

VIENNA DEATH RATE BECOMES APPALLING

Condition of Children Even More Harrowing, Declares Authority on City's Desperate Plight.

Five years of famine have resulted in greatly increased mortality and morbidity in Vienna which before the war was counted as one of the healthiest cities in Europe.

TOP OF SNOWDON IS SOLD

Ground on Britain's loftiest Mountain Has Recently Been Purchased by Farmer.

Frantic purchases are heard of from time to time, but it is not often that the sale of a mountain is announced.

UNIQUE IN ANIMAL WORLD

Elephant Has Survived Because He Has Been Able to Adapt Himself to Conditions.

These is nothing else like the elephant. He has come down to us through the ages, surviving the conditions which killed off his earlier contemporaries.

LAUGHTER OF CHILD SCARCE IN POLAND

"In all the time I was in Poland, I scarcely once saw a child laugh," declared Dr. Harry Plots, discoverer of the typhus bacillus.

"The most deplorable sight of all the miseries in Poland is the condition of the children," Dr. Plots said.

"In matings of so-called 'pure' races, that is to say, Englishman with English woman, Frenchman with French woman, German with German woman, etc., 104.54 more males are born than females."

In matings of United States whites the ratio is about the same as that of European hybrids.

The Greatest Gift. Your Christmas gift to the European child relief collection may help in saving a child's life and is earnestly solicited.

THIS "ANGEL" WAS A KITE

Cut Superstitious Railroad Man Who Shot It Down Was Certainly Scared for a Time.

"The shooting," says a Texas man, "occurred some years ago on the Panhandle branch of the Santa Fe."

"There is some one swinging a lantern across the track," said the engineer, and the crew went ahead to investigate.

"We can't find anyone," reported the rear brakeman, and the engineer pulled out again.

"The engineer was scared. 'You've shot an angel, sure,' he said to the conductor, with a face as pale as death.

Earth Not a Perfect Sphere. The diameter of the earth from pole to pole through the equator is shorter than that at the equator.

ANCIENT RACES PLAYED BALL

Tossing the Sphere is Supposed to Have Had Deep Symbolic Meaning Centuries Ago.

Although it is a proven fact that the game now designated baseball is of modern and purely American origin,

Four thousand years ago, in the twelfth Egyptian dynasty, a Coptic artist sculptured on the temple Ben Hassan, human figures throwing and catching balls.

The game of ball was prized by the Greeks as giving grace and elasticity to the human figure, and they erected a statue to one Aristeus for his proficiency in it.

It is supposed that ball tossing had a deep symbolic meaning when played in the spring of the year; and that the tossing of the ball was intended first to typify the unspinning of the life of nature after the gloom of winter.

"TOTE M POLES" TELL STORY

Are Historical Records, and Not, as Many Supposed, Idols to Be Worshipped.

An art in sculpture not resembling any other art in the world, unless possibly that of ancient Mexico, is found highly developed among the aboriginal natives of the northwest coast.

Their material is always wood, and is furnished by huge trees from the forest, which are carved into the most fantastic shapes.

Early missionaries in that part of the world mistook the totem poles for idols. As a matter of fact, they possess no such significance.

Thus the Bear clan will have its heraldic column topped by the sculptured figure of a bear.

Poise is power. The man who is not master of himself under all conditions cannot feel the assurance, the power, which is the right of every human being to experience.

There is, perhaps, no other thing which is so conducive to one's physical and mental comfort, efficiency, happiness and success as a calm mind.

Elevator Rope in Coal Mines. One of the most impressive things about a colliery, to an outsider, is the mammoth drum which winds the rope which brings coal up from the pit.

Strange Leaves. For weird leaves London would be hard to beat in some instances, says a correspondent.

Few Do Much Walking. Statistics of mankind's amblings, including young children and old persons, and taking into consideration the fact that nowadays there are the inclination and the facilities to ride more and walk less than our forefathers did, show that a fair estimate of the average distance walked during the 24 hours by the men, women and children of continental United States seems to be four miles.

AND CUPID FLED, SHRIEKING

Truly, as Many Have Avowed, Romance Today Has Fallen From Its Once High Estate.

They were young and it was evening, and the moon was shining. And they were young.

He was facing her, silhouetted against the silvery light of the moon. Every line of his stalwart, manly figure stood plainly outlined before her.

Her glance rested upon him as he stood out clearly in the pale light.

"Will you marry me, precious one?" he asked again, his burning glance upon her scarlet lips.

GREAT ACTRESS KISSED POET

Sarah Bernhardt Made Her Meeting With Longfellow an Event to Be Remembered.

When Sarah Bernhardt came to America in the seventies sculpture was her "side line."

They became very amiable toward one another, and Longfellow, who spoke excellent French, praised Mme. Bernhardt's performance of "Phedre," telling her she surpassed the great Rachel, whom he had seen 50 years earlier.

Evidently the affair of the sculptured bust did not rankle, for on her departure, as the poet and his other guests were escorting her to her carriage, she turned about suddenly, impulsively threw her arms about Longfellow's neck, and kissed him on the cheek, said: "Vous etes adorable."

Kidnap Chinese From Legation.

Kang-Shih-to, formerly treasurer of the Anfu club, who since the recent downfall of that alleged pro-Japanese organization has been in hiding in the Russian legation and for whose arrest a reward of \$10,000 was offered by the Chinese government, has just been the victim of a coup on the part of Chinese servants employed in the legation, according to a dispatch from Peking, China.

Woman's Latest Venture. An engineering factory, organized, controlled, and managed by women, who also execute the orders at the lathe and in the foundry—that is the latest enterprise of the "weaker sex."

At the head of the firm, called Atlanta, Ltd., is Lady Parsons, the wife of the famous engineer and inventor of the steam turbine.

How Lightning Kills. Numbers of cases of death by lightning have failed to reveal any direct effect of the passage of an electric current through the human body.

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