THE SPRING BOARD AND THE USE OF IT.

THE RIGHT WAY TO DIVE.

As soon as he learns how to propel himself through the water the American boy wants to dive. In this age of physical culture there is no better method for developing leg and arm muscles, breathing organs, etc., than swimming and diving.

It is the best to start diving from a springboard, placed on the hand, and the water should be at least seven or eight feet deep, so that there will be no danger that the diver's head will strike the bottom. The board should be at least two inches thick, 12 inches wide and 10 to 12 feet long.

A good way to make a springboard is shown in the accompanying illustration. Having finished the board and tested it thoroughly walk to the outer end for the first dive.

Stand with your toes just over the end of the board, your hands by your sides, and spring the board slightly two or three times—not too violently, or you will be thrown awkwardly.

Leave the board when it is "down," with your arms extended outward in a straight line from the shoulders. Bring the hands together, making a wedge of the arms from hands to shoulders, just before striking the water.

Many boys dive from the springboard straight toward the water. This is incorrect. The expert diver makes what is known as the "swan dive," which consists in throwing himself from the board forward instead of downward, with the body horizontal, chest out, shoulders back and arms extended.

As he cleaves the air he makes a pretty picture. Just before reaching the water he brings his hands together, arms at full length, draws his chin down close to his chest to protect the head and stiffens the body.

With hands forming the entering point of the wedge he cuts the water with scarcely a sound, and his back and legs follow the line of his hands and do not make the splash that is the bane of every instructor.

Many boys have a habit of doubling their legs from the knee down just as they strike the water, and this makes a loud splash. To prevent this the legs should be held stiff, the feet pointing as nearly straight as possible.

GRAVE OF KIT CARSON.

Secluded Valley in the Heart of the Rockies Where His Ashes Repose.

The grave of Kit Carson, the famous scout, is decorated each Memorial day with tender care by the people among whom the closing days of his life were spent and where the dust of the great frontiersman reposes. His grave is in the Taos Valley, New Mexico, amid the rugged Rockies.

KIT CARSON.

The inhabitants of this valley—chiefly Mexicans and Indians—form a little world by themselves. Each generation swings around its cycle in the steps of its predecessors; fills out its allotted span and makes way for its successor. Empires may rise and fall, but these people know naught of them. The railroad and the telegraph are merely traditions brought back by the few centuresome spirits who dare the mountain defiles.

CARSON'S OLD HOME AT TAOS, NEW MEXICO.

This valley, now unknown to the average American, has been the scene of many stirring events. History has known it for nearly 400 years, having found it in possession of a village of Pueblos in 1542. Before history strayed this way there had been another race and civilization there. The ruined walls standing to-day point to a great city, and half-filled irrigation ditches prove considerable engineering ability, but the ancient people have not left a tradition.

The Pueblos of this valley led the revolt of 1680, which drove the Spaniards from New Mexico for 12 years. Pope, the San Juan Indian who was the chief of the red rebels, made his headquarters in this valley, and here was the capital of New Mexico during the life of the great Pueblo Confederacy. The aborigines of this mountain region were always brave and lovers of freedom. They joined in many revolts against their Spanish oppressors. When the Mexicans rose against their own corrupt officials in 1837 the Pueblos of the Taos Valley aided them, and one of these Indians, Gonzales, was installed in the historic palace at Santa Fe as Governor of New Mexico. Even 10 years later, when called on by their Mexican neighbors to redeem their pledge as allies, these Pueblos did not hesitate to make war even against the United States.

It was into this quaint and romantic nook, high up on the backbone of the continent that an "American invasion" brought a band of trappers like Carson and traders like Charles Bent of Bent's Fort fame. Carson and others married Mexican women, and here, among the simple, hospitable Mexicans, in the very heart of the Rockies, they had a safe and convenient haven for their families during their perilous wanderings. Like his humble, Spanish-speaking neighbors, Carson lived in a one-story adobe house. Here he reared a family of children, but they wandered away.

From Taos Carson went forth to lead John C. Fremont and help him earn the title of "Pathfinder," and from here he went to the conquest of California. His home was here at the time of his death, though he had gone to Fort Logan, Colorado, for treatment by an army surgeon, and died there.

In his last years Carson was an object of interest to the American, Mexican and Indian, and he received many visitors at his home. He is recalled by the older inhabitants of Taos as a kindly old man who had come to be known as "Father Kit."

VALUE OF AN EDUCATION.

It Arouses in the Possessor a Desire for Brain Work.

Education is good for any man or woman who accepts it simply as intellectual enlightenment and as a means of intellectual pleasure, says the San Francisco Bulletin. But education has an economical as well as an intellectual aspect. It gives a man or woman appetites as well as pleasures. It creates in the individual a need and desire for brain work and a distaste for manual labor. It arouses a wish for luxuries and social position that only wealth can bring. It drives men and women into those few occupations which social prejudice leaves open to educated persons. There is no room in these professions for the crowd. Consequently, a multitude of the less competent among college graduates fail in their work and become dissatisfied.

It would be well if the higher education were confined to those only who through superior powers of mind seem fitted for it and give promise of being able to employ it in the intellectual professions. Every graduating class at every university contains a large percentage of students who barely pass the tests and who have no natural aptitude for intellectual occupation. These are dumped upon the market with lofty ideas and insufficient ability to back them up. Education to them is a curse instead of a blessing. It makes them take up work at which they cannot succeed, and despise and shun the work for which God made them. Even if they find out their mistake after leaving college, it is commonly too late to mend. The years in which they might have been learning a trade or a business are gone. They can do everything in general, but nothing in particular; and the man that succeeds to-day is the one who can do something in particular and do it especially well.

The Moon (to the Sun)—Don't you ever get tired?

The Sun—To tell the truth, I don't know; I've never stopped to think of it.—Detroit Free Press.

Science and Invention

The Ambidextral Culture Society of England seeks to increase the ability to use the left hand, but without aiming to add to production in the arts by the simultaneous use of both hands.

Monthly balloon ascents in the interest of meteorology are now made at about 14 stations in France, Germany, Russia, Austria, Switzerland, Spain and Italy. Kites are sent up in Massachusetts and in England.

Radium promises to fill a need of the Paris municipal laboratory. Measurement of the electricity of the air has depended upon water, which gives trouble by freezing in winter, but radium offers a means of measurement unaffected by cold.

Rivers seem to have played a considerable part in limiting the distribution of animals. A notable instance of many noted by W. L. Distant, a British zoologist, is that of the viscacha, a rabbit-like rodent of South America, which is abundant south of Uruguay, but is unknown to the north, where the country seems quite as well adapted to its habits.

Leprosy has been investigated by Jonathan Hutchinson, the great English pathologist, in all parts of the globe where it prevails. He finds nothing to justify the idea of contagion, as attendants in leper hospitals do not contract the disease, nothing like an epidemic is ever known, and even transmission from husband to wife is rare. He attributes the disease to decayed or badly cured fish—not to any excessive use of fish in good condition.

Two large and swift transatlantic steamships, to be built for the Cunard line, are to be propelled by steam-turbines. This fact is of great interest for shipbuilders and engineers, because the turbines required will be far larger than any now in use. The largest turbines at present in marine use are those of the steamship Queen, which plies between Dover and Calais. A new French type of steam-turbine, recently applied for the propulsion of a first-class torpedo boat, gives a speed of more than 26 knots.

All diamonds do not shine in the dark after exposure to sunlight or electric light, but some do to a remarkable degree. A diamond rubbed with a woolen cloth, or against a hard surface, will sometimes shine brilliantly. The emission of light is a property belonging to many, if not all, kinds of crystals. A variety of white marble found at Hastings-on-Hudson gives out a flame-colored glow when pounded, and bright flashes when scratched with steel. In Northern New York is found a kind of stone, known locally as "hellfire rock," which exhibits bright sulphur-colored streaks when scratched in the dark. Pieces of rose quartz rubbed together exhibit brilliant flashes, sometimes bright enough to illuminate the hands of the person holding them. Smoked quartz and other varieties sometimes show a similar phenomenon.

THE HORN OF A COW.

Many Useful Things Are Made Out of It.

Scientists, those men who are fond of finding out all about things, tell us that a cow's horn is a combination of phosphate of lime, gelatine and albumen, with these three substances in the right proportion to make the horn not only serviceable to the animal, but useful to man. The lime makes the horn hard, but there is just enough to make it hard without making it brittle, and there is just enough gelatine to make the horn easy to cut and shape, says the New York Herald.

Inside the horn is a core, which is bone. To get it out the horn is soaked in water for several weeks and when the core comes out it is ground up and made into crucibles, which are used for melting gold and silver in.

The outer end of the horn is hard and solid and is used for making knife handles and other things. The hollow part of the horn is soaked for half an hour or so in boiling water, when it becomes soft and may easily be split with a knife. It is then spread out flat and put between iron plates. There was a time long ago when these horn plates were made very thin by hard pressure and used in windows and lanterns as we now use glass. The "horn-books" of the olden time, from which children learned the alphabet, were made of the same.

When horn is heated it may be molded into almost any desirable form. That is the way knife handles, buttons and other articles are made. A mold of the required shape is used and when the heated horn substance is put into it and subjected to pressure the material takes the shape of the mold.

Easy for Him.

"There's a quare thing about a cousin o' mine," said Barney O'Flynn. "He has a great habit o' walkin' in his sleep."

"Can't he be cured of it at all?"

"Cured av it? Shure 'tis the makin' av him. He's on the police force."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Matrimonial.

"Did she have any money when he married her?"

"No; he took her at her face value."—Detroit Free Press.

No man need hope to pass through the pearly gates on the strength of the epitaph on his tombstone.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

Women as Wage Earners.

IT has never been determined to the satisfaction of the men workers that it is a good or a fair thing for the women workers to compete with them in the open labor market. The men contend that the women, by accepting a lower wage, decrease the average wage paid to all. The unmarried women who have no one to work for them maintain that the woman who has a husband for her bread-winner is an unfair competitor. Then, again, there are those, generally old-fashioned folk that have, like Webster's veterans, come down to us from former generations, who devoutly believe that the woman's sphere of labor, as wife and mother, is in her own home, where useful, helpful work for the world may be found to engage much of her time, energy and intelligence. These ancient people contend that the rearing aright of children, the making of good men and noble women, is the very best and the most profitable work to which married women can put their hands or minds.

Respecting the merits or demerits of any of these three contentions we do not pretend to decide, as we are past masters in neither political economy nor sociology. What we do know on the subject pretty thoroughly is that the right kind of labor is a good and beneficent thing for women as well as for men, and that day by day recognition of that fact is becoming more general. What else is being recognized is that the woman who works for a wage or salary loses no dignity nor prestige, but rather gains both by her willingness and ability either to work and support herself in womanly independence or to assist in the support of her family who need her assistance.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Saving Niagara.

GOVERNOR ODELL'S veto has, for the time being, saved Niagara Falls from spoliation by utilitarian enterprise. He rightly considers that sentiment—a love for the grand and beautiful in nature—has claims upon the law-making power which cannot wisely be ignored in behalf of money-making propositions. It will be easy to find elsewhere the power necessary to run the machinery of a population five or ten times as great as that of the United States to-day. But we cannot find another Niagara. So the New York statesman has the approval of the nation at large, whatever the disappointed Niagara corporation and its tools in the State Legislature may think of his veto.

But Governors and Legislatures come and go, and if Niagara is to flow on forever it is not well that the fate of the Falls should depend on the bargainings of lobbyists and politicians. Neither should it depend on the chance that there may never be a Governor of New York to whom sentiment may be mere silliness, and Niagara a mere waste of water which should be set to turning mill-wheels. The jurisdiction of New York State over a river which forms part of an international boundary is subject to the treaty-making power of the Federal Government. That government, in conjunction with Canada, can make the destruction of the cataract forever impossible through a treaty prohibiting any further diversion of the waters of the river. As both countries are now using the water in about equal quantities the prohibition would be fair to both, and would preserve to Canada and New York the glorious central attraction about which each has created, at vast expense, a magnificent riverside park.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Cupid in the School Houses.

FROM time immemorial the school house has been a favorite resort for sly Cupid. Thousands of charming young women have found the school house the threshold of matrimony, and countless young men have met their fate while eking out an educational existence by teaching winters and "boarding round." Under these circumstances none but the most hard-hearted educational autocrat would have the temerity to seek to banish Cupid and to say that no female teacher could rise in love and marry the man of her choice without losing her position in the public schools.

The New York Board of Education sought to banish all married women from wicked Gotham's public schools, and forthwith an incipient revolution was started. A comely young teacher named Kate S. Murphy, who fell a victim to Cupid's wiles, determined to make a test case in behalf of herself as well as of her suffering sisters, and she brought action against the superintendent for the purpose of preventing the enforcement of the by-law providing that "No woman principle, head of department or member of the teaching or supervising staff shall marry while in the employ of the Board of Education.

The case was carried to the Court of Appeals, where a victory was won for the matrimonial liberty of the female teacher. Following this defeat the New York Board of Education has now amended its by-laws by striking out the clause which permits charges to be made against a teacher-bride, but it retains the prohibitive feature, merely to demonstrate its continued belief that female teachers ought not to wed and still retain their positions.

In the meantime Kate S. Murphy has won a victory in behalf of her sex in connection with the public schools which will unquestionably be appreciated by her teaching sisters everywhere, and as a token of her good faith she will continue to teach in gay Gotham even though she has fallen a victim to clever Cupid.—Burlington Free Press.

Brazil, Peru and Rubber.

WHEN Brazil and Bolivia entered into a treaty concerning the territory of Acre last fall, it was thought that the long standing disputes over the region had finally been brought to an end. Now it appears, however, that Peru is still to be reckoned with. A battle has been fought between Peruvian and Brazilian troops on the River Crandless, the result being, according to Brazilian reports, a complete rout of the Peruvians.

The Ministers of both countries at Washington have thought it important to bid for American sympathy by issuing statements as to their respective claims and rights. Formally considered, these statements have little in them of interest. They deal simply with vague treaties and vaguer boundaries in an exceedingly thinly settled region.

Actually the dispute has great importance to both countries, because the prize at stake is the control of some of the richest rubber forests in the world. Brazilian companies have begun to work the forests in the course of their progress up the tributaries of the Amazon, while Peruvian companies have entered them since the denudation of the forests in Mantana, which is recognized Peruvian territory.

It is reported from Rio Janeiro that no war will result from the frontier battle since both countries desire arbitration. Brazil demands, however, that Peru withdraw all her troops from the disputed country before arbitration begins, while Peru insists that the presence of her troops is not in the slightest degree derogatory of "good faith and fraternal sentiment." Certainly if the desire for arbitration is genuine a provisional arrangement should be easy to make.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Industrial Changes in China.

SLOW as is the progress of civilization in China, compared with Japan, which, in a period covered by the memory of men now living, had sprung from a condition as barbarous as Persia to her present place among nations, yet industrially at least the "Celestial" Empire does move, and that in a manner which cannot be neglected in any computation of future trade with that country. The report of the Inspector General of Customs of the empire shows that China is rapidly getting into a condition to supply herself with certain articles for which she has depended heretofore almost entirely upon other countries. Those who have not kept themselves well informed in regard to the industrial changes which have been taking place in the empire will be surprised to learn from the report that the nation which for so many years relied almost entirely upon England and the United States for its cotton goods, now manufactures 50 per cent of all the goods of this kind supplied to the home market. In a year China's imports of flour have fallen off one-fourth, not that the Chinese are eating less of it than formerly—in fact, the consumption of flour is increasing in the empire—but because the deficiency in imports was more than made good by the recently established Chinese flour mills grinding Chinese wheat.

These would seem to be signs that, in spite of a corrupt and incompetent Government, China is beginning to awake from her sleep of centuries.—New York Press.

AVOID STRAY NICKELS.

Small Coin Lost in Mails Worries Clerks and Costs $18.43.

Ordinarily no man is rich enough to escape that certain sense of elation which comes from picking up a nickel on a sidewalk, but for a railway postal clerk to find such a coin in a mail pouch where it has worked out from insufficient wrappings, not only does he miss this elation, but it may provoke profanity.

For a nickel lost in a pouch of mail in transit becomes a matter for national concern. It comes to view, perhaps, just as a pouch of mail is emptied upon a sorting table, and when it has broken away from the bunches of letters, and cards, and circulars, rolled to an open space on the table, and there settled down, heads or tails, with a noisy spinning dance, the clerk who first sees it is It.

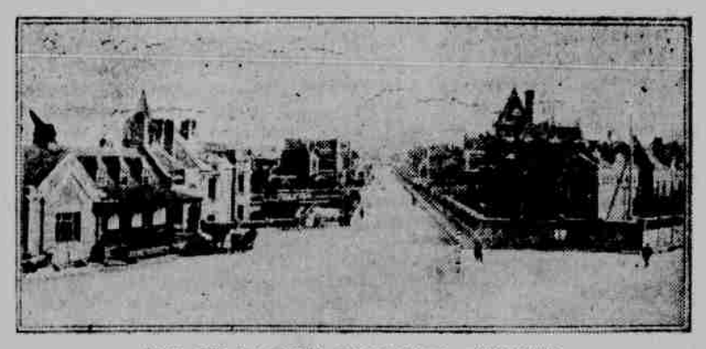
A necromancer could have no more idea than the man in the moon as to what particular package it rolled out of, and if he had and should tell the postal clerk, the clerk wouldn't dare try to restore the coin to the original package. That would be too easy altogether.

No, it is a lost nickel from the moment the clerk has to see it spinning there before his eyes and according to the tender governmental conscience the clerk has to get ready for the inauguration of about $18.43 worth of fuss over it.

For himself he doesn't dare go to bed for a short nap until he has got rid of his 5 cents' worth of responsibility to the government for the action of the fool person from whom the nickel was parted. He digs up his printed form for such occasions, printed and provided, and at once fills out a long blank, describing the coin, telling the circumstances of its being found, and whether it landed heads or tails on the table, naming the pouch from which it was emptied, the number of the train carrying it, the date, and a few other little details any one of which in hot weather would have cost a mug of beer.

This report with the nickel goes to the headquarters of the postal division in which the car was operated, and from these bonded officials, by the same general red tape route, the small coin finds its way to the seat of national government and to the fund representing that great constituency of the Postoffice Department which persists in sending money in envelopes through the unregistered mails of the service.

DESTRUCTION OF DALNY'S DOCKS.



ONE OF DALNY'S PRINCIPAL STREETS.

The necessities of war produce strange conditions. For five years the Russians had been engaged in erecting the commercial port of Dalny, situated on Tallenwan Bay to the east and north of Port Arthur. It was to be an open port, without a custom house, and free to the commerce of the world. Large government buildings were erected, streets were laid out, houses built and great docks constructed, the entire outlay being in the neighborhood of $25,000,000. Then came the war, with Russian unpreparedness on land and sea. The defeat of the Russians at Kin-Chou compelled their evacuation of Dalny. Before abandoning the place, however, they destroyed the larger docks and many of the utilities which Japan might find useful, thus wiping out in a few hours works which in times of peace they had created at large outlay of time and money.

The Way of Servants.

Subbubs—I see Cashman has announced himself as a candidate for governor.

Citiman—Yes, he declares it is his "great ambition to be the servant of the people."

Subbubs—Servant? What! Doesn't he mean to keep the place if he gets it?—Philadelphia Ledger.

Some men belong to church and some others seem to think the church belongs to them.