

A WALRUS ON LAND.

The Awkward and Bulky Creature is Almost Helpless.

As might be expected, a walrus is about as helpless on land as a canal boat. It is with no little difficulty and much hitching and floundering that he drags his huge bulk upon a sandy shore even with the boosting he gets from behind by the breakers as they roll in and dash against him.

His hind flippers are of little use on land, and on sand or pebbles, where his front flippers do not hold well, the labor of floundering forward is so great that he never stirs beyond the edge of the water and usually lies with his body half awash, with the salt spray dashing over him like torrents of rain. On solid rock or ice he gets along much better, and often a herd will spread several rods back from the water's edge.

The females and younger walruses have far less development of neck to incumber them and therefore enjoy more freedom of motion than the old males, who actually seem a great burden to themselves. These creatures are strictly social in their habits and always go in herds, whether traveling, feeding, fighting or resting ashore. In the days before the slaughter of all living creatures became a ruling passion in the breast of man the Pacific species inhabited the whole of Bering sea and slat in herds which often contained thousands and even tens of thousands of individuals.

Give Himself Away.

A man who is steadily employed finally had a day off and decided to go fishing, taking his luncheon with him. When he reached the creek he discovered that he had dropped the lunch packet somewhere on the road and hastened back to look for it. Presently he met a husky negro, who was looking happy and picking his teeth.

"Did you find anything on the road as you came along?" asked the gentleman.

"No, sah," answered the negro. "I didn't find nothing. Couldn't a dog have found it and eat it up?"—Everybody's.

Cleopatra's Pearl.

Most persons know the story that is told of Cleopatra to illustrate her luxurious habits of living—that she dissolved in her wine a precious pearl. No one seems yet to have questioned what must have been the effect upon the drink, but scientists scoff at the possibility of such solution. The fact is pearls are not soluble in wine. The most powerful vinegar affects them slowly and never entirely dissolves them, or the organic matter remains behind in the shape of a spongy mass that is larger than the original pearl.—New York Press

Forcing Plant Growth.

The method of forcing plants by treatment with ether, as first suggested by Johannsen, is now extensively used on a commercial scale for the purpose of securing out of season flowers and fruit. This process, however, will in all probability soon be replaced by the equally effective and less expensive method just described by Professor Molisch in a pamphlet called Das Warmbad. The only treatment required is that of immersing the shoots by inversion in water at 30 to 35 degrees C. for nine or twelve hours and afterward keeping the plants in a dark, moist chamber at a temperature of about 25 degrees until the leaves commence to appear, after which the plants are grown under ordinary greenhouse conditions. Lilacs, azaleas, spiraeas, etc., treated as above during the middle of November were in bloom at Christmas or early in January, whereas untreated plants of the same kind had not commenced to move.

Her Last Card.

"I want a new bonnet, but my husband says he can't afford it." "Is that final, do you suppose?" "He says it is, but I won't know until tonight." "Going to get a definite answer then?" "Yes. I'm going to settle it one way or the other. I'm going to start to cry when he gets home, and if that doesn't work there'll be no new bonnet."—Detroit Free Press.

All's Fish For the Doctor's Net. "Why, the size of your bill," cried the angry patient to the doctor, "makes me boil all over!" "Ah!" said the eminent practitioner calmly. "That will be just \$20 more for sterilizing your system."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Purpose and Success.

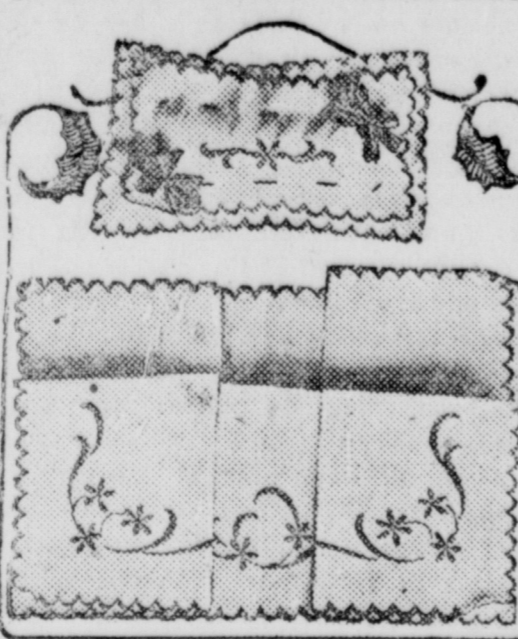
It is the old lesson—a worthy purpose, patient energy for its accomplishment, a resolute and undaunted effort, and then success.—V. at P.

It is seldom that punishment, though some of foot has failed to overtake a villain. Horace.

RED ROSE TEA "is good tea"

Pretty Things for the Housewife

Dresser Set of Embroidered Linen

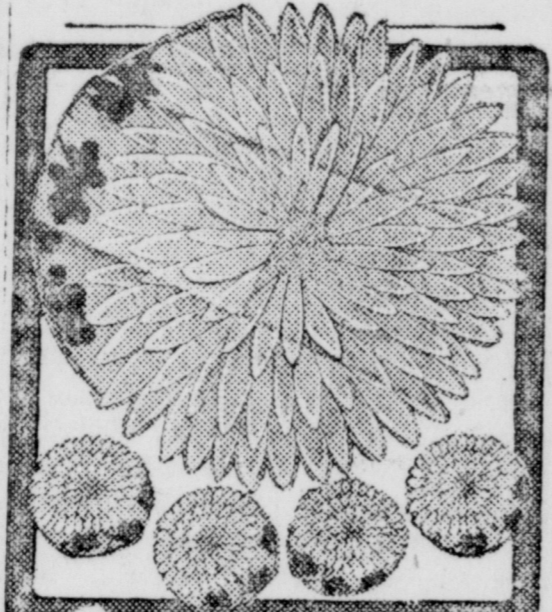


Heavy white linen (or cotton in certain weaves) embroidered with light colored floss make simple and elegant dresser sets that will delight the heart of the neat housewife. These sets consist of dresser scarf and pincushion cover usually, but glove and handkerchief cases may be made to match and added to them.

The scarf is a length of the linen having scalloped edges buttonhole stitched with light colored floss. A scroll and flower pattern is embroidered at each end and at the center of the scarf, on one side.

A small oblong pincushion is covered with two pieces of linen, one smaller than the other, as shown in the picture. These are buttonhole stitched in scallops about the edges and eyelets are worked in them. A scroll and flower pattern is embroidered in the smaller piece. They are joined by narrow satin ribbon threaded through the eyelets and tied in little bows.

Luncheon Set of Silk Muslin



Something new in luncheon sets is made of stiff white silk muslin, very small gilt cord and white and green water color paints. It consists of a centerpiece and twelve doilies to match and is made in a conventionalized chrysanthemum design. The doilies are small replicas of the centerpiece.

A large circle is cut from the muslin for the centerpiece and a few French knots, of dark yellow embroidery silk, are worked in the center to represent the stamens. Three rows of petals are outlined on the centerpiece with white paint and the tiny gilt cord is sewed with yellow silk thread along the outline of each petal. The petals are crowded a little at one side to allow three light green leaves to be painted in. A little white paint is brushed in at the point of each petal and the muslin about the edge trimmed away from them.

The doilies are made in the same way but on a smaller scale.

Tune Deafness

It has been said of the late Franz Stanley that "he had not a note of music in his head," and could scarcely distinguish one tune from another, a fact which caused his biographer, Rowland E. Prothero, to express surprise that "one so destitute of musical feeling" as Stanley should have been the first person to introduce Bach's Passion Music into the religious services of the church.

It is not easy, perhaps, for the average person to understand tune-deafness. But just as some people are color-blind, so there are others who are melody-deaf. Empress Catherine of Russia used to say that she would have given the world to be able to appreciate and love music, declaring that for her music was noise, and nothing but noise.

The Queer Argan Tree.

Among the most remarkable trees of the world is the argan, which abounds in southern Morocco but is seldom seen elsewhere. A forest of argans has a curious scattered appearance, because the trees grow singly and far apart. They are very leafy, but seldom exceed twenty feet in height. The branches put out horizontally and begin a yard above the ground. Sheep, cattle and camels feed on the leaves, and goats will stand on their hind legs to reach them, but horses and mules refuse to touch them. The wood is very hard and extremely useful to the natives, who make charcoal from it. The fruit, resembling a large olive, is used to feed cattle and to manufacture a valuable oil. It also furnishes the principal sustenance of the poorer natives.

A Martyr to the X Ray.

Dr. Hall-Edwards of the Birmingham University, according to the English Mechanic and World of Science, has not been spared the payment of a heavy price for the benefits he has conferred on mankind by his researches in X ray photography. A short time ago both his arms were amputated as a consequence of the dangerous experiments he had carried out. He has just made the novel suggestion that photography should be included in the ordinary university course of training. The connection between photography and art, he thinks, has been overstated. Nothing has helped science more than photography of late years, and it should therefore receive more attention than it does at present in the education given both in schools and in the universities.

A PLEA THAT WON THE JURY.

How an Eloquent Kentucky Lawyer Freed a Guilty Man.

John J. Crittenden, the eloquent Kentucky lawyer of a past generation, was once defending a murderer. Every one knew the man was guilty, but the eloquence of Crittenden saved him. "Gentlemen," said Crittenden at the end of his great plea, "to err is human, to forgive divine." When God conceived the thought of man's creation he called to him three ministering virtues, who wait constantly upon the throne—justice, truth and mercy—and thus addressed them: "Shall we make this man?" "O God, make him not," said Justice sternly, "for he will surely trample upon thy laws." "And Truth, what sayest thou?" "O God, make him not, for none but God is perfect, and he will surely sin against thee." "And Mercy, what sayest thou?" "Then Mercy, dropping upon her knees and looking up through her tears, exclaimed: "O God, make him! I will watch over him with my care through all the dark paths he may have to tread." "Then, brothers, God made man and said to him: 'O man, thou art the child of Mercy. Go and deal mercifully with all thy brothers.'"—Denver Republican.

Giant Sharks.

While the whale is regarded as the largest of creatures that haunt the sea, there are some sharks that can be compared in size with the former animals. These giant sharks, however, are very rare and are known under the name of the great whale shark and the basking shark. The former, which attains a length of fifty feet, is found off the coast of India, Peru and Lower California. The latter's most favorite haunts are the Arctic ocean, but it is also found near the great whale shark. These monsters, curiously enough, are quite harmless. Their teeth are very small, and they feed on tiny matter that floats on the surface of the sea. This matter the fish strains through its enormous gill rakers.

First Man Dressmaker.

One day in 1730 a beautiful carriage appeared on the boulevard of Paris with an escutcheon in the shape of a pair of corsets and an open pair of scissors painted on the panel of each door. This was the coat of arms of Roemberg, the first man who made a name as a woman's dressmaker. Roemberg, who was the son of a Bavarian peasant from the neighborhood of Munich, owed his rapid success to his genius for concealing and remedying defects of figure. He left an annual income of 50,000 francs to his heirs.

How to Grow Tall.

A man's organs and those of his bones which are not subjected to pressure grow continuously until he is forty years old—that is to say, the heart should become stronger, the capacity of the lungs increase and the brain should develop steadily until the fourth decade of life. Also one should wear a larger hat at the age of forty than at thirty. A man ceases to grow tall, however, at the beginning of the third decade, because after that time the downward pressure exerted by the weight of the body while in the erect position compresses the vertebrae or small bones in the spine, the disks of cartilage between them, the pelvis and the thigh bones, and this pressure overcomes the natural elasticity of the disks and the growth of these bones. However, a British scientist contends that were man a quadruped and therefore freed from the downward pressure produced by his weight upon his spinal column he would continue to grow in height for ten years longer than he does at present, since it has been found that bones not subjected to compression increase up to the fourth decade.—Chicago Tribune.

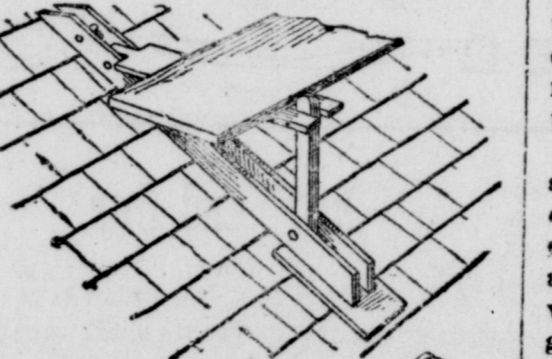
Keeping the Books.

Persons about to install new libraries or those who find their books in bad condition will be glad of the advice offered on this subject by a letter in Les Annales (Paris). Glass cases should always be avoided except for a few precious volumes which are specially looked after and frequently dusted since the confined atmosphere and lack of air circulation in such book-cases are favorable to the development of germs, insects and mold. "Secondly," adds the Scientific American, "the simple precaution should be taken of placing on the shelves behind the books strips of cloth or flannel moistened with benzine, phenol, tobacco juice or turpentine. These strips give excellent results if renewed from time to time."

SCAFFOLD BRACKET.

Non-slipping Device Insures Safety of Sloping Roofs.

Almost 40 per cent of the accidents in building operations are due to inadequate construction of false work and scaffolding. In building frame structures accidents of this nature show even a larger percentage, says Popular Mechanics. The fault is not always in the floor of the contractor, for workmen will often take risks that endanger their lives without any good reason other than to save time and labor. A carpenter who builds his own scaffolds is often as careless as any one in this respect. Shingling roofs is even more risky than framing the house. Where the pitch is sharp the risk is greatly enhanced. In repairing roofs a good



NONSLIPPING BRACKET.

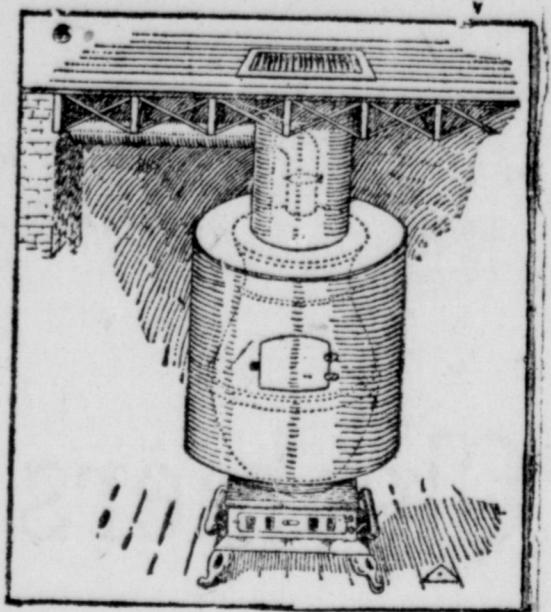
many carpenters do not even go to the bother of building scaffolds, but depend upon their ability to hold themselves on the slope. If one had folding brackets, which would make roof shingling simple and safe, fewer accidents of this nature would be recorded. A carpenter with a pair of folding brackets as a part of his equipment would never be in danger of slipping or sliding from the roof while shingling. His equipment would consist simply of a pair of brackets and a board.

The brackets, as illustrated, are made to fold up and are self sustaining. That is, the board which fits against the slant of the roof is spiked to cling to the surface and it would take a good deal to break it loose from its moorings. The spikes are made of ordinary screws with the ends protruding one-quarter of an inch beyond the flat board and filed to a sharp point. Three of these at the lower end of the bracket and two at the upper end serve to hold the brackets firmly in position. A slight tap of a hammer will drive the brads in sufficiently and when the scaffolding board is placed across the brackets the thrust, being downward, tends to push the points of the spikes deeper into the wood surface. A pair of brackets of this nature will sustain the weight of several men working on the same board. The illustration shows fully the construction of each bracket.

HOMEMADE FURNACE.

Constructed From an Old Stove and Galvanized Tank.

This furnace was constructed from an ordinary pot stove and an old gallon galvanized oil tank turned upside down over the stove, says Popular Mechanics. Holes were cut in the bottom of the tank for the stove and the hot air pipe. The tank was supported about one foot from the floor



OLD STOVE IN TANK.

so as to let the cold air in from the cellar to take the place of the hot air as it passed through the air pipe into the room above. A hole was cut in the side of the tank opposite the stove door and another door attached to provide an opening for feeding fuel into the stove. The stove was made to heat a stove and was used with entire satisfaction. Very little coal was used during the winter, and plenty of heat was produced at all times.

SHORTHAND WRITING.

"Stenography" Not the Only Name Which it is Known.

Shorthand writing is known by other names than "stenography." "Tachygraphy" is only one of them. Its second part, of course, comes from the same root as the latter end of "stenography"—that is, from the Greek "grapho," meaning to write. "Tachy" is derived from the Greek "tachys," meaning swift, so only the shorthand writer who has the ability to take down rapid speech and transcribe it quickly has the right to call herself or himself a "tachygrapher." (The "ch" sound is like that of "k.")

"Stenography" comes from "grapho" combined with "stenos," which means "narrow" in Greek. So a "stenographer" is either a narrow writer or stenographer or he practices "narrow" writing.

Not so many years ago we heard a good deal about "phonography" as a name for shorthand writing, but the term seems to have gone out of use. It comes from that same useful root "grapho," combined with "phono," the latter word means "sound," so that a phonographer is one who writes down sound as he hears it. The phonograph is, of course, an instrument for writing or recording sound.

Then there are "brachygraphy," "steganography" and "logography" as other names for what we generally call stenography. In the order given they are derived from "grapho" combined with "brachys," meaning "short"; "steganos" meaning "covered"; "secret" (steno-grapher is one who writes in cryptic or mysterious writing, not to be read by the uninitiated) and "logos," meaning "speech."—New York Times.

UTILIZING WASTE COAL.

Worthless Slack Burned With Ease in Patent Furnace.

An illustration of the feasibility of using waste coal for power purposes has just been given here, one of the new Patent water tube boilers having been installed in an oil mill in this city, reports Consul Hamm of Hull, England. The success of a public exhibition given shows, it is claimed, that much coal which has heretofore been rejected as worthless can be used and that greater efficiency can be obtained from this waste coal by the new method than from the best coal by the old method. The system employs the known principle that almost perfect combustion can be obtained by mixing air in proper quantities with pulverized coal before the latter is introduced into a furnace. This insures better combustion with less air than usual and with a consequent increase of boiler efficiency by reducing the amount of heat carried away by the escaping gases. The results claimed to be as follows: The greatest total elimination of losses, if the fuel is burned in such a fashion, the amount of unconsumed coal in the furnace at any given time being infinitely small.