

The Chief

C. B. HALE, Publisher

RED CLOUD - NEBRASKA

MAKING OF BOOKS.

If of the making of many books, in the sense of printing them, there is no end, still less is there an end of writing would-be books. Accepted manuscripts amount to the tens of thousands, but the number of the rejected is myriad. This fact is generally known, but attempts to reduce the knowledge to a statistical basis have been few, says the New York Evening Post. At the recent dinner of the Authors society in England the editor of the Cornhill stated that of all the manuscripts offered to Smith, Elder & Co., "less than two per cent." were accepted and published. This ratio is probably too low for the trade as a whole. Publishers of the standing of the firm mentioned must have more manuscripts sent to them than do houses not of so established a reputation, and, more than this, would naturally be more fastidious than some others about what they print. Both these considerations would tend to keep low their proportion of accepted offerings. But even supposing the average ratio to be 10 or even 15 per cent., one sees how great a mass of writing never comes to the types, and gets a hint of the extent of baffled hopes and even tragic disappointments in the case of authors powerless to be born.

The recognition of rats as plague carriers makes it logical to study their migration. The greatest fear of rats has been manifested in the large harbors of the Pacific coast, where rodents come ashore from vessels that have touched at ports in the Orient reeking with pestilence of various dreaded descriptions, including the bubonic plague. The health commissioner of Seattle yesterday liberated twenty-five rats dyed a bright red for the purpose of identification and offered two dollars apiece for the production of their bodies, dead or alive, together with a report of the places where they are caught. This is done with a view of tracing the distribution of the waterfront rats, when the latter move into the residence portion of the city, as is their habit during the spring. Knowing the movements of the rats, it will be possible to war upon them to better advantage.

Professor Chamberlain's belief that the discovery of the south pole will enable experts to predict the weather of a year ahead is, considered dispassionately, not so incredible. There are weather prophets now who predict the weather as far ahead as that. But before poles were known or even America conceived Hotspur pointed out the essential difficulty in his answer to Glendower's boast that he could "call spirits from the vasty deep." It is not so hard to predict, but the real trouble is in making the predictions come true.

A Chicago girl, the daughter of a wealthy contractor, ran away from home and hired out to do housework, because she had a hard time with her studies at school—particularly Latin. There are boys as well as girls who at fifteen decide they have had enough of books and would like to go to work. If there is a law to stop them its effect is very likely to be prejudicial to their future, causing them to idle away time in which, if not interfered with, they would acquire the discipline of honest toil.

Parisian dressmakers have invented a skirt which is more startling than anything the ladies have hitherto adopted. It contains a slit which extends above the knee and is to be worn with stockings made of silken network with extra large meshes. We can't believe that such a costume will meet with general approval if we are to continue to have old-fashioned winters.

A woman has just died in Rhode Island who in thirty-four years' service as a librarian read more than 6,000 novels through before they went upon the shelves. And yet this martyr in the cause of duty was over seventy when her life of slow literary torture ended.

A new railroad terminal in a New York town is to have a "kissing gallery," where friends and relations can meet in osculatory welcome. And yet they say corporations have no soul, with a railroad showing such heart interest in its patrons!

In spite of the advance of science it will be a long time before a presidential candidate makes speeches from the rear platform of an airplane. But in the meantime our candidates will continue to deliver flighty speeches.

Mars is not inhabited, according to an English astronomer. However, there is no likelihood that any great number of our citizens will develop brain fever over the question.

Madame Pompadour Hat Is One of the Very Latest Creations



Photo, Copyright, by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.

This white Neapolitan hat is one of fashion's very latest creations. The crown is covered with rare silk figured in the delicate shades of pink and green, the pompon being of pink roses with green leaves, being the ruling style for these hats.

SOMETHING OF A NOVELTY CHARACTER SHOWN BY DRESS

Inexpensive Lamp Shades May Be Designed From the Ordinary Japanese Lanterns.

An inexpensive, novel and pretty way of making lamp shades, especially for the summer cottages, is to utilize Japanese lanterns. The kind used are the rather large, oval-shaped ones in either a solid color or half one and half another. The upper part to the desired depth is cut off, guided by the small bamboo bands which stiffen and fold it, and is neatly trimmed off. At the top, which is finished by a black wooden band, the wire hanger is removed and in place of it one of two or three supports substituted. One consists of three wires, equidistant around the top, and bent so as to hang over the top of the lamp chimney. Another method is a regular support fitting the top and attached to the lamp at the base of the chimney; or else the lower edge of the shade may be wired and the usual tripod support be used.

I made two like this, using the first mentioned style of hanging just for fun this summer, and the cheerful, red-figured Japanese lily shades made such a hit that all my neighbors made, or had me make, the same things for them.—Harper's Bazar.

PRETTY SILK WAIST



This pretty waist is of light silk piped with black and ornamented with little straps and buttons.

The yoke is of lace finished at the neck with a frill of embroidered muslin, and similar frills finish the sleeves.

Many Shades of Red.

The new combination in smart afternoon and evening gowns is tomato red, with the purple of Hamburg grapes. This red is one of the new shades of the fashionable color and is a lovely one, indeed.

Among its rivals are raspberry, watermelon, flame and geranium. Among the purples are grape, night, royal, Vatican or cardinal purple and amethyst purple.

It is not a new fashion to mingle purple and red, but for a while it went out; now it seems to have returned through the insistent influence of Paul Poiret, who has never ceased to love and use it, so that it has become more credited to his name than to any other great designer.

Value, as a Setting for the Personality, Varies With the Moods of the Wearer.

No woman can afford to be indifferent in the matter of costume, and all women are more or less influenced by what they wear.

One dandy swaggers about in masculine effects, heavy boots, stiff collar, tailored coat, etc., another is sweetly feminine in fluff ruffles, picture hat, chiffons, laces and parasol, and the indifference to appearances is almost invariably exactly what she looks—straight-laced, prim, severe, cold, incapable of any flight of fancy, lacking the power of sympathy, and with no intricate uncertainties to soften the hardness of her character.

Equally true is the fact that a gown which is extremely becoming today is very mediocre tomorrow. Its value as a setting for the personality varies with the moods of the wearer. When discouragement, depression and a general feeling of dullness envelops one in a gray cloud the tendency is to don black, a gray or a dull brown gown. Such a choice is a great mistake, tending to accentuate the gloom about the wearer. Crush such a choice under foot and choose instead the liveliest dress in your wardrobe. Something with red, brilliant green, bright blue or any vivid tone.

WORN AT RECENT WEDDING

Costumes of Bride and Attendants That Were the Last Word for Such Occasions.

At a recent wedding of importance some of the costumes were noteworthy.

The bride's gown was of silver and white brocaded satin, elaborately embroidered and trimmed with alencon lace. The square court train was three yards in length.

It was almost completely covered with a veil of rare old lace, a family heirloom.

The honor maid wore a dainty frock of palest pink mousseline de soie over a faint tint of blue liberty silk.

The bodice had a dropped fichu of finest Chantilly lace caught slightly to the left side with a cluster of small silk roses, in the pastel shades of violet, pink and yellow.

A deep hue of six scalloped pleatings of the mousseline trimmed the skirt. Small clusters of the roses were placed at intervals around the flounce.

With this gown was worn a fascinating bonnet of shirred mousseline de soie of palest blue. A narrow pleating finished the edge and a wreath of small silk roses, matching those used upon the frock, encircled the crown and adorned the bonnet strings.

Colors in Hats.

This is a season of most brilliant colors in millinery; cerise, king's blue combined with green and a touch of pink; the tan shades, sage green, gray and pink ostrich plumes and smart combinations of black and white, all are used with a lavish hand. One of the new touches is to match the taffeta dress with a hat faced with the same material, trimming the top of the hat with a contrasting color. Contrasting facings are the rule, but there are exceptions.—Harper's Bazar.

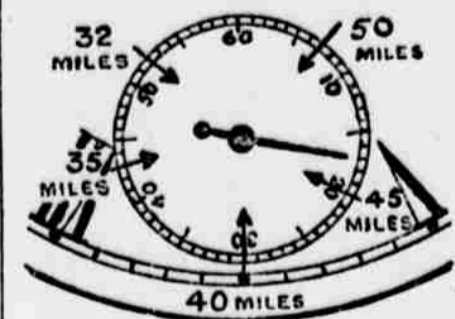
SOMETHING For the LITTLE ONES

SPEED OF RAILROAD TRAINS

Curious May Determine How Fast He is Traveling by Counting the Telegraph Poles.

Perhaps you have often been curious to know just how fast you were traveling on a railroad train. Many roads have little white posts beside the track, marking the miles and usually the quarter and half miles also, but these may not be on your side of the train.

There is another way to tell the miles. The telegraph poles are almost invariably placed fifty yards apart except when they carry a very large number of wires, and if you count



Timing Fast Trains.

thirty-five of them it will be a mile. If you have a watch with second hands on it you can tell just how many miles the train is traveling in an hour.

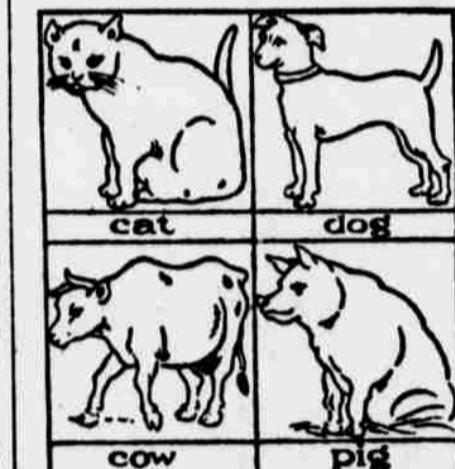
Note the time from one mile post to the next. Anything more than a minute is slower than sixty miles an hour. If the second hand gets past the minute and down to thirty seconds you are going forty miles an hour. If it gets only twelve seconds past the minute you are going fifty miles an hour and so on.

You may cut this out and take it with you on the train next time you make a railway journey, and see if you can determine your speed.

NEW JERSEY HAS TEXT BOOK

Children Are Taught to Read by Linking Names With Objects—Principle is Not Different.

A New Jersey woman has designed a new kind of text-book to teach small children how to read. Its general principle is the same as that of all books of its kind, but it goes a step farther. For instance, a page is divided into four parts and each part has the picture of an animal in it, with the name of the animal printed beneath. Thus far it is like the old style book, in that it teaches the child the name by association with the object. There are separate sheets of paper, however, with perforations along which they can be torn in part and bearing also the names of the various animals in the illustrations. The child, therefore, looks at the pic-



Novel Text Book.

ture of a cat, for example, studies the name beneath it in the book and then must pick that name from those on the separate sheets and place it under the proper illustration.

PLAYTHINGS MADE IN AFRICA

Little Puppies Are Tied to the Backs of Children, Like Mothers Carry Their Babies.

Little girls in Africa love dolls; but such queer ones!

They take little puppies and tie them on to their backs, just as their own mothers carry their babies.

What a wriggling there must be! But some of them like better to "play baby" with little pigs. Well, little pigs are real cunning (very little, white ones) but who would think of hugging them?

Little African boys make guns, by binding together two pieces of cane for a barrel, putting at one end a lump of clay for the stock, at the other a tuft of cotton for smoke.

They make spears of reeds, also bows, arrows and shields. With these they play "shoot" and "going to war."

They make mud pies, and form animals out of clay, while their sisters "jump the rope."

Like children in all lands, they play a great deal at "make believe."

They do as they see older people do. Not playing "keep house," or "go visiting," or "circus," because they do not see those things done by the older people; but they "tend" they are building a hut, making clay jars, and crushing corn to eat.

Made Realistic.

"Can't you children play without ringing the door bell so much?" "No, mamma; Edith and I are playing house, and Willie is the collector."

SOME DOLLS MADE OF FRUIT

Round, Well-Formed Apple is Needed For the Body, With Arms, Legs and Neck of Toothpick.

A round, well-formed apple is needed for the first doll. The arms and legs are made of four wooden toothpicks, stuck in the apple at the proper angle. For the feet, use raisins; and for the hands, blanched almonds with fingers cut in them. The neck is formed of another toothpick, and a walnut or a filbert forms the head. If a walnut is used, shave the roughness of the nut on one side to form the face, carving the nose and other features and leaving them in relief. Two black currants make good eyes and a piece of beet or cherry makes a good mouth. A burnt match is needed to give the face its expression. You will find the doll very funny, and quite capable of being dressed in many styles in a paper napkin. If long hair is desired, corn silk may be used.

An orange man is made of two oranges, one large and one small. The eyes, nose and mouth are curved in the smaller orange; and ears are made by turning out a wee bit of the peel. Then divide the large orange in halves, following the line of the sections. One half, with all the pulp removed, will make a hat, the edges of which may be turned up. The other half orange is laid on its flat side to form the base or body. The small orange is placed on top of this, a scrap of skin having been removed from both surfaces to make a flat surface on which to rest the head. Two wooden toothpicks or a sharp little stick are thrust through to hold the two together. If a paper napkin is used for a skirt, it will make a "lady doll." A strip of the white orange peel from inside the hat will make trimmings or a necktie.

A rulin man is made by stringing fat raisins on wire hairpins, using large raisins for the body and smaller ones for the legs and arms.

UNIQUE TOY MADE OF IRON

Patent on Device Supplemented by Permanent Horseshoe Issued to Columbus, Ohio, Man.

A patent upon a device consisting of a soft iron wheel traveling upon a permanent horseshoe magnet has



The Traveling Wheel.

been issued to Louis B. Lewis, Columbus, Ohio, says the Popular Electricity.

The wheel acts as a "keeper" and is the horseshoe is tilted the wheel rolls along the rails made for it, around the ends and along the under side as well, apparently defying the law of gravity. The device is designed for a toy.

MAGIC LADDER GAME AMUSES

Interesting Pastime Played by Use of Multiple of Seven—Winner is Left Facing Center.

Standing in a ring the children begin counting as follows:

The leader says, "One I see;" the next player says, "Two I see;" and so on in turn until the number seven is reached. The seventh player, instead of pronouncing the magic number by saying "Seven I see," says, "I go up one round," and starts to run around the circle on the outside. The next player continues, "Eight I see;" the next, "Nine I see," and so on till the next multiple of seven. The first runner tries to get around to his place before "fourteen" is reached. If not successful, the runner is out of the counting part of the game, and though remaining in the circle must turn and stand facing outward.

When "fourteen" is reached, this being twice seven, the player, instead of saying "Fourteen I see," says, "I go up two rounds," and starts to run around the circle before "twenty-one" is reached, which is the signal for "going up three rounds."

Each player having a multiple of seven speaks accordingly and runs once around the circle; but those who should be runners sometimes fail quickly to recognize the fact, in which case they must turn around and forfeit their count for the rest of the game. The game goes on until one—the winner—is left facing in toward the center.

Heaven Lost Its Charm.

"Mamma," the Chicago Post quotes the five-year-old, sitting in his bath, as saying, "we have to die."

"Yes," assented the mother, rubbing him cheerfully.

"I have to die, and you have to die."

"Oh, yes; some time."

"Then we have to go to heaven. Will they live in different houses, or all together in one family?"

"Perhaps all in one family," suggested the mother, carelessly.

"Then I don't want to go to heaven. There wouldn't be anybody to visit."

Zebra is Defined.

A little boy writing a composition on the zebra was requested to describe the animal, and to mention what it is useful for. After deep reflection, he wrote: "The zebra is like a horse, only striped. It is chiefly used to illustrate the letter Z."

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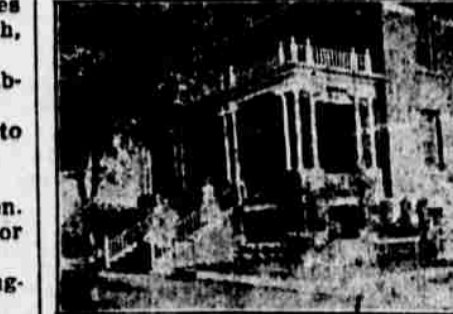
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