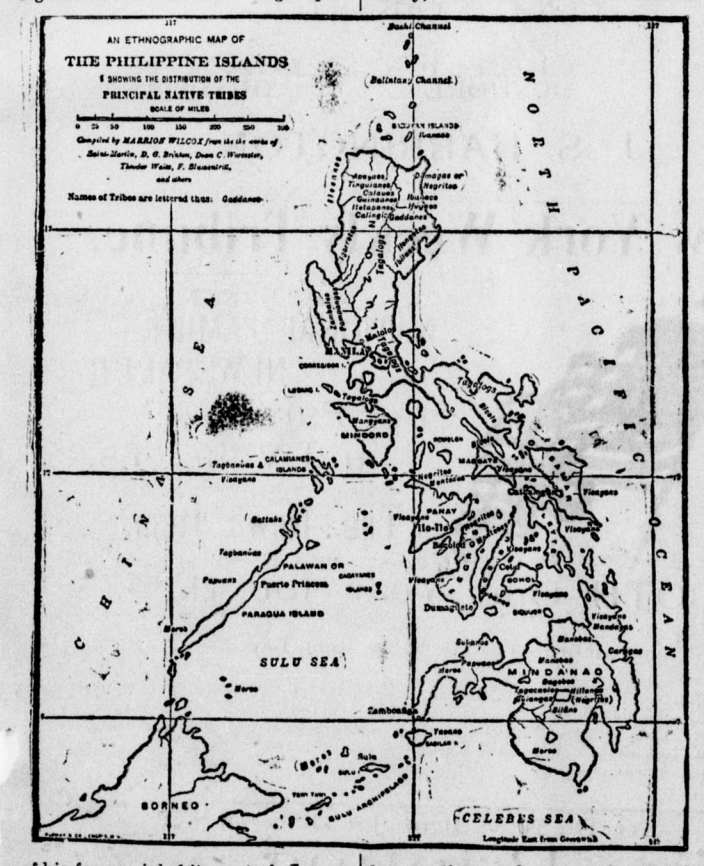
5. Non-Malayan savages, remnants of an earlier population which was displaced by the Malays, are widely scattered, and the common name "Indonesiens" is given to these tribes by the writers, who regard them as representatives of a race which the Malays drove into the mountains, somewhat as Saxon displaced Celt in the British Isles. That famous band of the Igorrotes who trusted to charms and bows and arrows in the battle of February 5 were of this class. The accompanying map shows the names of a dozen different tribes in Northern Luzon alone, with others in Central Mindanao, Northern Panay, and Negros, etc. Little reliance can be placed upon the estimates of the total number of "Indonesiens" who have never consented to stand and be counted. As an approximation, some of the authoritives have suggested 300,000 or 400,000.

6. Of the aborigines called Negritos (little Blacks), or Aetas, only 10,000 or 20,000 remain. They are "as near an approach to primitive man as can anywhere be found," says Professor Brinton; and they are so far inferior in physique and intelligence to the civilized or semi-civilized Malay or "Indonesien" that they seem destined to disappear altogether before long."

7. At or near the principal ports are about 100,000 Chinese, and perhaps 15,000 whites—not including General Otis's army.

The present distribution of the native tribes has evidently been occasioned by successive waves of invasion. The aboriginal Aetis (Negritos) as a less vigorous branch of the human family, were unable to resist attacks from restless and progressive neighbors. The first people from the mainland to appear as conquerors on a large scale may have been the so-called Indonesiens; but these in turn were displaced, in the more desirable portions of the archipelago, by hordes of Asiatics coming from the Malay Peninsula by way of Borneo—the first incursion being led by Tagals, and the second by Visayans. The third and last wave of Malay invasion culminated about the middle of the sixteenth century, not far from the time when the Spaniards arrived upon the scene and established themselves in the Visayas and Luzon.

The editor of the Dictionnaire de Geographie Universelle estimates the total population of the archipelago at about 9,000,000, but fails to give convincing reasons for this opinion. In view of the statements which have been repeated day after day for the last ten months, that the Philippines support a population of 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 persons, it may not seem that our question is too pointed if we ask, How is this information derived? A little scrutiny of figures given in the foregoing paragraphs will show that perhaps 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 have been accounted for. Within a limited area, conditions which allow half a million of people to live by hunting are not usually such as to allow 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 more to live by agriculture and commerce. Why, then, does it seem probable that the population of the Philippines is so dense? How has it been possible to secure trustworthy information on this head?—Marrion Wilcox, in Harper's Weekly.



Most Wonderful of Gas Wells.

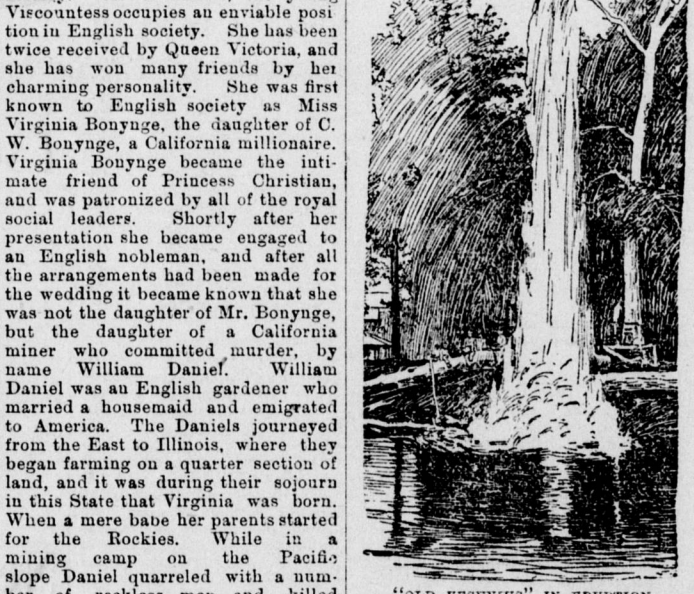
INDIANA'S "OLD VESUVIUS."

"Old Vesuvius," at Anderson, Ind., is no more. The greatest and most remarkable gas well of them all was packed a few weeks ago and from a thing of splendor, attracting sightseers from almost every State in the Union—drawing the American Association of Scientists all the way from Boston in a special train—it has sunk to the level of a common, every-day, deep-water well. It was an expensive thing of beauty. Figuring on a basis of coal at ordinary market prices, it is estimated that $2,300,000 worth of natural gas was wasted every year that old Vesuvius might rule as one of the greatest gas wells of history.

The Indiana natural gas fields were opened in 1886, and Vesuvius was brought into activity in the following year. The discovery of the Indiana deposit was due to the grandeur of the Korg well at Findlay, Ohio, which up to the time of the discovery of Vesuvius, was the greatest of them all. So wonderful were the illuminations from the old Korg well that excursions were run to that point from every section of the central States, while many went even a greater distance to witness the display. It was this, in fact, that started the great natural gas fever which spread all over the country between 1884 and 1888.

Among the excursionists from Indiana were a dozen or more from a hamlet called Eaton. Eaton, then as now, was only a speck on the map, while many maps did not even give it recognition. Twenty years previous to this a party of Fort Wayne capitalists had drilled at Eaton in search of coal. After getting down 600 feet, they were compelled to abandon the driller because of opening a deposit of "most maladorous vapor." They gave up their search for the coal vein and in order to shut off the "stink" they drove a long wooden plug into the opening. Then the well was forgotten.

The excursionists from Eaton who went to Findlay to witness the great Korg well display, notice the peculiar odor of the escaping gas. It struck them that there was some similarity between that peculiar smell and the smell which they had found around the old well, twenty years before.



"OLD VESUVIUS" IN ERUPTION.

They returned home, cut down the brambles from around the old hole, pulled out the plug and found that the smell was the same. They applied a match. It burned and from that three-foot blaze which leaped from the old stand-pipe came Indiana's greatest wealth.

It was in the following spring that Old Vesuvius came into being. The drill was sent down under the city of Anderson and the roar announcing the opening of a well that took all before it awoke the city early one morning. The pressure from this new well was astounding. The roar of the escaping gas could be heard several miles and when put on full force and lighted the pressure was so great that it would blow out the flame. For this reason and because of the deafening roar it became necessary to pipe it to White River, running the pipes to the center and the deepest portion of the stream, so that the gas might be disseminated and the pressure broken. When the gas was turned on the water would begin to boil and as the pressure was increased it leaped into the air, a white, seething foam, surging and plunging until a geyser was formed, reaching to a height of twenty-five feet. Then when a burning newspaper was floated down the current and came within twenty feet of the place there was a flash and the great fountain of seething foam became fire, leaping far above the surrounding trees and spreading out until it was thirty feet across. Like a great candle it lighted the surrounding country. An eighth of a mile distant it was possible to read a newspaper on a dark night, while the roar of the water and flames sounded like that from Niagara. It was a sight to justify the pilgrimage which many trainloads of people made from distant States.

The population of Jerusalem has been rapidly increasing of late, and is now about 45,000 of these, 28,000 are Jews

GENERAL MASCARDO.

(He is the Philippine insurgent leader who has most influence with the savage tribes of the island.)

An American Girl's Romance.

The news that the Viscountess Deerhurst has just given birth to a son and heir recalls her strange but romantic history. As is known, the young Viscountess occupies an enviable position in English society. She has been twice received by Queen Victoria, and she has won many friends by her charming personality. She was first known to English society as Miss Virginia Bonynge, the daughter of C. W. Bonynge, a California millionaire. Virginia Bonynge became the intimate friend of Princess Christian, and was patronized by all of the royal social leaders. Shortly after her presentation she became engaged to an English nobleman, and after all the arrangements had been made for the wedding it became known that she was not the daughter of Mr. Bonynge, but the daughter of a California miner who committed murder, by name William Daniel. William Daniel was an English gardener who married a housemaid and emigrated to America. The Daniels journeyed from the East to Illinois, where they began farming on a quarter section of land, and it was during their sojourn in this State that Virginia was born. When a mere babe her parents started for the Rockies. While in a mining camp on the Pacific slope Daniel quarreled with a number of reckless men and killed his man. He was tried and convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. Soon after Bonynge, also a miner, met Mrs. Daniel and persuaded her to get a divorce from Daniel, which she did, and married him. Thereafter Virginia became known as Virginia Bonynge. The Bonynges prospered and became rich, and eventually went to London to live. When the facts of Miss Bonynge's antecedents were made known to the prospective bridegroom the engagement was broken off by the scion of the noble British house. The Princess Christian, however, remained the fair heiress's friend, and she challenged her right of entre into the most aristocratic British society. The chances are that Virginia Bonynge cared little for her first noble love, for she soon forgot him and married the Viscount Deerhurst, who loved her in spite of the fact that she was the daughter of a miner and a convict.

VISCOUNTESS DEERHURST.

Bridgeport, Ohio, has issued bonds for $70,000, with which to pave every street in town.

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

Teaching Calves to Lead.

It is often a great inconvenience when it is found that a grown cow cannot be led, but must be driven. The accomplishment is one that should always be acquired in calfhood and once learned it will never be forgotten. If there is any pulling back while the calf is being taught its first lesson, some one behind to urge it forward will be needed, and may be a turn of the rope around the animal's nose, so as to make a halter of it, will be advisable to prevent the calf breaking away from the leader. A hole bored through the nose and a ring inserted will make the teaching of the calf to be led still easier. The ring in the nose is often a great convenience as the animal grows older.

Growing Watercress for Market.

A good deal of money may be secured from many small streams where watercress either grows naturally or could be made to do so by judicious seeding and planting. The cress seeds abundantly after its season of growth is over, and when a stream is once stocked with it the growth of the plant is apt to increase. In some places gardeners have made artificial beds which they have planted with the cress, running from the stream into little coves which can be easily kept under water. The first cress of the season brings fancy prices at the large hotels and restaurants. The cress has a sprightly spicy taste that is almost universally liked, and it is believed by many that it has medicinal virtues that give it especial value as a tonic to the stomach when it first makes its appearance.

The Value of the Separator.

A. X. Hyatt tells in the Indiana Farmer his opinion of the separator after using one five years. He bought it that he might be able to feed better the twenty calves a year that he desired to raise, and he says:

"The separator gave us at least two pounds more butter a day than we could get by deep setting. We got from three to five pounds more butter a day by running it through the separator at home warm than we were credited with for the same milk at the creamery. Two hundred pounds of milk fresh from the cow and warm from the separator seemed to make more gain with young pigs and calves than double the pounds as we got it from the creamery. Microbes and flies and rinsings do not seem to set well on the stomachs of young stock. The separator would save us a trip every morning to the creamery, and often an hour or two waiting for our milk. It would save our aerating and cooling our night's milk. It would save three or four cents for making our milk into butter, and we could get three or four more cents for our butter if we made it than Elgin prices, or from the factory."

That is strong testimony from a practical dairyman, and he adds that the first year he raised thirty-six calves instead of his usual twenty, and the extra sixteen could have been sold for enough to pay for the separator.—American Cultivator.

Well Bred Bees.

The apiarist is usually a very careful breeder of bees. He rears queens only from choice stocks, those that have the qualities he wishes to more fully develop, and thus produces a strain of bees much ahead of the ordinary. All breeding in this line centres in the queen. If a colony of bees do not come up to standard requirements the queen suffers the penalty, and when she is dispatched an entire change of stock takes place, providing a new queen is introduced in her place. Great is the difference in colonies of bees or bees produced by different queens. This is true not only of different races of bees, but colonies of the same race or variety.

Since the introduction of the Italian bees into this country, color has become an important factor in breeding, as by color only can we designate the Italian bee from any other at first sight. Color of itself is not the only difference, however, for the characteristics of the Italian bees are quite different from the native bees. It is generally conceded that the Italian bees have more desirable qualities than any other race, and the expert breeder adopts this race as a foundation to breed upon and thus improves on the line of certain qualities he wishes to attain.

Many good points may be obtained to considerable degree in careful breeding, namely, energy, prolificness, gentleness, non-swarming, endurance, color, etc. Some colonies of bees are more energetic than others, and the result is they store a larger surplus of honey than others when the conditions are the same. Some queens and strains of queens are more prolific than others, and fill their hives with brood and bees rapidly and early, and are in the field with more laborers when the honey season opens and naturally store more honey. The gentle bees allow themselves to be handled and manipulated in the hive without resistance, and a much better job of work can be done with them. The non-swarmers continue to store honey as long as they have a place to store it, and do not lose any time swarming or attempting to swarm if the apiarist does his part.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

Cultivating Asparagus.

A moderately light soil is preferable for the culture of asparagus, but any good garden soil will answer. Put on all the well-rotted manure you can plow under; and work the soil fine to a depth of eight or ten inches. If the soil is well prepared on the start it will require less work to keep it in good condition. Plants one or two years old should be used, never those taken from an old bed. Set the plants 18 inches apart in the row, and the rows three feet apart. This may seem like considerable room, but it will be found sufficiently close, for the roots will entirely fill the soil in a few years. Make the holes large, so that the roots can be spread out in their natural position. Set the plants so that the crowns will be from five to eight inches below the surface, according to the character of the soil. The heavier the soil the less covering they should have. Cover only a few inches deep at first, firming the soil well about the roots, and allowing the remainder to be worked in by the subsequent cultivation.

Give thorough cultivation during the growing season, and in the fall cut the tops and burn them on the ground to destroy the seed, which, if allowed to grow, will make a mess of young plants—the worst kind of weed in an asparagus bed. The following spring put on a good coating of fine manure and spade it in with a spading fork as early as the ground will work well. In spading, care should be taken not to injure the crowns of the plants. This treatment should be repeated each succeeding year. If the plants have made a good, strong growth the first season, they may be cut a few times the following spring, but it is better to let them grow two years before cutting, that they may become well established and have a good, strong root system. In cutting, use a sharp knife and sever the stalk a couple of inches below the surface of the soil. Always cut everything clean, even though it is not fit for use, because when a few stalks are allowed to grow up, the plant will cease to throw out new shoots.

For the first few years the bed should not be cut for more than three or four weeks, but after the plants have become strong and the crowns large, the cutting may be continued until the middle or last of June without injury. Then allow the tops to grow and assimilate food to be stored up in the roots for the succeeding crops. Fifty or 100 plants, if well cared for, will after three years' growth produce all the asparagus an ordinary family can use. It comes early in the season, when everyone is hungry for something green. It is very easily prepared. The stalks are in the best condition for use when they are from three to five inches high. When they get too old they become tough and woody. They will be tender when cooked if they will snap readily when bent.—American Agriculturist.

Fragrant Flowering Plants.

Some flower lovers care only for dainty colors in flowers, while others find pleasure only in the fragrant sort. In many flowers dainty coloring and delightful fragrance are combined. Some of our most showy flowers possess no fragrance—such as the hibiscus, hydrangea, dahlia and gladiolus—while some of the tiniest flowers emit the most delightful fragrance.

All of the spring flowering bulbs and most of the lilies are very fragrant, but when we think of fragrant flowering pot plants, they are not very numerous. Of all our fragrant flowering pot plants there is nothing more universally popular than the heliotrope, with its dainty blue, purple and white flowers and delightful perfume. Where one can care for them over winter, they will live for years and grow into large plants.

I find the best treatment for plants that have been bedded out over summer is to cut back all the branches to within a few inches of the ground; they then branch more freely and give a greater abundance of bloom during the second summer. Heliotrope is valuable either for pot culture or for bedding out in summer. When bedded out and given rich soil, sunshine and plenty of moisture, small plants will grow into large specimens by the end of summer, and attain the height of about three feet. Although all heliotropes are fragrant, the flowers of some sorts are larger and much more fragrant than others.

The carnation is one of the well known, fragrant flowering plants which combines both beauty and fragrance, and is so free flowering and easily grown that almost anyone can succeed with it. There are many excellent varieties catalouged and new sorts are being added each year. The most important requisites of a good carnation are long, stiff stems, thick petals distinctly fringed, and a distinct spicy odor. Here we find all the shades found in any other flower except blue. We find them from the deepest crimson to the daintiest sea shell pinks. Then there are some few whites, as white as snow; but most whites are slightly tinged with color. There are some clear yellows, but most of the yellows are penciled and blotched with other color, usually red.

Then there are jasmine, the sweetest of all flowers, the bouvardias, with jasmine-like fragrance, and the tall oleanders, with vanilla-like fragrance.

Some of our annuals are very sweetly scented. A few of the verbenas are very fragrant, but not all. A vase filled with flowers of the phlox drummondi will perfume a whole room with a very agreeable odor. Nasturtiums, with their distinct spicy odor, have lost none of their popularity, although they are old fashioned plants. Late of a summer evening a bed of single petunias will perfume the air with a very pleasant fragrance.

The pansy, sweet-alyssum and candytuft all possess some fragrance, although it is not very distinct in the first two. Geraniums must not be forgotten, nor violets, disputing for the crown with the rose.—Laura Jones in the Epitomist.