

The Colfax Bookplate

By Agnes Miller



Rare old tome collecting dust in a second-hand book shop, together with a curious, antique scientific instrument! From them the elements of this delightful mystery emerge.

This antique, scientific instrument, whose nature and purpose are almost forgotten today, was nothing else, as you readily may guess, than a—but you must guess.

Will Be Revealed to Your Satisfaction in Serial Form in

The Patton Courier This Week

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ANIMAL LIFE SPAN IS 7 TIMES GROWTH

Horse Should Live to 28, Man to 147.

Newark, N. J.—In the animal kingdom, the biological engineers have it the span of life usually is seven times the period of growth. For instance, the life of a horse is 28 years, seven times the period of growth, and the span of the chicken, 49 months, figures out the same way.

Man matures in 21 years, and seven times that is just short of 150. We should live that long, but don't. Why? Disease, explained Dr. Roy Schaffer, a lecturer, before the Woman's club of Glen Ridge.

"If you go back in history, we find that the average life of the Romans was 18 years. This meant some neglect from the time of birth to death. The average life in America in 1900 was 32 years, in 1900, 45 years, and 57½ years in 1926. In a little more than a century we have almost doubled the expectation of life by taking proper care of our children," he said.

"New York doctors have determined to eradicate diphtheria by using the Schick and other tests. Take an interest in the reports from your school medical inspectors; analyze them and do not pass snap judgment on them. In these ways your organization can make great progress in furthering civilization. A stronger spark of life will be passed on to our children and our boys and girls may live 150 happy years."

Italian Marble Now Is Mined in Colorado

Denver, Colo.—Travertine, a rare building stone, found heretofore only in Italian quarries near Tivoli, has been discovered and is now being produced in a marketable quantity from a quarry near Salida, 75 miles southwest of Denver.

J. J. Kerr, former owner of the estate upon which the stone was found, recognized the material after he had made a trip to Italy to inspect the product of the Tivoli quarries. Immediately he began advancing his newly found enterprise. The quarry on his property has been in operation periodically since 1880, but the product has been used only for its lime deposit. A local storage building was the first to be constructed with it. Shortly after its completion, however, Kerr died.

His estate was bought by Eastern capitalists who began marketing the stone on a nation-wide scale. Several of the leading buildings on both coasts, as well as through the Middle West, have been built with the Colorado product.

According to an official of the producing company, the deposit, composed of crystallized lime or marble coming from hot springs carrying lime solution, is sufficient to last 200 years.

Hot Springs Minerals Are Laid Down Rapidly

Yellowstone Park, Wyo.—The deposits of hot springs limestone, more properly known as "travertine" are laid down very rapidly, according to Margaret Lindsey of the Yellowstone ranger staff, who has been making a study of the phenomena in the park for the geophysical laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

She writes of one of her observations: "A little wooden cylinder made expressly for measuring the rate of deposition was wired in place near the foot of Jupiter terrace. This point is easily 300 feet from the hot spring at the top and only about five feet above the main highway. The water in tumbling down over the terrace is well aerated and cooled to a little above body temperature. The block and the wire which held it in place were removed 21 days later, covered with a deposit of chalklike travertine to a thickness of from one-half to three-fourths of an inch.

"One might think that the water would lose most of its burden of mineral by the time it was at so great a distance from the point of emergence, but the experiment proves that such is not the case."

Marines on Guard Under Soviet Flag

Peking.—American marines in Peking are the only ones stationed in any important capital of the world to serve under the scarlet and gold banner of Soviet Russia.

Following the raid on the Russian legation last April by armed forces of Marshal Chang Tso-lin, North China's dictator, and subsequent departure of the Russian diplomatic staff and guards, the United States marines were chosen to police the Russian legation quarter.

Every morning a subordinate soviet official goes to a corner of the Russian quarter and raises the soviet flag. Shortly afterward an American marine walking his post, passes underneath the Russian emblem.

All sections of the legation quarter are guarded by the military police of the powers.

Brunettes Score First

New York.—The love of blonds and brunettes is under scientific comparison. Preliminary tests have indicated to Dr. William M. Marston, professor of psychology at Columbia, that brunettes are more responsive.

BRIGANDAGE WANES WITH OLD LEADERS

Travelers in Mediterranean Countries Safe.

Rome—Brigandage in Mediterranean countries, traditionalized in opera and romance, is now at a low ebb. One by one the leaders of banditry have fallen into the hands of the authorities and in Italy, Greece, Corsica, Asia Minor and Turkey the lawless have been curbed.

Recently "The Wolf of Sila," who was captured by troops about the middle of the last century and sentenced to life imprisonment, died in a Calabrian village, where he had lived since his pardon, at the advanced age of ninety-three. Styled the last of the "classical brigands," the Wolf gave the government plenty of trouble before the forest wilderness of Calabria, a bandit domain for hundreds of years, was swept clean of robbers. Romanetti, slain by French soldiers not long ago, was a brigand who mixed in politics as well as carrying on the trade of an outlaw.

Found Easy Picking. The business of capturing travelers and holding them for ransom was revived by Mediterranean brigands about 1860 and far better systematized than it had been by the robber barons of the Middle Ages. Once it was discovered that the British government would pay ransom for those of its subjects who were too poor to settle for themselves, what amounted to guerrilla warfare against the British treasury was set afoot in Italy, Spain, Greece and other places infested by brigands.

The sum of £25,000 was paid for the release of Lord and Lady Lancaster, seized with a party of four in Greece, and three of the party were slain before the money was handed over. The governor of Gibraltar once paid out £27,000 as ransom for two Englishmen captured in near-by Spanish territory. Ransoms of size became the order of the day.

It was extremely difficult to trap the old-time brigands, who flung gold about freely among the peasantry, and not until the populace had been educated to understand that the bandit was a menace to them did it become possible for the Mediterranean governments to stamp them out. In the Pyrenees, the Apennines, Sicily, Corsica and the mountains of Greece and Turkey the brigand continued to flourish until recent years. Long ago he lost the complexion of a patriot or partisan, such as Fra Diavolo, Pietro Mancino and others of classical reputation, and became merely a preyer on his fellow-men.

Changed by Transportation. The railroad, and still later the automobile, helped put an end to brigandage as a craft. Travelers no longer rode on horses over lonely ways or lumbered along in coaches, stopping at inns whose proprietors might be in league with bandits.

The high ransoms demanded proved the final factor in the downfall of such brigands. The Mediterranean governments as well as the British were stirred to action by the protests of influential citizens and called out the troops in a general effort. Even then there were reverses: Andaloro, the Sicilian brigand, destroyed a company of soldiers before his capture, and Tchakirdji in Asia Minor dispersed Turkish forces sent against him.

The bandits of an earlier day appear to have been a long-lived race. There is record of Vassili Tchoumak, condemned to twenty years in Siberia at the age of seventy-four, escaping and finally dying in a prison hospital of injuries he had received at ninety-six.

Same Statue Used for Many Notables

Paris.—Statues with interchangeable heads, so a long series of notables could be honored with the same monument, date back before the Christian era, say French archeologists. The recent proposal in Warsaw that such an arrangement would be economical, recalled to the French that their research workers in Greece discovered that such a system was used more than 2,000 years ago.

As the name of the temporarily famous person could be inscribed just under the head, it was possible to make a new head in the likeness of the new notable and put it on the old marble base, for as long as the notable needed to be honored.

Vinegar Aids Reducing, but Costs Woman Life

Shrewsbury, England.—Literally pickled alive, a woman who for 30 years drank a pint and a half of vinegar a day, has died in Salop infirmary weighing 38 pounds.

Dr. D. A. Urquhart, who attended the woman recently, said that she never ate anything without washing it down with vinegar. At one time she weighed 112 pounds, but when the doctor was called she had taken no solid food for five weeks, drinking only vinegar, and weighed 38 pounds.

The coroner's verdict was death from chronic intoxication—the intoxicant being commercial vinegar.

No Arrests in Decade

Asheville, N. C.—Boyd township has not recorded an arrest in ten years, and the record is not the result of an inefficient police force. Not a warrant has been issued during the period.

NET'S NAME ON LIST OF DEAD; HE'S ALIVE

Southern Boy Surprised at Finding Mistake.

Charlotte, N. C.—James W. Pegram, young Guilford county man, has proved to the satisfaction of the World War veterans and the Red Cross that he did not die while enlisted for that memorable conflict.

Pegram has been on the list of Guilford county's war dead since shortly after the armistice. His name is listed from the top on one of the two bronze plates flanking the entrance of the stadium which has been erected at Greensboro in honor of the slain soldiers.

Could Apply Himself. These facts didn't prevent Pegram from walking into the office of the Red Cross and explaining that the reason his parents had not applied for adjusted compensation was because he was not a dead man and could apply for himself.

December 31 was the final date on which applications for adjusted compensation could be made, and as a part of the government's aid to the ex-soldier and his family, the Red Cross and the American Legion had been trying for a year to get Pegram's father and mother to apply for the benefit to which they would have been entitled if their son had been dead.

Pegram said his father and mother had been receiving letters from Miss Marion Crawford of the Red Cross, but that they considered it either a joke or a mistake, and had not taken the trouble to correct it.

Pegram has been employed for some years at a factory in Greensboro. He said a fellow workman told him last spring that his name was on the tablet, but Pegram thought the man was joking.

Helped Work on Stadium.

He himself helped to haul the steel reinforcement for the stadium, but he did not chance to attend the dedication exercises when the names of the World War dead were read, and did not notice the appearance of his name in the newspapers carrying the story of the dedication.

Pegram's name was placed on the war dead roll as the result of information furnished by some person whose identity is not now remembered. McDaniel Lewis compiled the list for the stadium tablets on information compiled by the Greensboro public library.

Pegram's will be taken from the tablet, and the name of another Guilford soldier who died in the war, and news of whose death did not reach the veterans' organization until after the stadium was built, will be inserted in its place.

British Company After \$60,000,000 Treasure

London.—A romantic story of £12,000,000 (about \$60,000,000) in supposedly buried treasure consisting of gold, silver and diamonds is behind the Scamby Exploration company, which has been floated in London to operate in Inquisivi province, Bolivia.

The treasure is said to have been buried in 1778 by Jesuits, who were not permitted by the Spanish to take it from the country. It is supposed to be guarded by a threat of "a dolorous death" for those who disturb it. Its reputed location is based on a parchment map.

Edgar Sanders, a mining engineer, plans to leave Liverpool in March with an expedition of engineers to hunt for the treasure, 75 per cent of which goes to the expedition and 25 per cent to the owners of the land.

Flesh Pink Rules for Spring Lingerie

New York.—Spring styles in lingerie have been displayed at the Hotel Astor under the auspices of the United Women's Wear League of America. Most of the models featured a waistline, a close-fitting bodice and a full flaring silhouette.

Flesh pink was the outstanding hue, while there was also a noticeable array of printed silks in underwear and pajamas. The bridal lingerie set comprised four pieces, with ivory satin for the negligee and nightgown and cream satin for the slip and combination.

Novelties in the pajama line included vagabond trousers and an affair consisting of a seven-eighths length coat of gold lace with shirred peach-colored satin sleeves, a surplice, satin bodice and satin trousers.

Big Organizations Seen Controlling U. S. Trade

London.—Presiding at the annual meeting of Barclays bank, one of the largest in England, Frederick C. Goodenough said that trade returns of the United States showed that although the total exports were increasing, yet over the period there had been a gradual decline in proportion in agricultural produce and raw material exported except in certain commodities, including oil, which continued to increase.

This and the large and increasing number of failures in America, he said, suggested that industry in that country was passing into the hands of big organizations. He thought that in the future America would become increasingly dependent on the export of manufactured articles rather than of raw products.

"Electricity the Barometer of Business"

says St. Louis Globe-Democrat

"Electricity is of almost universal use. It enters to some extent into all industry, and to a very great extent in many industries. It is the source of power for all facilities of communication except the mail, and nearly all the transportation utilities except the railroads, while its use in railroad transportation is increasing. It enters into the majority of homes. There are said to be more than 65,000 different uses of electricity. A force so general and so pervasive surely indicates by the measure of its consumption the condition and trend of business."

When a commodity becomes an essential element in so many of a peoples activities that its consumption is an index of prosperity, the efficiency of the industry which produces and distributes it is of vital importance to every citizen.

The reason the use of electric power serves so well as a business barometer is because it means so much more than a mere use of power. Electricity has increased the productivity of labor 150 per cent in the last 10 years.

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mand than his foreign competitor and his wages are greater in proportion.

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