

THE STATE APPROPRIATION.

Money for Public Buildings May Be Tied Up by Legislative Act.

LINCOLN—The supreme court must decide whether building appropriations made by the legislature lapse under the constitutional provisions providing for the lapsing of appropriations for governmental running expenses. The question will be presented to the court by the state board of education for normal schools and the board of regents of the state university in an action to mandamus the auditor to allow vouchers and draw warrants for the payment of claims in advance of completion of the buildings for the unexpended balances of the building appropriations made by the legislature of 1903 for the Peru normal school, the Kearney normal school and the university. The amounts involved are \$12,000 for the Peru library building, \$15,000 for the main building at the Kearney normal and \$20,000 for the administration building of the university. All three buildings are in the course of construction, but, according to the law, all appropriations made in 1903 lapse August 31 of this year.

The board of regents recently instructed that the unexpended balance of the university building fund of 1903 be drawn on advance warrants, to be held in trust until the building was completed. A voucher was presented for the amount, but not acted on by Auditor Searle. Today the state board of education asked the auditor to make a ruling in a similar proposition in regard to Kearney and Peru. The board had fortified itself with an opinion by the attorney general that such proceeding would be legal.

Despite this opinion the auditor informed the board that he would not take the responsibility of allowing the claims until the work had actually been completed and requested that he be mandamus to do so, that the courts might interpret the law. The decision of the auditor places the attorney general in a peculiar situation, as in the mandamus proceedings he must appear for the auditor in an action instituted by a state board at his suggestion.

GETTING BACK TO DUTY.

State House Again Puts on Working Appearance.

LINCOLN—The state house has again assumed the appearance of a real estate capitol, all of the state officers who have been away on their vacations having returned and settled down to work. Governor Mickey and Secretary of State Galusha returned from Portland; Land Commissioner Eaton returned from Portland and H. Lindsay, clerk of the supreme court, returned from Spearfish. Every one of them came back feeling robust and looking good.

Those state officers who went to Portland were delighted with the exposition and Nebraska's part of it and especially were they pleased with the courtesies extended to them by the New York commissioners, who turned over their building and annex for the Nebraska day exercises. Secretary Galusha said Governor Mickey delivered a splendid address that took well. Enroute home Governor Mickey was taken ill just after leaving Seattle, taken ill by a physician was called to the train and soon straightened him out. The governor is feeling all right now, though he shows that he has been through a strenuous experience. Adjutant General Culver returned from Sea Girt, N. J., where he has been with the National Guard team.

Back Pay for Soldiers.

The names of the Nebraska soldiers of the Spanish-American war to whom money is due from the government have been received by the governor, and upon his return to the state Adjutant General Culver will attend to the distribution of the same.

Dies at Kansas City.

SEWARD—News was received of the sudden death of Miss Minnie Cole of this place at Kansas City, where she was visiting friends. Miss Cole was a teacher in the public school, and has lived in Seward since childhood.

Two People Killed by Lightning.

PEATRICE—Coroner Walden returned from the home of William O. Bering, near Pickrell, where he was called to investigate the cause of death of Henry Henke, aged 76, and Anna Henke, aged 70, who were found dead in bed, having been killed by lightning. No inquest was held.

Insane Man From Boston.

YORK—H. L. Smith, who left Boston last spring, was found at the Burlington yards. When he left Boston he had \$200 and when found possessed just 3 cents. He has at some time been in the insane asylum.

Depland for Furnas Lands.

CAMBRIDGE—By reason of the splendid crops in Furnas county the last few seasons has been the occasion of numerous land seekers being in evidence lately. A large number of farms have changed hands the last six months and indications are that the tide is just starting. The Republican valley has become famous far and wide for good crops at all seasons. Lands have been and are being sold below their actual value as compared with the lands a short distance east of this locality.

Alleged Horse Thief Returned.

WAHOO—Sheriff Webster returned from Cuming county with the man who, it is alleged, stole Joseph Erickson's horse, near Wahoo, a few weeks ago. He was captured by Sheriff Kloke of Cuming county, near Stanton.

Lightning Does \$4,000 Damage.

NEBRASKA CITY—Lightning struck the barn of F. Charles Schreiner, residing seven miles northwest of this city, and it was destroyed with its contents and two head of mules.

OVER THE STATE.

Henry Walker, an old soldier and barber of McCook, committed suicide by shooting himself. He had been drinking heavily.

The physics building of the state university will be ready for occupancy in two months. The stone tops for the laboratory tables have arrived and will be placed as soon as the piping and wiring of the tables is finished.

A young son of M. Henderson of "N" town, Seward county, accidentally shot himself with a 22-caliber rifle, the charge taking effect in his thigh and passing downward. The physicians say the wound is not necessarily fatal.

Fred Corison was brought before County Judge King at Pender upon the charge of incest with his 12-year-old daughter. He waived hearing and was bound over to district court in \$1,500 bonds, which he failed to furnish.

The Johnson county fair will be held at Tecumseh September 12, 13, 14 and 15. The premium list is a large one and the races promise to be excellent. The agricultural exhibit will be an interesting one, as will also the live stock show.

A message has been received by Mr. August Johnson, a farmer living between York and Bradshaw, that his son, Carl Johnson, had been drowned in Oregon. There were no particulars. The remains will be buried in Nebraska.

Charles T. Bowman was blown to the ceiling by an explosion of machinery in the plant of the Lincoln Upholstering company July 3 last. He sued the company for damages and it answered by saying that according to the most reliable inspection the machinery was all right. The defect was not to be seen, hence it is not liable.

The nineteenth annual reunion and picnic of the old settlers' association of Cuming county was held in the Riverside park in that city. Each succeeding year demonstrates the increasing popularity of this annual gathering. In spite of the threatening cloudy weather some thousands of Cuming county citizens gathered to celebrate this day.

Bids for the construction of a residence and barn and granary for the state experiment sub-station at North Platte will be advertised for in a few days. Superintendent of Construction Chown of the State university has completed the plans. The call for a house the cost of which probably will be \$3,500, and a barn and granary at \$2,200.

Mrs. Harriet M. Steele has brought suit in the district court of Otoe county against the Missouri Pacific Railway company for \$5,000 damages for the death of her husband, John S. Steele, who was a watchman at the Missouri Pacific crossing at Weeping Water. Steele was killed by a train while he was standing on the railroad crossing.

A. S. Gregeret, who raises beets for the sugar factory in Dodge county, returned from an inspection trip through Colorado, Wyoming and western Nebraska. The trip was made for the purpose of gaining familiarity with the beet raising industry in these sections. Mr. Gregeret got some pointers that he will use in the cultivation of the crop here.

For the first time for about eight years Seward county's general fund warrants are being registered for lack of funds. This is owing partly to the failure of a railroad to pay its taxes and partly because county expenditures are a little heavier than they used to be. As a result the county board has this year made a heavier levy than before.

The body of the unidentified negro who was murdered in Norfolk when he asked for a drink was sent to Lincoln, where it will be given, according to the state law, to a medical college, for dissection. No friends claimed the body and this action was required. No trace of the murderer has been found and the chances are fast diminishing for ever catching him.

The Johnson county teachers' institute, just closed, is said to have been the most interesting meeting of the kind ever held in the county. Ninety-eight teachers enrolled during the session. County Superintendent B. E. Dill has shown marked ability in the government of the schools of the county the past two years and the county teachers' association, by resolution, at the close of the institute, commended his work and unanimously endorsed him for re-election this fall.

A couple of grafters, claiming to be from Plattsmouth, have been trying to swindle the farmers along the Iowa bottoms. Their graft is a patent medicine which they claim will cure rheumatism in any form, and also numerous other ills to which the flesh is heir. To substantiate their claims the young men produced testimonials containing the signatures of a number of Plattsmouth people. The "medicine," it is said, is mostly water, with a little coloring matter, and net the grafters considerable profit on each sale.

Nebraska City was visited by millions of small crickets the other night and the buildings along Central avenue were black with them. Where they come from or where they go no one can tell. They were about all gone next morning.

Frank Iams, the horseman, arrived in St. Paul from Europe with his annual importation of Belgian stallions and sound horses. The transportation from New York was made by means of a specially chartered Wells-Fargo express train consisting of five large cars, and the trip was made in sixty hours.

The old settlers of Gage county held their picnic on the Chautauqua grounds at Beatrice with a large attendance. These officers were elected: Hon. W. L. Jackson, president; Hugh J. Dobbs, vice president; C. F. Gale, secretary; A. D. Sage, treasurer.

Arrangements have been made for the laying of the corner stone of Seward county's new \$85,000 court house on Wednesday, September 20, at 10:30 o'clock. The exercises are to be in charge of the Masonic order, while all the other fraternal and benevolent orders in the county will be invited to participate.

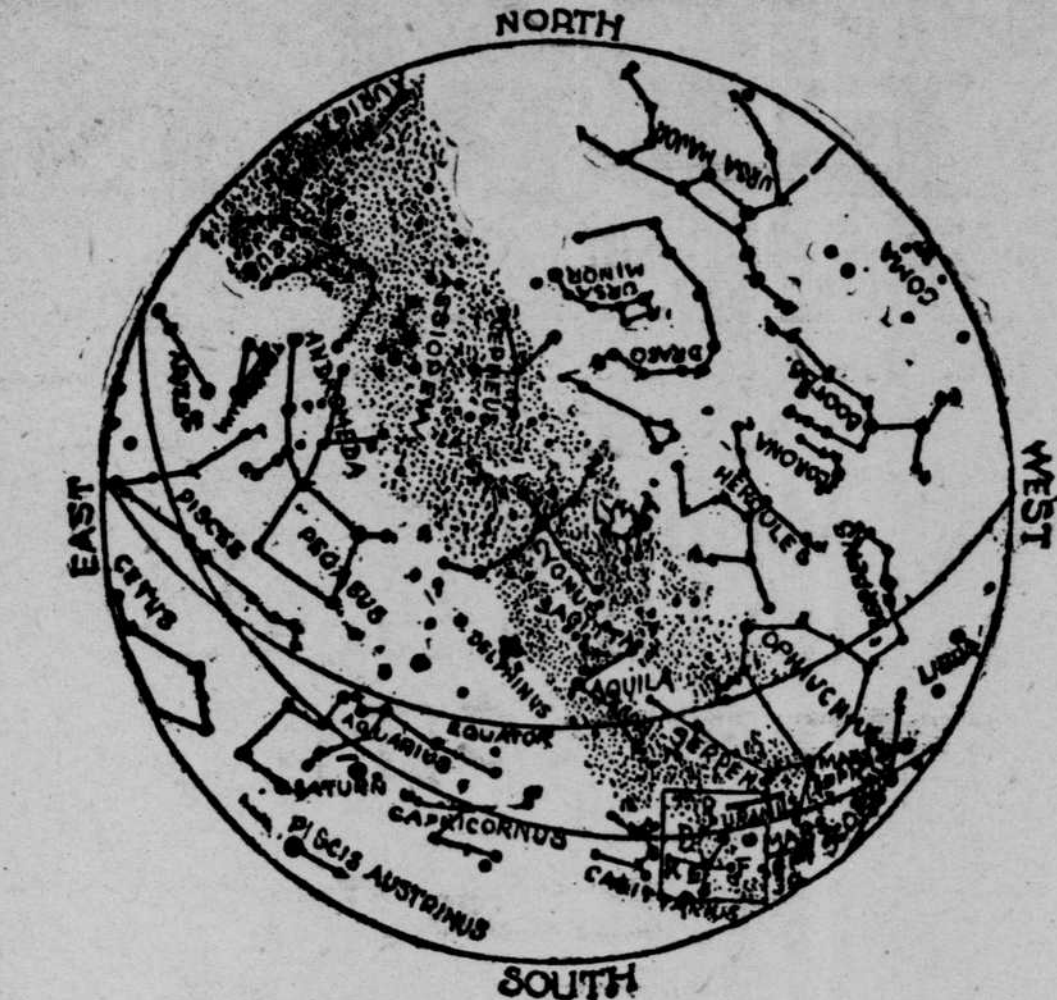


Fig. 1—The constellations at 9 p. m., Sept. 1.

It is the purely autumn constellations which may be seen covering the face of the sky during the evenings of September. A last glimpse of the striking summer group Scorpio may still be had, but this constellation is rapidly sinking low down in the southwest and will soon disappear for another year. At the close of the month the Pleiades and the Hyades, the first of the winter stars, may be seen just above the ground in the east, telling us that summer is indeed over and



Fig. 2—The square in Fig. 1, enlarged, showing the position of Uranus and surrounding stars.

that winter is at hand. Meanwhile it is the less striking but no less beautiful faint autumn groups which are with us.

Directly overhead will be seen the brilliant Vega with the Northern Cross on the east and the delicate little oval figure known as the Northern Crown to the west. Below the Northern Cross is the bright group Aquila, or the Eagle, while further south, at the point where the Milky Way meets the ground, is the large faint group Sagittarius, or the Archer. Arcturus, the largest star of the group Bootes, may still be seen driving the Great Bear in ceaseless flight before him in the northwest, while directly opposite him in the extreme southeast there is a

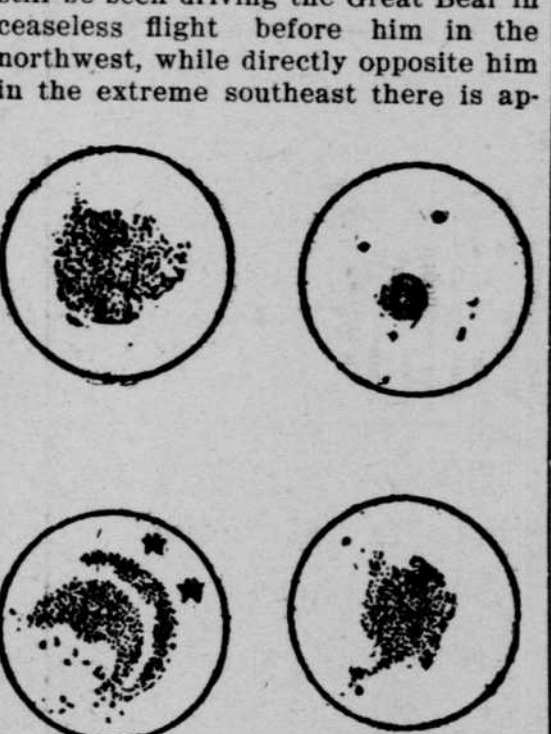


Fig. 3—Star clusters as they appear in a small telescope.

peering for the first time this year, the magnificent Royal Star, Formalhaut.

Mars Will Disappear. The planet Mars is still conspicuous in the southwest, but it would disappear during the month were it not that it has already begun its very rapid eastward motion among the stars. It is now just above Antares, the fiery red star which will be seen sitting in the extreme southwest, but during the month it will move entirely out of the constellation Scorpio and well into the Milky Way. As will be seen from figure 1 it will by this time almost have overtaken the planet Uranus, which is itself moving very slowly toward the east, but it will not pass this body until Oct. 8 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The beautiful planet Saturn, with its rings, is each evening being brought into more and more favorable position for observation. It is now in the southeast in the constellation Aquarius. It may be easily located on the brightest

ered myself—and so have my friends—as a very criterion of morality and clean living. Unlike the worthless and poverty stricken young rakes of these days, Ethel, I am not only fabulously rich, but have absolutely no bad habits.

"That's just it, Mr. Stocksandbonds; that is just why I must refuse you," said the girl, in a tone of infinite sadness.

"Impossible!" gasped the aged millionaire. "Do you mean to say that you would admire bad habits in a husband?"

"But, oh, Mr. Stocksandbonds, I—I," stammered the sweet young thing, noting, however, that her official stenographer and recording phonograph were in good acoustic positions.

"Ah, Miss Ethel," the old millionaire was saying, "it is in the meridian of life that we can appreciate woman's worth and her cheering, divine presence. All else have I, palaces, automobiles, yachts; but without you they are as nothing."

"Ah, Mr. Stocksandbonds," blushed the debutante, "I would marry you, indeed I would, but for one thing against you—your personal habits."

"But," protested the old millionaire, with dignity, "I have always consid-

actly like a rather small greenish star. Yet if the observer will compare the planet with the other stars near it he will soon notice a difference in the character of its light or luster, while if he has access to a telescope of four or five inches aperture the little round disk will be very distinctly visible.

Has Dense Atmosphere. The planet is so inconspicuous in the telescope only because it is so enormously far away. Actually it is a great world 32,000 miles in diameter, but so great is its distance from us that its light occupies two hours and forty-seven minutes in making its long journey to the earth, although light travels more than 186,000 miles in one second of time. The planet is surrounded by a very dense atmosphere, and indeed is very probably wholly vaporized and at a high temperature. Its density is still very low; a cubic foot of Uranus would only weigh one-fourth as much as a cubic foot of our earth, and apparently many ages must pass away as it shrinks together and cools off before it can support any form of life which we can conceive of.

Four Small Moons. Uranus is attended by four small round planets in only two and one-half days, while the outer one requires only thirteen and one-half days in which to make the circuit. It will be remembered that our own moon goes around the earth in twenty-eight days. While a month on Uranus, reckoning by its nearest moon, is but two and one-half days long, the year, on the contrary, is eighty-four times as long as ours, for Uranus occupies eighty-four years in passing around the sun. Only an inhabitant who lived to be a good old age would therefore be privileged to see the four seasons, spring, summer, autumn and winter, on this planet.

On figure 2 there are shown a few of the interesting objects in this part of the sky. Each round dot of this figure represents a star, the size of the dots showing the comparative brightness of the stars, while each triangular dot shows the position of a star

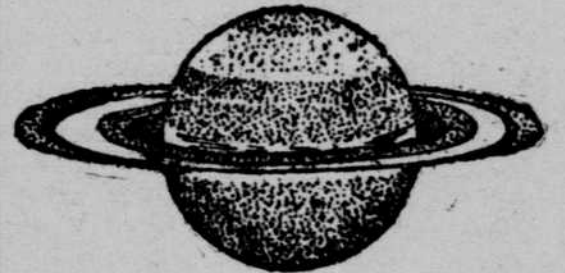


Fig. 5—Saturn as it appears now.

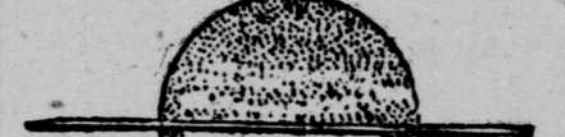


Fig. 6—Saturn as it appears when the rings are seen nearly edgewise.



Fig. 7—Saturn when the rings are turned edgewise to the observer.

cluster or nebula. Each dot marked D, each triple star T, each red star R, and each variable star V.

Star Clusters. The clusters will repay examination. Those at L, S and 2 are rather loose clusters, but are fine objects in a small telescope. Those at W, O and Q are densely crowded clusters of faint stars, the first being surrounded by a superb field of brighter stars. The two dots marked P are remarkable extended nebulous clouds which is divided by black lanes into three parts and mixed up with a cluster of stars; the upper is the horseshoe nebula whose appearance in a large telescope is as shown in figure 3. In figure 4 are several star clusters as they appear in a small telescope; the first of these is the cluster at Q, figure 2.

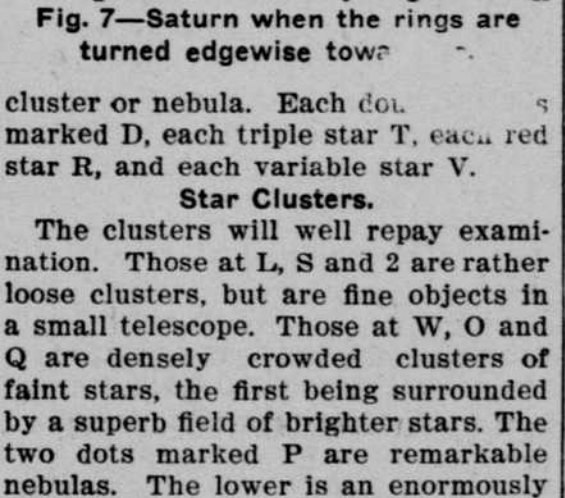


Fig. 4—The Horseshoe Nebula.

It was a bargain day on Sixth avenue, New York, and twenty baby carriages, all properly checked, were arranged up in front of a department store while the mothers were inside buying things they didn't need. Suddenly a baby at one end of the line stood up, toppled over against the next carriage, and in a moment all the carriages went over like ninepins, sending the kids sprawling

Auto Opens New Fields. An automobile milk wagon which is running in Ohio and doing the work of two and three horses every day is one of the recent developments of the horseless age. Another is an automobile in the Congo Free State, where electricity and coal are not to be considered as power generators, and where, therefore, wood was mustered into service as the only logical fuel. The wood burning car weighs a ton and has a maximum speed of twelve miles an hour. Sheet steel wheels with heavy pneumatic tires are used. The fifteen horsepower engine is enclosed in a bullet proof bonnet, as the vehicle is to be used in transporting troops and is expected to be under fire at times. A third novelty in the automobile business is the arrangement of an enterprising Yankee for a regular service of motor omnibuses to the pyramids.

Giant Steamers. The world's merchant marine of giant steamers of over 12,000 register tons now includes fifty-six vessels, thirty-one of which are under the English flag.

Bantam Chickens. Bantam chickens came from Bantam, a town in Japan.

Ship Insurance. The ships of the world are insured for a total of \$4,750,000,000.

Towel Was Done Brown. Senator Pettus of Alabama, on a bright April morning, was defending the government's bestowal of seeds upon the farmers.

"Those who oppose this custom," he said, "are ignorant of the farmer's work and of the farmer's needs. They are as ignorant as a little Alabama girl of whom I heard the other day."

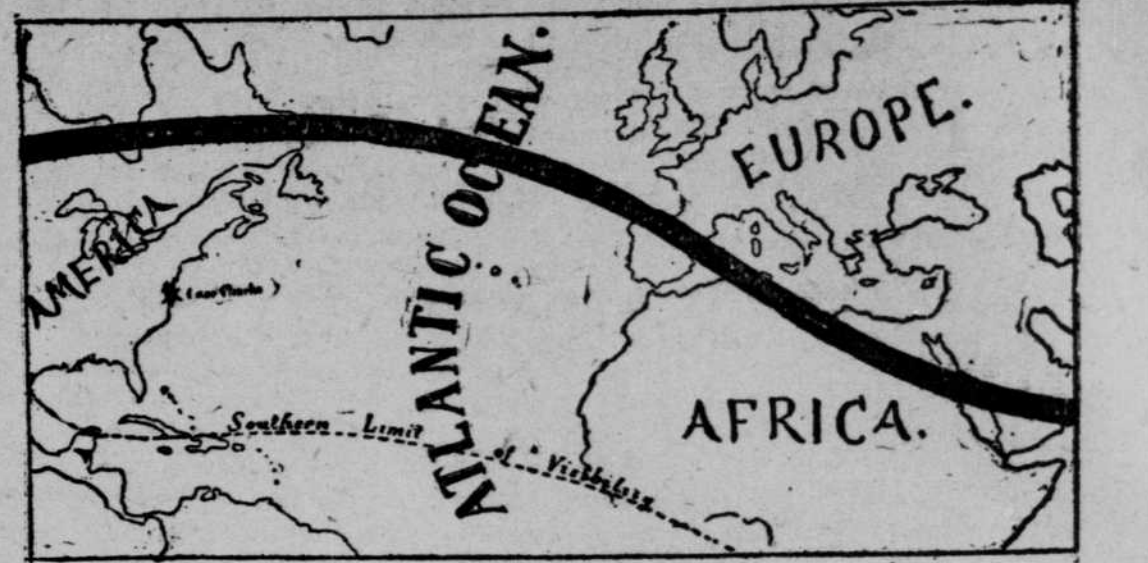
"This little girl's mother handed her a damp towel."

"Minnie," she said, "take this towel into the kitchen and hold it in front of the fire until it is dry."

"Yes, mamma," said the child and she threw the towel over her shoulder and departed.

"The mother continued her work. She forgot all about her daughter. Ten or fifteen minutes passed."

"Then there sounded from the kitchen a clear young treble voice. 'A mamma,' it called, 'is the towel done when it's brown?'"—Salt Lake Herald.



The eclipse of the sun early on the morning of Wednesday, Aug. 30, was visible in some partial stage over most of the United States.

The line of total eclipse passed far to the north in Canada. The partial eclipse in the United States started a few minutes before the sun arose. In some parts of the northern part of the country the sun's disk was two-thirds obscured.

In the above diagram the heavy black line marks the path of totality.

GETTING INTO BAD HABITS.

Injurious Small Actions Too-Frequently Pass Unnoticed.

I wonder how many women who are "altruists" realize that much of their trouble is due to certain little everyday habits that pass unnoticed, but are none the less injurious? For instance, the manner of sitting. The average woman assumes a strained and incorrect position when reading, writing and sewing—yes, even when resting, says the Pittsburg Dispatch.

Now, a good habit, like a bad one, is only repeated action; and a little thought on the subject would soon render it the most natural thing to assume a correct position at all times, sitting, standing or lying down.

Don't sit with the shoulders drawn forward, one shoulder higher than the other, and your head bent down until the shape of your vertebral column resembles the letter C.

Another bad fault is slouching down in your chair until you are literally sitting on the end of your spine.

Not only should "grown-ups" look to their own bad habits, but they should watch closely the small children with whom they come in daily contact and try to keep them from acquiring injurious habits. Children should be prevented from their particular falling as much as possible at once, and it is worth while to give up a few weeks to the cure, just as you would if they were suffering from a childish disease—measles, or mumps, for instance.

The problem is made particularly difficult in that frequently we find them established before we have really noticed them.

Bennie's Bait to Catch Devils.

Many years ago, in the village of Houlton, Me., there lived a young man named Benjamin Salmon, known by every one as a simpleton, who was always doing strange things. One day a number of boys discovered a barn perched on a fence behind a barn with a cotton string and pin hook attached to a willow stick, fishing in a pool of stagnant water. This was great fun for the boys, but their jeers had no effect on Bennie.

Joshua Smith, a revenue officer, who was passing, stopped to see what the fun was. After taking in the situation he addressed Bennie thus:

"What you fishin' for?"

"Bennie, without raising his head, replied, 'Devils.'"

"Ah, devils, eh," retorted Mr. Smith; "and what have you on for bait?"

"With the same indifference Bennie replied, 'Revenue officers, sir.'"

Odd Things About Words.

"Were you in the garden for the purpose of committing a felony?" asked the English judge of the small boy. "No, sir," said the boy; "me and my cousin were after the gentleman's fowls and eggs." "Forfeiture of lands and goods and 'corruption of blood' (loss of hereditary standing) were formerly the penalties for felony. Before they got their technical sense, however, 'felon' and 'felony' (connected either with Latin 'fallere,' to deceive or 'fell,' gall, bitterness) connoted wickedness, anger, courage or melancholy, as the case might be. 'The admiral began to laugh for felony,' says Caxton, meaning that he laughed, not feloniously, but recklessly. Also a boil or whitlow was a 'felon' and cholera 'felony.'"

Babies Mixed on Bargain Day.

It was a bargain day on Sixth avenue, New York, and twenty baby carriages, all properly checked, were arranged up in front of a department store while the mothers were inside buying things they didn't need. Suddenly a baby at one end of the line stood up, toppled over against the next carriage, and in a moment all the carriages went over like ninepins, sending the kids sprawling

Mysterious Cannon Ball.

A three-pounder "live" cannon shell of foreign make has been found in a field on the banks of the River Humber, near Hull, Eng. The startling discovery was made by an old naval reserve man, who at once took the projectile to Hull and handed it over to the police. The chief officer of the Royal Naval Reserve Battery on examining the shell found that it had been fired, but it had not exploded. It is 8 inches long, 3 inches in circumference, and copper covered from nose to base. He considered it dangerous, and took charge of it. No one seems to know how it came there.

Grand Trunk Terminal.

It is stated on what is said to be unquestionable authority that Kalra Island, twenty-five miles south of Port Simpson and facing Tuckett's inlet, is to be the site of Laurier City, the western terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

America Interests Japs.

Japanese publications are full of American articles on all kinds of subjects.