

CAST GUARDS OF ENGLAND

More Than a Thousand Lighthouses and Lightships Under Control of Trinity House.

More than a thousand lighthouses and lightships guard the coasts of the British Isles, and all are under the control, direct or indirect, of Trinity House. For the purpose of control the coast is divided into districts, of which the London district is the most important. It extends from Southwold in Suffolk to the North Foreland in Kent.

The stores for this district are kept at Trinity wharf, at Blackwell, and here are to be seen casks of oil, anchors, mooring chains, complete lanterns and machinery of many sorts, as well as quantities of buoys of different sizes, shapes and colors.

The anchors used for mooring lightships are huge implements of iron shaped like great umbrellas, and as for the mooring chains, these are tested by hydraulic power up to 300 tons.

Can buoys, spherical buoys, wreck buoys, bell and gas buoys are here by the score. Some are new; others are old and battered, and have been brought in for painting and repair.

Floating buoys go on all the year round—and the work is done by the men who are ashore from lightships or lighthouses. Life on a lightship is no joke, especially in bad weather, and each man after two months afloat gets a month ashore.

Since accidents sometimes happen to lightships, a relief ship is always kept moored at the wharf ready to start at a moment's notice to replace any vessel which has drifted from her moorings or been sunk in collision.—London Tit-Bits.

TELLS HOW HE STOLE MELON

Speaker on Honesty Says a Queer Silver Ran Up His Spine and He Put Fruit Back.

Mr. Moneybags, the English professor, has just bought the largest house in the country town, and so he was recognized as the unofficial squire of the place.

He was in great demand as a speaker at all the local functions, and that is how he came to be on the platform at the annual prize-giving, due to give an address on "Honesty."

When his turn came to speak he related how, when quite a boy, he saw a cart of melons outside a shop and nobody in sight.

"On the spur of the moment," he said impressively—"on the spur of the moment, I say, I took one of those melons."

He paused for effect, and was not disappointed. The whole audience gave one gasp at the idea of their great big squire doing such a thing.

"But," he went on, "instantly a queer sensation assailed me, and a silver went through me. I made up my mind, and I went back to the cart and replaced the melon—(loud applause)—and took a ripe one!"—Pittsburgh Chronicle.

Diffident denouncers of the belt are men with large equators who have tried it and quit.

Working for a living is seldom resented if the living is a good one.

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SUPERSTITION IN RUSSIA

Peasants Employ Formulae of Dark Ages in Their Treatment of Sick Persons.

In the Volga government of soviet Russia the peasants lay people sick with the fever in the snow asked, as that "the cold wind can blow away the heat." Prayers and pious formulae are constantly resorted to.

An exorcism is written upon a card and hung around the patient's neck and he is not permitted to eat or drink anything for three days, in order that he may experience the full healing effect of this charm. If he does not recover, then his family and relatives beat him with clubs, brooms and anything they can lay their hands on, in order to "chase out the devil."

In many cases the sick man is hitched to a plow, and after he has plowed a while he is put in a Russian vapor bath and later massaged with petroleum and tar—usually until he dies. Little children are rolled in dough and put in hot vapor baths, under the impression that this precaution makes it easier for them to stand the heat. A popular preventive of cholera is to bury alive in the yard dogs, hogs or poultry.

Lynch law is constantly practiced, especially in the famine districts. In some cases a victim of village justice is tied behind a wagon and dragged through the streets for hours.

While the soviet government is energetically combating such brutality and superstitions, it simultaneously encourages them by its hostility to religion and studied contempt for the church.—Georg Topoff, in the Frankfurter Zeitung.

LESSON TAUGHT BY ARTISTS

They Have Made Every Phase and Object of the Material World Interesting.

Raphael made infantile grace obvious to unlearned eyes; Turner opened to many a preoccupied vision the wonders of atmosphere; Constable guided our perception of the casual phenomenon of wind; Landseer, that of the natural language of the brute creation; Lely, of the coiffure; Michelangelo, of physical grandeur; Royley, of fish; Gerard Dow, of cattle; Cypri, of meadows; Cooper, of cattle; Stanfield, of the sea; and so on through every department of pictorial art. Instantly these quiet but persuasive teachers have made every phase and object of the material world interesting, and environed them with more or less of romance, by such revelations of their latent beauty and meaning; so that, thus instructed, the sunset and the pastoral landscape, the moss-grown arch and the craggy sea-side, the twilight grove and the swaying cornfield, an old mill, a peasant, light and shade, form and feature, perspective and anatomy, a smile, a gesture, a cloud, a waterfall, weatherstains, leaves, deer—every object in nature, and every impress of the elements, speaks more effectively to the imagination.—Henry T. Tuckerman.

Dirigible Flies 4,500 Miles; Sets New Record

Marseilles, France.—The French dirigible, *Luxmude*, a super-Zeppelin, recently broke all records for distance and endurance when it landed at the Cuers-Pierrefeu air-drome at 6:48 o'clock in the morning after an uninterrupted voyage of 4,500 miles, lasting 118 hours and 41 minutes.

Leaving Cuers-Pierrefeu at 7:55 o'clock, the giant dirigible made straight across the Mediterranean, flying over Algeria and Tunisia to the outskirts of the Sahara desert. Starting back the next day, and meeting with a hurricane over Sardinia, the airship was compelled to turn back to Africa.

The following day the *Dixmude* started across the Mediterranean northward, flying over Sicily and Corsica. Sighting Toulon, it shifted its course northward to Bordeaux, and then, steering a northeasterly course, flew over Paris in the morning at seven o'clock.

Heading southward once more, the *Dixmude* passed over Moulins, where it dropped a wreath on the monument to the aviators killed when the dirigible *Republique* collapsed and crashed there some years ago. The airship was over Nice and Monte Carlo at 11:30 o'clock at night. Skirting the Mediterranean during the night, it landed at its starting point in the morning at daybreak.

The former records for distance and duration of flight were held by the German Zeppelin LZ-120, which flew for 101 hours in July, 1917, and the British dirigible R33, which flew for 108 hours and 12 minutes in July, 1919.

Negro Named Roosevelt Fined in Auto Court

New York.—General Theodore Roosevelt "Singleton" called out the clerk in Jamaica court.

Magistrate Kochendorfer stirred on the bench and the onlookers craned their necks to see the general. So hard did they look for the military personage that they utterly failed to see the little, shabbily-dressed figure of an aged negro man walk meekly up to the bench.

"What army are you a general in?" asked the magistrate.

"Dat's my first name, White Folks," said the dusky general. "Tse baptizid General Theodore Roosevelt Singleton, and I sure is proud of my name."

"With a name like that," said the judge, "the court feels impelled to exercise leniency. Two dollars fine."

The general was charged with driving an automobile without a license and the fine is usually \$25.

Man Pinned to Tree by Bull

Savannah, Ga.—With one hand pinned to a tree by the animal's horn, Frank Cleary, a farmer living near here, saved himself from a mad bull by kicking. He shoved his foot into the animal's face. The bull backed in fright, and Cleary leaped over a fence to safety.

NOTORIOUS TRAIN BANDIT HAS MANIA FOR PUBLICITY

Bill Carlisle Modest Hero After Risking Life at Fire.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Bill Carlisle, the modern West's most notorious train bandit, risked his life at the Wyoming penitentiary the other day fighting a fire that destroyed the prison shirt factory. When the writer called to talk to him about his heroism, he found Bill embroidering pasties on a silk kimono.

He's like that, is Bill—a weird study in contrasts. His lurid career notwithstanding, he is a gentle soul and simple. His career as a bandit has been spectacular, but devoid of any bloodshed save his own. Nothing could drive him to hurt a fellow man. When Bill made his sortie into the burning factory, he was obeying the same call that led him to become a train bandit. He does on the spectator. He fairly aches for publicity—the spotlight.

That, he says, is why he is in the penitentiary. He didn't rob trains for loot, but for notoriety. Incidentally, he got little of the former, but plenty of the latter. And now that he is in the penitentiary he still is happy whenever he can contrive to break into the news.

Every episode of Bill's outlawry was characterized by his itch for notoriety, and equally characterized by his shrinking from hurting others.

He pressed agented his robberies by sending notification, in advance, that at a certain time, at a certain place, he would rob a certain train. He did it three times before he was caught, meanwhile reveling in an avalanche of publicity. Repeatedly he risked capture to obtain newspapers carrying sensational stories of his crimes.

Finally, run down, sentenced to imprisonment for life, he boasted that he would escape, and immediately robbed another train. And he kept that promise.

Assigned to the prison shipping department, he substituted himself for the contents of a packing case that had been filled with shirts, and was carried to freedom by his captors. Within 30 hours he had robbed another train.

Since his recapture he has been "tamer," but his hankering for notoriety is undiminished. He says he'll be heard from again, startlingly. He probably will the spotlight awaits him.

Why Rice Paper Is Weak

The use of rice straw is quite widespread in the Far East, but when used alone it makes poor paper. In order to ascertain the cause of its weakness and find a remedy, tests were made at the University of Grenoble on some rice straw from Indo-China. The straw was cut, washed and cleaned for one hour. Then it was cooked five hours with 13 per cent caustic soda at 5 degrees Baume concentration. The material was then delubered and washed and bleached. The yield of bleached pulp was 30 per cent. Next the pulp thus obtained was beaten carefully, sized and loaded with starch. Considerable trouble on the machine was experienced owing to the weakness of the paper. The paper is, however, soft and agreeable to the touch and is of satisfactory whiteness. Rice straw pulp is extremely fine—the finest fiber used in paper making. The fibers are short, fine and delicate and there are no large fibers to form a solid framework. The weakness of the fibers is due to the thinness of their walls and the large number of breaks in them is due to beating. Owing to its weakness, rice straw is hardly suitable for wrapping papers, but it could be used for fine writing and printing papers.—Paper Trade Journal.

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How Order of the Bath Originated. The first of the English orders of knighthood is the Order of the Bath, which is supposed to date to the period of the ancient Franks, and to have been introduced into England by the Saxons. The order as at present constituted was instituted by George I, who revived it 168 years ago. May 25, 1725, and fixed the number of knights at 37. In 1815 the prince regent, afterwards George IV, greatly increased the membership, and on May 25, 1847 new statutes were decreed, by which the order, hitherto exclusively military, was opened to civilians. The Order of the Bath gained its name from the fact that the ancient Franks and Saxons made bathing an important part of the rites connected with the creation of knights. The order was not formally constituted until 1350.

WHY HOW

TO REDUCE YOUR BILL FOR GAS 25 TO 50 PER CENT—Would you like to cut your gas bills from 25 to 50 per cent?

Look, then, to your kitchen gas range, advises Dr. Mina C. Denton, assistant chief of the office of home economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

These are the rules which Doctor Denton has framed: Turn the air adjustment device so that a blue flame is produced.

Use a burner of a size that will not permit the flames to lick around the edges of your pot or pan.

See that your burners are not more than one to one and a half inches below the bottom of the pan.

Be sure that burners are clean and jets kept open.

When food has begun to cook, turn down the flame, or remove the pot or pan to the simmering burner.

Be sure that your oven is airtight, and whenever possible bake at a low temperature.—Popular Science Monthly.

TONGUE FAST AS LIGHTNING

How the Chameleon Traps Various Insects in the Flash of an Eye.

The chameleon, as every one knows, has a wonderful way of changing its color to suit its surroundings, but scientists all agree that the most remarkable thing about it is its tongue. This can only be seen properly when in use.

The length of the chameleon's tongue is astonishing. When out to its full extent it is of exactly the same length as the chameleon itself, yet, when not in use, it can be packed away neatly inside the mouth. It is somewhat club-shaped, widening out towards the tip, which is covered with a sticky substance.

When attacking its prey the chameleon creeps forward stealthily, its movements being almost imperceptible. When six or seven inches from the prey it stops and, after fixing the prey with its eye, to be sure of its aim and range, cautiously opens its mouth. Out shoots its tongue, and is drawn back into its mouth with the victim sticking to the tip. The whole operation is carried out at lightning speed.

The chameleon is an insect eater and quite an expert in catching flies, butterflies, moths and even grasshoppers. Its enormous eyes are so set in their sockets that they can be rolled in all directions, acting independently of each other. The eyeballs are conical in shape, which greatly adds to the quaint appearance of the animal.

Its habit of changing color is well known. This change is partly voluntary and partly a response to heat and cold, light and shade. The normal daylight color is greenish, with brown spots. This makes the chameleon almost invisible in the shrubberies in which it usually lives.

It is very inactive when on the ground. This is due to the peculiar shape of the foot, the toes of which are tied together into two bundles on each foot. They are formed thus to enable it to maintain a secure hold on the branches of trees. Its movements are ungraceful, and it walks in a slow, deliberate way that is particularlyasperating to watch. In fact, all its activity seems concentrated in its tongue.—London Answers.

How Moles Live. The American Museum of Natural History offered a prize of \$25 for a nest which would show how the mole lives, and several were forthcoming. Dr. F. A. Lucas, director of the museum, said accurate information hitherto not available to scientists, had been secured. "This is the first authentic information about a mole's nesting habits that I know of," he said, "and as far as I know the groups which we can make out of our specimens will be the first in any American museum. I had been unable to find anyone who knew anything about the family life of a mole until I received the accurate information of the finders of the nests we now have." Doctor Lucas plans to use the newspapers in further hunts for unusual specimens of animal life. He said that for three years he had been trying to get hold of a family of young raccoons under a month old. In spite of a reward of \$100 for such a family he has never been able to get one. He is also after a family of young wolves.—Scientific American.

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