

passage of an electric current through gold electrodes in a slightly acid solution, the anode becomes coated with hydroxide, and on subsequently connecting the electrodes to a sensitive galvanometer, a current is indicated whose intensity varies with the light thrown on the hydroxide. The variations depend upon the color as well as the intensity of the light. Under the electric arc the difference in potential between the plates has been as much as 0.1 volt, but the most striking fact is that different parts of the spectrum, red and violet, produce opposite currents, differing in direction as well as in degree.

A peculiar breed of domesticated sheep, having goat-like horns, has been kept by natives of the Bunden Oberland, Switzerland, and appears to have been descended directly from the so-called peat-sheep of the Swiss lake dwellings. Alarm is now felt at the present scarcity of the animals. The breed is already nearly exterminated through crossing, and another interesting type of animal life will have disappeared in a few years unless steps are taken to preserve it.

The blue and green colors of frogs, lizards, certain fishes and other vertebrates have been investigated by two French biologists. A black pigment causes the blue color by what Pouchet called "cerulescence," or kind of fluorescence, and the green color is due to a mixture of black and yellow pigments. The colored skins seem to serve as sieves for separating useful and harmful light. The useful red heat rays are allowed to pass, but the violet and ultra-violet, which induce skin disease or other ill effects, are reflected.

The terrestrial mammals of North America were found by Prof. Baird in 1857 to number 220 species, not including the bats. The later tendency has been to make more divisions, and, with new discoveries and the addition of marine forms, Mr. D. G. Elliott's 1901 list gives 628 species, besides 368 subspecies. The rodents have increased from 130 species to 380 species and 255 subspecies; the insectivores, from 26 species to 47 species and 22 subspecies. There are now recognized seven species of reindeer, four or five of Rocky Mountain sheep, nine species and three subspecies of bears, and not less than 20 species and 4 subspecies of skunks.

E. H. Grover

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NOTICE TO BRIDGE BUILDERS.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the construction of all new bridges for York County, Neb., for the year 1902, will be received at the office of the County Clerk, on or before noon of February 25th, 1902, said bridges to be constructed in accordance with the following plans and specifications, as adopted by the County Board, in regular session under date of Jan. 15th:

Piling to be not less than nine inches at the small end, and to be driven to the satisfaction of the Roads and Bridge Committee. Caps to be 8x12 inches, 16 ft. long, to be bolted to end of piling with 3/4x20 inch drift bolts to each piling. All bents of piling that project over 8 ft. above the ground, to be sway-braced with 2 3/4 sway-braces extending from end of cap to ground on opposite piling. All bents that project 20 ft. or more above the ground, to have double sway-braces with pieces extending across the center of the piling. All sway-braces to be fastened to caps and piling, with one 3/8 inch bolt, with nut and case washer on each end. Joist to be not less than 3 inches thick.

12 ft. panels to have 9 string of 8x12 joist.
16 ft. panels to have 10 string of 8x12 joist.
18 ft. panels to have 11 string of 8x12 joist.
20 ft. panels to have 12 string of 8x12 joist.
24 ft. panels to have 13 string of 8x12 joist.

12 and 16 ft. panels to be bridged once with 2x4 white pine, 18 and 20 ft. panels to have 2 rows of bridging of 2x4 white pine. All panels over 24 feet in length to have three rows of bridging of 2x4 white pine. All joist to be sized to an even width where they rest on caps; to be securely nailed; and to rest at least 4 inches on caps. No joist to have more than 8 sound knots more than 2 inches in diameter.

Flooring to be 16 ft. long, not less than 10 inches wide, and 2 1/2 inches thick; and to be fastened to joist with one 50 penny nail to each joist.

Hand-rails to be 2x4 on the face of post, and 2x6 on the top of the post. Hub-rail to be 2x8, Posts to be 4x4, 4 ft. long. Hand-rail posts with 2 half-inch bolts; and hub-rail to be bolted to the posts with 2 half inch bolts.

All 12x16 ft. panels to have one hand rail post in the center; 18x20 ft. panels to have 2 hand-rail posts in center equally divided. 24 ft. or longer panels to have three hand rail posts in center equally divided. All hand rails to be surfaced and joints broken between the posts. Hand rail and caps to be painted with one coat of good mineral paint. One two-eighths inch bolt hook to extend from top of flooring to piling at end of each span. All wing piling to be of same dimension at small end as piling for bridges. All end bents when piling projects 3 1/2 ft. above ground to have 4 piling driven to the bent. Where bridge is constructed over old bridge contractor to remove all old material at least 20 ft. from end of new bridge; cut off all old piling at top of ground; and remove the same from under bridge.

All material to be of good quality, free from rotten spots or wainey edge; no material to be accepted unless conforming fully to the specifications as to quality and dimension—the usual width and thickness—shrinkage excepted.

All flooring to be of Burr Oak.
All piling to be of Red Cedar.
All bridging to be of White Pine.
All other material to be of Oregon Fir.

Party to whom contract shall be awarded will be required to give sufficient bond conditioned for the faithful performance of contract; and to be approved by the County Board.

Dated this 16th day of January, 1902.
C. C. BOSLAW,
County Clerk York County, Nebraska.

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