

## When Planning Your Winter Course of Reading

Include a daily reading of your Gas Meter Index. It will not take more than two minutes of your time each day, and you will be doubly repaid with the assurance that you are getting value received for your money.

*Dark, short and stormy days cost more for artificial light than bright, sunny days. You are apt to forget these things.*

A systematic reading of the meter index will keep you posted as to just what these days cost. Otherwise a month later when you come to pay your bill you will have forgotten them.

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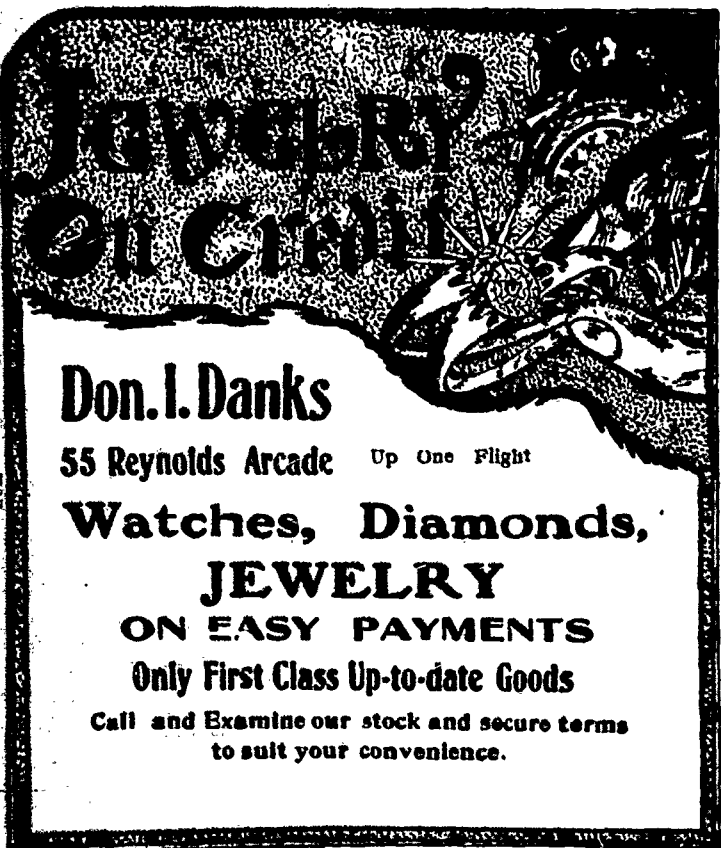
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### FIGMY CLIFF DWELLERS.

Tiny Roomed Houses Found by Explorer on Mexican Mountains.

Henry O. Flipper, an American archaeologist who has been searching in the Sierra Madres in the western part of the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, for homes of cliff dwellers, has found a house on Carabato Creek, a tributary of the Rio Chico, containing eighty-two rooms.

There are two or three houses on the Rio Chico and two near Guaynopa. Flipper says all are typical cliff dwellings similar to those in the United States. They are made of stone with mud cement and plastering of mud. The roof is the overhanging cliff.

The houses are from one to three stories in height, with walls about five inches thick. Mr. Flipper says the most remarkable thing was the thinness of the rooms, which were about five by five feet, with doors about 11 inches high by 13 inches wide. He believes that the cliff dwellers were a very small people.

The Pygmy Cattle of Samoa. The Samoan Islands are the natural habitat of the most diminutive species of the variety of the genus now known to the naturalist. The average weight of the male of these diminutive cattle seldom exceeds 200 pounds, the average being not greater than 150 pounds. The females usually average about a hundred pounds larger and are very "stocky" built, seldom being taller than a Mexican sheep. These dwarf cattle are nearly all of the same color—reddish mouse color marked with white. They have very large heads as compared with their bodies, and their horns are of exceptional length.

### King Cotton.

According to the common understanding, the expression "King Cotton," or "Cotton is King," was first used by the Hon. James H. Hammond in the year 1858. Hammond was from the State of South Carolina, the chief product of which Commonwealth was cotton. Mr. Hammond's idea was that cotton being the great commercial export of this country and the chief article of manufacture in Great Britain, was "King," and that no politics were allowable that crossed the grain of the "King's" interest.

### Mary and the Kitten.

Little Mary was playing with her pet kitten. The kitten scratched her and she exclaimed "You is a darned old kitty."

Her mother told her she must never utter such a naughty word again, and to be sure to impress it on her mind, washed her mouth out with soap and water.

The next day Mary was again playing with the kitten and again trouble arose, when she was heard to remark:

"You is just the same kind of a kitten you was yesterday!"

### Rats Grind Off Their Teeth.

A curiously marked stone has been found at Colebrook, Devonshire, England, in the middle of a wheat rick, and geologists who have seen it express the opinion that the markings on the stone were caused by rats using it to grind their teeth, which otherwise grow to an inordinate length. Some rats have been known to starve owing to their teeth getting too long.

### What He Could Have Done.

"Remember, witness," sharply exclaimed the attorney for the defense, "you are on oath!"

"There ain't no danger of my forgettin' it," replied the witness solemnly. "I'm tellin' the truth for nothin' when I could have made five dollars for lyin' for your side of the case, an' you know it."

"Please, Ma'am," replied Tommy, "they tumbled to the racket."

### Dogs Give Valuable Service.

In the dog tests recently held at Nanterre, France the dispatch bearing competition was won by a Swiss dog and the searching for the wounded prize was awarded to a German dog. Thirty German police dogs have been ordered for St. Petersburg to guard the palaces against assassins.

### The Largest Submarine.

According to a report from Paris, the largest submarine yet built will shortly be launched at Cherbourg. The vessel will be 300 feet long, with 625 tons displacement, and she will develop a mean speed of fifteen knots. She will probably, adds the report, have a crew equal in strength to that of a destroyer.

### Shrinkage of Wood.

The shrinkage of wood from loss of moisture has been found by the United States forest service to range from seven to 26 per cent. of the dry volume in different species.

### One of Dickens' Truths.

Throughout life our worst weaknesses and meannesses are usually committed for the sake of the people whom we most despise—Charles Dickens.

### All Keystone.

Every stone in an arch is a keystone, though the name is usually applied to the center one.

### MILLINERS MULTIPLYING.

Their Trade Fourteenth Among the Callings of Women Breadwinners.

Millinery ranks fourteenth among the pursuits in which women are engaged as breadwinners. It is a distinctly woman's occupation, 94.4 per cent. of all milliners in the United States being women.

Only two occupations have a larger proportion of women dressmakers, with 97.5 per cent. and house-keeping with 94.7 per cent. Seamstresses are 91.9 per cent. of them women. These four occupations were the only occupations in which women constitute over nine-tenths of all persons employed.

Almost nine-tenths of the women milliners are native whites. In large cities more than half the milliners were under 25 years of age. Probably when they exceed that age they marry and if they remain in business it is done in the husband's name and the census credits him with being a merchant. In 1900 there was one milliner to every 323 women 15 years of age and over. In 1900 one to every 235.

This change is thought to reflect the advance in the prosperity of the country, since millinery to a certain extent is a luxury and in family budgets forms an item that probably responds quickly to fluctuations in income. If the manual training schools and technical institutions continue to run out milliners in the next ten years as they have in the last decade there will be one milliner to every hundred women, and in the not far distant future

### Lifting Power of Plants.

Experiments of a peculiar character have just been carried out at several of the noted agricultural colleges of the United States, the object being to ascertain the lifting power of growing plants of different species. Farmers are well acquainted with the fact that the roots of trees will disrupt a stone wall, but the lifting power of tender vegetables is equally surprising. The one result which has, perhaps, attracted the greatest attention is the discovery that a weight of two and a half tons can be lifted by the common American pumpkin in the course of its development. Dr. Carpenter relates the story of a paving stone, weighing eighty-three pounds that was raised from its bed (when joined by others on all four sides) by such a soft piece of fungi as the common mushroom. And still another and more remarkable instance is recorded. A man, having a cask of sweet wine placed in an empty cellar to mature. When examined several years later it had risen from the floor of the cellar to the ceiling, having been borne upward upon the tender shoots of a vine fungus, with which the cellar was filled.

### Fits Them All.

Once when Rudyard Kipling was a boy he ran out on the yardarm of a ship.

"Mr. Kipling!" yelled a scared sailor, "your boy is on a yardarm, and if he lets go he'll drown!"

"Ah!" responded Mr. Kipling, with a yawn, "but he won't let go." This incident also happened to Jim Pike, Horace Walpole, Napoleon, Bonaparte, Dick Turpin, Julius Caesar and the poet Byron.

### Lucky Brunettes.

"You are lucky," said the first mother to the second, "in having a brown-eyed baby." "Where does the luck come in besides that of his being good-looking?" inquired the second. "Because brown-eyed babies are immune from many infantile ills that blue-eyed children always have. I've seen it work dozens of times and heard doctors admit it. Blondes catch everything, but brunettes get off easy."

### Natural Advantages.

At an evening party they were playing a game in which everybody in the room makes a face, and the one who makes the worst face is awarded a prize. They all did their best and then the judge went up to one of the women and said, "Well, madam, I think you have won the prize."

"Oh," she said, "I wasn't playing."

### Mountains of Iron Ore.

The world contains at least four mountains composed of almost solid iron ore. One is in Mexico, one in the United States, another in India and a fourth in Africa just below the Sudan, and there have been reports of such a mountain existing in Siberia.

### Mystery of Seedless Fruit.

Science so far has failed to furnish any explanation of the mystery of seedless fruits. They are not the outcome of the work of man. Man perpetuates them; he does not more. The seedless orange was found in a state of seedlessness.

### Woman in High Position.

The only woman in the world who bears the impressive title "dean of deans" is Mrs. Laura G. Carnell, who is a leader in the executive and educational work of Temple University, in Philadelphia.

### Meteors of Various Sizes.

Meteors vary in size from mere grains of sand to several tons, and consist for the most part of iron and nickel, but no fewer than 24 terrestrial elements have been found in them.

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