

READS PAGE AT A GLANCE

Victim of Disease of Eyes Also is Enabled to Memorize Article at Sight.

New York.—Visual power by which a man can read the entire page of an ordinary book at a glance and repeat every line word for word is the subject of an article by Dr. George M. Gould in the current number of The Journal of the American Medical Association. That this power is due not to normal visual conditions, but to a disease of the eyes, is Dr. Gould's contention.

The man with the remarkable eyes is designated as "Mr. C." This man can read several books each evening, and usually he can repeat all he has read without error. He is fond of poetry and novels, and a quick glance at the pages suffices to fix its contents indelibly in his memory.

The case was easily explained by those who have knowledge of the physiology of binocular, or two-eyed vision, Dr. Gould says. Some time during the middle years of the man's life the central part of the retina, the "macular" region of the right eye, was destroyed by an inflammation caused by eye-rain. The "fixing" part of the retina was obliterated, leaving there a blind, round space or hole. The left eye was not diseased and continued the usual perfection of a macular or central vision.

"By long, unconscious and forced exercise," continues Dr. Gould, "the healthy zone of the right retina surrounding the macular was educated to such a degree that it could, when unmoved, receive and transmit to the brain the image of the entire page, except that part falling upon the central portion, which has been destroyed."

BRITISH PLAN KID REPUBLIC

Youthful Citizens Will Make Own Laws, Punish Offenders and Work at Some Profession.

London.—On a beautiful farm of 150 acres, in Dorsetshire, is soon to be established England's first boy and girl republic, modeled after the successful junior republics in the United States. The youthful citizens and citizenesses, who will be recruited mostly from industrial schools and reformatories, will formulate their own standards of honor, administer their own laws and chasten their own offenders. Special training will be provided for the trade or profession which they may display aptitude, and they will be remunerated on the results. Out of the wages the young republicans will pay for their own board and lodging.

Harold Large, who has been appointed superintendent of the novel institution, recently returned from an inspection of similar communities in America. "Over there," he said, "your junior republics have jails in which delinquents are confined, but we believe we can get along without them. If a lawbreaker remains obdurate he will simply be expelled from his boarding house, and hunger doubtless will bring repentance."

The duchess of Marlborough, who is actively supporting the scheme, is providing one of the girls' cottages.

EAT CARROTS; PROLONG LIFE

French Scientist Asserts These Vegetables Make Skin Clear and Kill Bacteria.

Paris.—Since Professor Metchnikoff has been writing on the value of carrots for general health, that homely vegetable has found a regular place on the menu of home and restaurant in Paris. It has been remembered that carrots form part of the daily food at Vichy, and the chefs at the big hotels are inventing recipes to satisfy the taste of the moment.

Cressy soup, as everybody knows, is but mashed carrots diluted with milk, and at the fashionable gatherings in the Bois de Boulogne restaurants on Friday evenings there is scarcely a table where this soup is not served.

Carrots, according to Professor Metchnikoff, contain a sugar that kills a bacillus that prevents our attaining the age of one hundred; besides this, carrots possess, according to tradition, the property of conferring a fine complexion on all who persistently eat them.

HAS BULLET-PROOF SKULL

Despondent Shoemaker Falls in His Attempt at Suicide—Physicians Are Surprised.

Ely, Cal.—This city will evidently furnish the state with the first case of felony charge under the new law, against a man who attempted to commit suicide and failed.

Joe Lohense, a shoemaker, despondent and tired of life, as he claims, when in his lodging house room, placed a revolver to his head and fired. The bullet, instead of reaching the brain, as would ordinarily be expected, flattened against the skull, creating only a painful wound.

The physicians who revived him declare they are at a complete loss to explain how the missile failed to penetrate and produce instant death.

Yawn Is Fatal to Man. Fort Collins, Colo.—A yawn caused John Cooney of Sidney, Neb., to force a gallstone through the abdominal wall, causing intense pain, from which he died a few hours later. Cooney was spending his vacation at Dale Creek. He was 55 years old, and apparently in the best of health.

ARMY STYLES NEW TO HER

Conscientious Laundress Meant Well, but Her First Efforts Utterly Failed to Please.

At the army post a new laundry had been installed and the management was specially anxious to please and advised that mending would be included in the work.

The major was equally willing to be pleased and sent, among other things, a suit of duck as a first installment. The army officer's washable coats have buttons, but these are not sewed on. Instead, small dyelets are worked in the coat and the shanks of the regulation buttons are pushed through these holes, being held in place by brass rings on the other side. Before being laundered these buttons and rings are removed, to be put in place again after the wash. When the major's coat was returned from the new laundry the eyelets had been carefully sewed up and a bright brass button had been sewed firmly over each. Also the seams of the major's riding breeches, which open from just above the knees to just below, to admit of adjustment over the knees, had been sewed up so tightly that it took the major's wife half a day to rip them. The earnest and conscientious laundress thereupon received a course of special instruction pertaining to the requirements of the U. S. A.

FINE LINEN 6,000 YEARS OLD

Fruits of the Looms of Ancient Times Have Defied the Passing of the Centuries.

In one of the apartments at University college, London, Professor Flinders Petrie has placed on exhibition some remarkably interesting antiquities unearthed at Tarkhan, Heliopolis and Memphis under the auspices of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt.

The great cemetery of Tarkhan, which occupied a mile of desert 40 miles south of Cairo and which dates from the earliest historic age until the race of the pyramid builders, has proved to be exceedingly prolific in antiquities.

What has struck Professor Petrie is the extraordinary preservation of the woodwork and clothing unearthed from these places of interment of long ago.

A great sheet of linen which is placed on exhibition is as fresh and as firm as when cut from the original length—and it is some 6,000 years old. So, likewise, with the woodwork, which, in but few instances, shows signs of decay. Here are boxes that serve their purpose as funeral caskets, built of planks of acacia and siltim wood, and as firm and secure as when lowered into the bosom of the earth in dim antiquity.

Milk Saved the Auto.

A farmer named Richter, of Millwood, in Westchester county, N. Y., sacrificed a load of milk the other day to save a new touring car, in which two women were riding, from being destroyed by fire. The engine of the car began to spit flames. Finally it took fire. The occupants then abandoned it for fear the gasoline tank might explode. Richter came driving along with several cans of milk. With him was his eighteen-year-old son. He alighted from the wagon, and seizing a ten-quart can filled with milk threw the contents over the flames. The floor of the car was afire and burning briskly. He saw he would have to waste several more cans of milk to save the auto. "Come, hand me those cans quickly," he said to his son. He emptied them over the auto as fast as he could. The flames were checked, but not until nearly one hundred and fifty quarts of milk had been sacrificed. The owner of the car asked him what the milk was worth. Richter fixed his loss at seven dollars, but the lady gave him twenty-five dollars, saying, "You deserve all this, if not more."

How Hot Is Lava?

To ascertain the temperature of lava as it is emitted from a volcano has baffled many scientists. The Roman academy has just published the results of the investigations made by Giovanni Platania during the eruption of Etna last year.

The eruption began September 10 and the scientist was unable to approach the mountain for ten days, when one crater was still in action. He camped as near as he could to this crater, close to a stream of lava flowing about a yard a second.

Using the new "telescope pyrometer," he got temperatures for the surface of the lava flow of all the way from 1,040 to 1,480 degrees.

A second series of observations, taken at a distance of a dozen feet, gave figures as high as 1,500 degrees. The estimates are that the incandescent lava, as it comes directly from the crater, has a temperature not less than 2,200 degrees.

Unforeseen Complication.

Jimpon, in London, had rung up a well known shop in Paris by telephone to communicate an order on behalf of Mrs. Jimpon. After waiting two hours for the connection to be made, he entered the booth and began. Two minutes later he emerged.

"Say, mister," said he to the attendant, "can't you put me on a wire that'll translate what I have to say in French? I can't make that darned lackass on the other end of the line understand a word I say.—Harper's Weekly.

IN BORROWED SET OF TEETH

Prospector Wanted to Appear Well in Photograph, and Effected Loan of Essentials.

Thomas Jefferson Stone was a typical claim holder and prospector. He came from Indiana. He had no teeth, his hair was gray, his features sallow and withered, and he looked sixty-three or sixty-four. He told me, however, he was only forty-six. There was a cowed, placid, helpless air about him, and yet in his eyes there was a fire—faint and glimmering, the fire of a fading fanaticism. He was still the victim of obsession. He had been 25 years prospecting, picking out claims, hoping to strike it rich some day.

I asked him how he lost his teeth. He said by taking medicine good for neuralgia, but too strong for his ivory. I asked him why he didn't have had a false set made. He said he had had a set, but he took them out and put them in his pocket one day, where his handkerchief was, "to rest his mouth," and happening to take out the handkerchief quickly, he pulled out the set of teeth also and the plate fell on the floor and broke.

I told Thomas Jefferson Stone that I wanted his photograph, and three days afterward he was ready for the kodak. When he came I saw he had a set of teeth in his mouth. I was astonished. We were scores of miles from any dentist, or any town where a dentist could be.

"Hello, Stone," I said; "you've got a set of teeth. How's that?"

"He gave a smile of conquest. "I borrowed 'em to be photographed!" he said.—Gilbert Parker in the Metropolitan Magazine.

CRITIC NEVER TOO POPULAR

Bitter Indictment, Which Seems the Limit, Evidently Penned by One Who Has Suffered.

Critics were created for the sole purpose of telling the public that it has no taste and that its ideas are always narrow and perverted. Also, that it does not know, under any circumstances, what it is talking about.

A critic makes it his business not to agree with anybody. In his efforts to do this he very often disagrees with himself.

Many a painter, author, dramatist, or composer has been shown by the critics that what he thought he meant he did not mean at all.

A critic is usually a creature of such profound learning that he can, when rhapsodizing over something that is absolutely worthless to everybody else, use a number of new adjectives the meaning of which is as obscure and hazy as the object to which they are applied.

When critics die, it is the generally accepted idea of all people who do not agree with them that they are punished by being placed in the presence of the thing or things they have so persistently lauded and are forced to listen to it or gaze unwinkingly and silently upon it throughout eternity, while evil spirits taunt them with their bad taste.—Judge's Library.

Drummer Was Lost.

A Scotch story is that of a diminutive drummer in a local brass band, who was in the habit when out parading with his comrades of walking by sound and not by sight, owing to his drum being so high that he was unable to see over it. The band, on Saturday afternoon, paraded usually in one direction, but the other day the leader thought he would change the route a little, and turned down a by-street. The drummer, unaware of this movement, kept on his accustomed way, drumming as hard as ever he could. By and by, after finishing his part, and not hearing the others, he stopped, and, pushing his drum to one side, he looked to see what was the matter. His astonishment may be imagined at finding that he was alone. "Hae!" he cried to some bystanders, "has any o' ye seen a band hereabouts?"

Modern Mariana.

"A hundred years ago, marriage was for an intelligent woman a necessary entrance into life, a legitimate method of carrying out her ideas and her aims. Today she tries to carry them out whether she is married or not."

Mariana no longer waits tearfully in the Moated Grange. She leaves it as quickly as possible for some more healthful habitation, and a more engaging pursuit.

"No bachelor ever wants to act like a married man, because he doesn't mean to ever become a married man. The last thing that a bachelor ever intends in getting married is to become like other married men."—Anne Warner, in "Just Between Themselves."

Long-Preserved Youth.

An English lady, disappointed in love in her younger years, became insane, and lost all account of time. Believing she was still young and living in the same hour in which she was parted from her lover, taking no note of the years, she stood daily before the window watching for his coming. In this mental condition she remained young.

Some American travelers, unacquainted with her history, when asked to guess her age, placed it under twenty years. She was at that time seventy-four, but had not a wrinkle or gray hair. Youth sat gently on "cheek and brow." She was held by the thought of youth and love, and it retarded the marks of age.

WITH DEATH CLOSE AT HAND

Merry Throng of Careless Sailors Had Luncheon Party That Just Missed Being Tragedy.

Some years ago while a French man-of-war was lying at anchor in Temple bay a number of the younger officers conceived the idea of amusing themselves with an iceberg a mile or so distant in the straits. They decided to have a luncheon party at the very top of it.

It was a bright summer morning, and the jolly boat with a flag went off to the berg. By 12 o'clock the colors were flying from the top of the big chunk of ice, and the midshipmen were reveling thereon. For two hours or more they hacked and clambered over it. They frolicked and they feasted, laughing at the idea of danger at this solid life. When, like thoughtless children, the young men played themselves weary, they descended to their cockle-shell of a boat and rowed away.

As if time and distance had been measured for the very purpose of permitting the young men to view the scene in safety, the great berg lay still until the boat was a certain distance off. Then, as if its heart had been volcanic fire, it burst with awful thunder and filled the surrounding water with its ruins. Awed and thrilled at their narrow escape from death, the picnickers returned to their ship. It was their first and last day of amusement with an iceberg.

BEST IVORY MADE FROM MILK

Synthetic Chemists Seem to Have Discovered How to Improve on Natural Product.

One of the latest discoveries of the synthetic chemists is how to make ivory out of nothing more wonderful than cow's milk—and very good ivory at that, according to all accounts. The original idea was to use the new "ivory" for piano and organ keys because it preserves its original color indefinitely, whereas the genuine article turns yellow after a time.

But it has been found that the new product is not only an efficient substitute for ivory, but can easily be prepared so as to take the place of amber, horn, coral, celluloid and such like products, and, it is claimed, can hardly be distinguished from them.

It is in its position as a substitute for ivory that the new material has caused most surprise, however, because it has the appearance of being another instance of improving upon nature. The new ivory takes a very high and lasting polish, and probably will not lack a commercial field for itself, as natural ivory continues to grow scarcer and dearer year by year.

Johnson on Melancholy.

Talking of constitutional melancholy, he observed: "A man so afflicted, sir, must divert distressing thoughts, and not combat with them." Boswell—"May not he think them down, sir?" Johnson—"No, sir. To attempt to think them down is madness. He should have a lamp constantly burning in his bedchamber during the night and, if wakefully disturbed, should take a book and read and compose himself to rest. To have the management of the mind is a great art, and it may be attained in a considerable degree by experience and habitual exercise." Boswell—"Should not he provide amusements for himself? Would it not, for instance, be right for him to take a course of chemistry?" Johnson—"Let him take a course of chemistry, or a course of rope dancing, or a course of anything to which he is inclined at the time. Let him contrive to have as many retreats for his mind as he can, as many things to which it can fly from itself."—Boswell (Life of Johnson).

Soap From Plants.

The horse-chestnut is a plant that contains the saponine principle in a marked degree, and it is said that in out-of-the-way parts of the European continent the fruit of that tree is still used in the simple state for washing clothes and other articles. In Spain and Italy, however, there grows a plant which is believed by some to have been one of those most used by the ancients in their early attempts at soap-making. This is the Gypsophylla struthium, a plant of the same family as the soapwort. Both Theophrastus and Pliny mention this struthium as the soap plant most in use in early times, and Linnaeus and Beckmann in later days have confirmed the opinion that the plant now used in Italy and Spain is identical with that referred to by the ancient scientists.

Alligator Skins in Demand.

The alligator-skin business of the world is controlled by a firm in Newark, N. J., which buys 80 to 90 per cent. of the American production. It is significant that the sudden supply of 30,000 alligator skins per year from Colombia finds such a ready market in the United States that they have invariably been purchased upon arrival at New York, on presentation of the shipping documents, even before unloading the cargo.

The Difference.

Knieker—In the winter I go out to play poker and my wife stays home from bridge. Booker—And in the summer you stay home from poker and your wife goes away for bridge.

LINGERED ALWAYS IN MEMORY

Frenchman Long Retained Vivid Recollection of the Face of His Great Emperor.

The Journal Medical de Bruxelles printed, some time ago, an interesting account by Dr. Max Billard of the exhumation of the body of Napoleon in 1840. Dr. Billard said that the remains were in a state of almost perfect preservation. The head of the body rested upon a pillow, the thin lips were slightly parted, and under the upper one could be seen three extremely white teeth. At that time the body was in four coffins, one of lead, two of mahogany, and one of tin plate. It is now in five coffins, two of lead, one of tin, one of mahogany, and one of ebony. It was once the custom to expose the face of the conqueror on the anniversary of his birth, but the practice was discontinued. Jean Richespin, the poet, was among those who saw it, and in a lecture he said that the governor of the Invalides took him and his father into the crypt. His father took him in his arms, raised him, and he saw the emperor. "I was eleven years old. What is seen at that age makes a deep impression and nothing can remove from my brain that extraordinary image—the eyes closed, the beard slightly grown, the face of the whiteness of marble, on which spread some yellow spots which seemed a bronze. When there mingle in my memory that face of war which I have seen and those eyes which I have seen I see the emperor truly as if I had known him."

BACK TO FAITHFUL STEED

Newark Baker, After Experience With Auto, Decides That He Will Stick to the Horse.

"A horse for mine," said the prosperous baker. "I've tried an automobile for a month, and if I don't get rid of it pretty soon I'll go broke. Still, it only cost me \$15 today, so I ought not to complain."

His tale of trouble is too long to tell in less than an entire page of this type, says the Newark News. Prominent among its details are:

The rupture of a delivery boy while cranking the engine, resulting in a hospital operation and a bill of \$150.

The mobbing of another boy by angry aliens and his arrest on a charge of running over a child; also the suing by the child's parents for \$5,000 damages and the settling of the case out of court for \$65, although it was shown that the child had not been hurt in the least; in fact, had not been touched.

The colliding of the auto with a wagon loaded with tombstones, the total wrecking of the machine there by, and the skinning up of the chauffeur, the stonecutter's horses and the teamster.

"When I sold my horse and bought the automobile," said the baker, "I neglected to take into account the dumbness of delivery boys. I did not know then, as I do now, how much I owed to the intelligence of my horse."

What Makes a Nation.

I believe there is no permanent greatness to a nation except it be based upon morality. I do not care for military greatness or military renown. I care for the condition of the people among whom I live. Crowns, coronets, mitres, military display, the pomp of war, wide colonies and a huge empire are, in my view, all trifles, light as air, and not worth considering, unless with them you can have a fair share of comfort, contentment and happiness among the great body of the people. Palaces, baronial castles, great halls, stately mansions do not make a nation. The nation in every country dwells in the cottage; and unless the light of your constitution can shine there, unless the beauty of your legislation and the excellence of your statesmanship are impressed there on the feelings and condition of the people, rely upon it you have yet to learn the duties of government.—John Bright.

Makes Death Doubly Sure.

To make doubly sure of death, Max B. Bock, an optician having an office at 106 Fulton street, Manhattan, sent a bullet into his brain after preparing to end his life by inhaling gas at his home, 326 Goldfield street, Hoboken. He had been in poor health for some time.

Bock's wife and children went out in the afternoon, and as soon as they had gone the man went into the bathroom, fastened one end of a tube to a gas jet, and, lying down in the bathtub, placed the other end in his mouth. Then he fired a bullet from a revolver into his right temple, dying instantly.

Time for Recreation.

"Old at forty is not conservation, it is brutality," declared Dr. John E. Andrews of New York. Dr. Andrews called forcible attention to the seven-day-a-week workers of the country, declaring it the duty of every factory inspector to work to the end that every worker in the United States shall be able to obtain one day a week in which to enjoy home life, which we have been taught to regard as the foundation of our social system.

By Contrast.

Hewitt—How do you like your new flat? Jewett—It's so small that every time I get home I feel like the greatest living American.—Woman's Home Companion.

AFFECTED HISTORY OF WORLD

Influence of Jean Jacques Rousseau May Be Traced to Trivial Incident in Boyhood.

In a village school in Botssey, Switzerland, one day in the first quarter of the eighteenth century, Jean Jacques Rousseau, then a ten-year-old boy, was severely chastised because he was suspected of having broken teeth in a comb which did not belong to him. He was innocent, and the most terrible punishment could not wring from him an untrue confession. The boy did not stop to reason that there was strong circumstantial evidence to justify suspicion in his direction. He felt only the rigor of a frightful chastisement for an offense of which he was guiltless. And the association of ideas was permanent; a lasting impression was left on him. The one idea which ever remained strange to him, and which he resisted in theory and practice, was that of duty. Unable to identify himself with the society in which he lived, he failed to appreciate the obligations to one's fellows which are the best part of human life.

Yet his influence for good was felt—is still being felt. It may be traced in the current political movements in France, in England and even in America. He struck out for the rights of the many against the few—against plutocracy and selfishness. He demanded that the people should rule, and that same demand is being urged throughout the civilized world today. The wrongfully administered punishment which Jean Jacques received in the country school was not in vain.—Kansas City Star.

DATES FROM EARLIEST TIMES

Alfalfa, Probably Oldest Forage Known, Can Be Traced Through World's Whole History.

Alfalfa, perhaps the oldest of all cultivated forage or hay plants, has had a history scarcely less interesting than that of many nations which have utilized it. Those nations have prospered almost in direct proportion to the extent to which they have used it. The name "alfalfa" comes from the Arabs and means "the best fodder," and in fact it appears to have originated in Media or in some adjacent country, as the folklore tales from lands on different sides of this area point toward Media as the place whence it came.

The wars of the Persian invasion of Greece took the plant to the latter country about 530 B. C., it being the custom for the advance emissaries to precede the army and to plant fields for the sustenance of the herds which helped support the invading hosts. From Greece it advanced to Italy and Spain by successive stages, and was taken to Old Mexico by the Spaniards about 1519 A. D.

From there it was carried to South America and later (1854) entered California through the Golden Gate at the time of the activities incident to the discovery of gold in that state. Thence it spread over the irrigated sections and more recently has continued its march eastward until now it is by far the most important forage crop of such states as Nebraska and Kansas.

The First Climbers.

A Munich paper has been searching the records of history to discover who were the first mountain climbers. It gives the palm to Moses and his ascent of Mount Sinai, and rules out Noah for his ascent of Mount Ararat because he made it in a boat. There is sufficient evidence to show that the ancients thought mountain climbing, sheer madness.

No one in the time of Horace or Polybius wanted to go climbing for a summer holiday. A Chinese emperor in the seventh century was the first to make climbing fashionable in the east. But the first true tourists in Europe seem to have been Dante, Petrarch and Leonard. Then came the Emperor Maximilian I, who used to hunt in the mountains near Innsbruck, and after him Conrad von Gesner and Josias Simler explored the Swiss mountains. But climbing for pleasure such as we know it today was not thought of until quite recently.—Westminster Gazette.

Hints to Brides.

If a wife or prospective bride wishes to have a happy married life, she may rest assured that her desires will be gratified if she bears in mind the following "don'ts":

Don't marry a man for a living, but for love. Don't overdo, or the reverse. Common sense is better than style. Never, when married, get the idea that the way to run a house is to run away from it, or that it is right to lecture your neighbors on how to bring up their children, while you are neglecting your own.

Don't nag. Nothing is so likely to send your husband out of the house as that.

Washed Erethion.

A physician at a recent convention of railway surgeons in Philadelphia said of a safety device that has averted many railway accidents: "The advantages of this device is now almost universally recognized. Indeed, the railroader who disputes its advantage is as antiquated as the old roadster who said: "Education be hanged! That's young Bill Smithers took an engineer-in' course in a correspondence school and then put up a sign on his carriage house, and hadn't no better sense than to spell 'carriage' 'garage'!"—Washington Star.