Ant Constructs Umbrellas

The umbrella ant derives its name from the waterproof shelter that it builds for itself. Small pieces of leaves, usually taken from fruit or coffee trees, are cemented together with a sort of mud to form this structure. Large colonies of these ants build domes as much as two feet high and forty feet across, so it is no wonder that they frequently ruin trees by stripping off too many of their leaves for building materials.

Magnet Saves Boy's Life

By means of a powerful magnet a ball-bearing was extracted from a six-year-old boy's lungs in a hospital at Nottingham, England. The magnet was one used for extracting particles from eyes. A tube was passed down the lad's throat, the ball located by a tiny electric light and a magnetized iron rod then inserted in the tube to attract and retrieve the ball.

Skua, Air Pirate

The skua, a species of gull, is third largest of the sea birds. Despite its fondness for fish, the skua is no fisherman so it resorts to piracy and robs other birds of their gains. It will dart at a gull in the air, causing it to drop the fish it has just caught, and then swoop down and catch the fish before it touches the water.

Movable Music Notes

The study of music is made more interesting for small children in the class room by the use of movable notes which are cut out of metal or wood and hung on wires representing the musical staff. In this manner the children are encouraged to make modest compositions of their own.

Early Cosmetics

The ancient Egyptians used cosmetics. The women tattooed their bodies with zigzag designs and painted their faces and eyebrows with green paint which they made by grinding malachite on palettes of slate. This is believed to be the earliest known use of cosmetics.

Walnuts as Fuel

Considered from the standpoint of fuel value, walnuts exceed many other foods. They have an oil content of 63.4 per cent, a protein content of 16.6, carbohydrates 16.1, water 2.5 and minerals 1.4 per cent. They are also a good source of vitamin B.

Ticket of Infamy

In Russia Jews and Jewesses were confined to the "Pale of Settlement." If any Jewish woman was willing to be registered as a prostitute, she was given a "yellow ticket" and permitted free and unrestricted residence throughout the empire.

Ancient Theater

Pompeii's theater is variously stated as seating 10,000, 17,000 and 40,000. It was erected by the great Pompeii and completed in 52 B. C. It was the first stone theater in Rome, and had a marble interior. It finally collapsed in the Sixth century, A. D.

Bridge Tragedy

A reader recalls a "wild argument" he had with a late friend who claimed the right to say "small slam" as soon as a game bid had been made; that he would suffer none of the penalties if not making the slam, but would be credited with the premiums should he be successful. His idea of a pleasant afternoon was to bid "four hearts, small slam." The reader concludes: "He has since committed suicide."

Scriptural Mention of the Raven as Scavenger

The raven, largest of the crow family, nearly thirty inches in length, carnivorous, a scavenger fond of offal, gluttonous in habit, is often mentioned by name in the sacred Scriptures. In other places also where in the early days of savage battling, reference is made to dead bodies being given to "the fowls of the air," ravens, the common attendants upon battlefields, are no doubt referred to.

The very first mention of a raven has connection in the mind with this grim habit, for when Noah opened the window of the Ark after the flood and let out a raven (Gen. 8:7), which did not return, although there was neither dry land nor tree on which to rest, we cannot but think of the awful food it would ravin upon in the dead bodies of beasts and human beings, drowned in the frightful overflowing of the waters everywhere.

Solomon, whose knowledge of natural history was deep and keen, had a faithful imitation of Agur, the son of Jakeb, who knew of that frightful habit of the raven, the picking out the eyes of young or sickly lambs, so killing them, and with judicial wisdom applies that habit parabolically as follows: "The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out," (Proverbs, 30:17).

Adapt Supply of Food to Needs of the Body

"Sane eating without overindulgence will be a pretty safe basis for a healthy life."

Flaying foolish adherence to temporary food fads, Dr. Solomon Strouse used the foregoing statement as the theme of his article, "Building a Diet," in Hygeia, the Health Magazine.

Food furnishes energy and builds up broken-down tissue. Granting this, it is easy to see why the lumberman of Maine uses 8,000 calories daily, whereas a tailor will use only about 2,700.

The building of a diet depends also on locality. In the United States we eat a large amount of carbohydrate. That is because carbohydrate foods are cheap and easily available. In Alaska, fuel is supplied mainly by fat.

"Milk, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, bread and butter, some meat and an egg or two will pretty well cover most of the fundamental nutritional requirements of salts and vitamins."

Thought of Papa

Bad weather prevailed when Mrs. Sable visited her neighbor one night. With her was her little boy of seven, who found it very hard to behave during his mother's long and tiresome visits. This night the lad stayed close to his mother's side, not because he was tired (as usually a child does), but because he feared the thunder and the howling winds which already had begun to accompany the heavy rain. At last he wasn't able to control himself any longer and not wishing to appear rude in the eyes of the hostess, he said timidly to his mother, "Ma . . . don't you think we better go home . . . 'cause pa may be 'scared to stay home alone . . . without us."—New York Sun.

MODERN

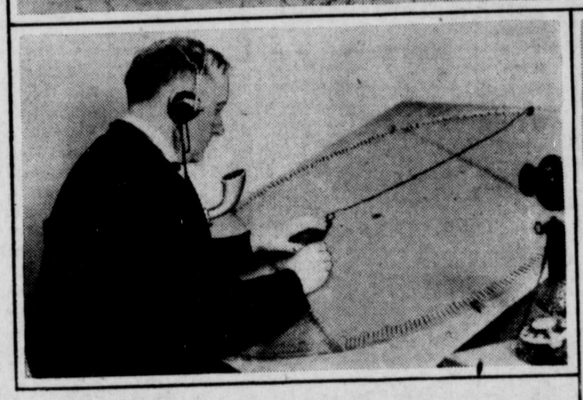
"Are you wearing spectacles, old man?"

"Yes. Through cross-word puzzles I've contracted an optical defect. One eye travels vertically and the other horizontially!"

Weather Forecast a Crop Saver

Advance Notice of Killing-Frosts Helps Save Crops







W. P. Long, assistant observer, top left, studies movements of balloon atop weather station at Hoover Airport, Washington, D. C., and gives readings of wind variations by telephone to W. C. Gaines, associate meteorologist, bottom, right, who charts them on map. Upper right, apple tree in full bloom covered with snow. The Weather Bureau endeavors to issue warnings of weather changes so that fruit growers may light orchard heaters.

Establishment of the United States Weather Bureau sixty years ago has enabled millions of housewives to serve choice fruits and vegetables, excellen cuts of meat and provide other viands that many of them might never have been able to secure without the valuable services rendered by this far-reaching organization.

Early vegetables in Tidewater Virginia or oranges and grapefruit in Florida—strawberries and other early spring delicacies on Maryland's Eastern Shore, or grapes, raisins and lemons and other citrus fruits in California—apples and peaches in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia and diversified farm products throughout the country might still be only for the 'rich' if it were not for the efficiency of the weather bureau and its bulletin service telling of sudden changes in the weather.

To many people it will come as a surprise that the supply of steaks and roasts or lamb chops is in any way affected by the weather. But such is the case, acording to Dr. Charles F. Marvin, chief of the weather bureau at Washington. Immense herds of cattle and sheep in the wide open spaces of the far West would perish in blinding snow storms if it were not for the far-reaching service of the weather bureau. Today when storms come sweeping down out of the North, the buerau sends bulletins to agencies in the outlying areas. Here they are distributed by telephone to stock men over a wide area, who see that the herds are rounded up, sheltered, and provided food during the period of the storm.

Excellent communication facilities enable the weather bureau to serve the entire country easily and quickly. There are now about 250 weather stations from which forecasts and storm warnings are sent regularly or in emergencies as the occasion demands. Key men in the various areas who are responsible for weather bulletins reaching the newspapers, farmers, fruit growers and stock men in their districts disseminate this information by telephone, telegraph and radio.

Periodical weather reports are broadcast from radio stations throughout the country daily. When definite information is to be furnished those interested in a particular area due to sudden changes in the weather which may affect the future fruit or early vegetable crop or the safety of livestock, the telephone is the most dependable instrument of service, Weather Bureau officials state.

One example of this was where a large area in the citrus fruit section of California was visited by a severe frost late in 1931. The weather had been so mild up to that time that the growers had been thrown off their guard and some had not made final preparation for heating. The forecaster, finding that a cold snap was on the way, ordered the usual broadcast made, but fearing that many interested growers had not listened in called the manager of every citrus packing house in central and southern California by telephone and gave personal warnings of the impending lower temperatures.

Packing house managers, acting promptly on these calls, notified all growers in their respective vicinities by telephone, and as a result, heaters were placed in operation on thousands of acres of fruit groves. Because of the timely warnings given personally and definitely by telephone, damage to the fruit was limited to only a few isolated areas.

Weather bureau officials use the telephone in every branch of the service. Now that weather reports have become so essential to the safety of aviation, the bureau is utilizing another by-product of the telephone, the teletypewriter, which, as is generally known, is an lectric typewriter operated over telephone lines.

Landing fields throughout the country maintain weather stations. These fields, connected by teletypewriters, are constantly typing weather bulletins of flying conditions along the routes that the planes must follow and as a result the safety of passengers and mail is assured.

When the Weather Bureau was established in 1871, it was operated by the Secretary of War, largely to give storm warnings to ships, with benefits to agriculture as a secondary consideration. Congress enacted a bill October 1, 1890 transferring the meteorological work of the Signal office under which the Weather Bureau had previously been maintained, to the Department of Agricultur where it has rendered invaluable service to the citizens of the country in wide ranges of endeavor since that time.

Old Rule for Longevity

Speaking, reading aloud and singing, are useful kinds of exercise and it is supposed that this is at least a cause of the great longevity of clergymen, public speakers, teachers in universities and schoolmasters; and Doctor Andrew pleasantly observes, that one reason why women require less bodily exercise than men, is, that they are in general more loquacious. — London Spectator, October 22, 1831.

Penalized for Smoking

The earliest instance known of penalizing smoking in the streets is mentioned in the court books of the mayor of Methwold, in Norfolk, England. There is the following entry on the record of the court held on October 14, 1695—"We agree that any person that is taken smoaking tobacco in the street shall forfeit one shillinge for every time so taken. We present Nicholas Barber for smoaking in the street, and do amerce him one shillinge." The same rule was repeated at courts held in the years 1696 and 1699.

Avoid Pessimism

Pessimism is merely a disease of the mind. It places wrong construction on what has happened and denies absolutely any faith in or hope for the future. The pessimist is never happy. What is more, he gives the rest of us a pain in the neck, also.—Grit.

Insects Take Apple Toll

Insects take rank among the largest consumers of apples in the country. It is estimated by federal experts that from $20,000,000 to $40,000,000 worth of apples every year are destroyed by insects, which cuts a big piece out of the $200,000,000 annual yield.

WORTON

Mr. John Burris, of Quaker Neck, spent last week with his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Mowbray Hadaway.

The Ladies Aid will meet at the home of Mrs. George Cooper, Chestertown next Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Joseph Duyer is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Korycki and Mr. and Mrs. Irving Kroll, of Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Joiner entertained about twenty-five guests at a Turkey dinner Sunday.

Misses Ann Taylor and Virginia Jewell are visiting the formers brother Mr. Ernest Taylor and family of Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Matthews entertained at a Turkey dinner Sunday.

Mrs. Thomas Taylor is visiting relatives at Grasonville.

Mr. Frank Crouch, of near Middletown, is spending some time with Mrs. Blanche Loller.

Miss Jane Cooper, of Baltimore, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Lee last week end.

SURE OF IT

Feminine Voice (telephoning): "Is my husband at the club?"

Porter: "No, ma'am."

Feminine Voice: "But I haven't told you who I am."

Porter: "Ah knows dat, lady, but they ain't nobody's husband heah nevah."

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