

THE DISPATCH.

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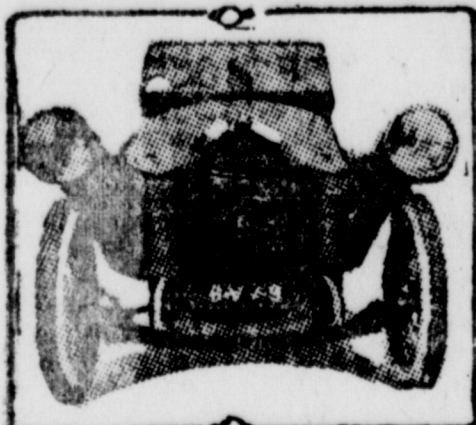
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A FREAK AUTO

The "Snail" Car Latest French Fad But It's Not Slow

The "snail" car is the latest product of the French automobile makers.



LOOKS LIKE A SNAIL OR A FROG. BUT IT REALLY IS A FRENCH HIGH SPEED AUTOMOBILE.

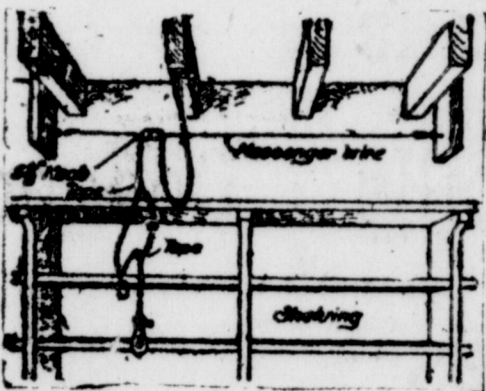
At the shop. The name has no reference to the speed of the car, but is a description of its appearance when coming head on. The French seem to have turned their particular attention to the making of freak automobile shapes during the last few years, the idea being to get as much of the car under cover as possible and thus keep out the dust.

In the "snail" car this object seems to have been accomplished to perfection. The headlights are continuations of the front mudguard which is built in as part of the hood over the engine so that there are no sharp corners or crevices for the dust to penetrate. The car attracted great attention at the Paris automobile show.

LIGHT CELLAR SHELVES

This Simple Arrangement Easy For Electric Light Users

Getting a jar of preserves from the shelf in the dark cellar storeroom is a racking ordeal. It is frequently impossible to see the label on the jar at a far corner when the light is fixed at the other end of the shelves. A bright young man of an ingenious



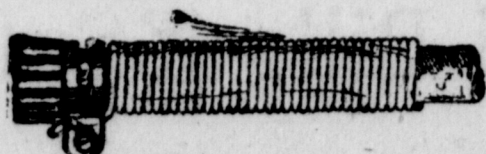
nature found a way to make the electric light travel to any portion of the shelves.

The electric lamp was attached to the ceiling socket with a long flexible wire. A piece of galvanized wire was stretched tightly overhead the entire length of the shelves and a porcelain insulator was slipped over this wire. The flexible wire was then looped over the insulator with enough slack left between it and the socket to permit the insulator to slide to either end of the shelves. It was simple, effective and absolutely safe.

Your Garden Hose

Garden hose most always breaks near the coupling when it reaches the stage where constant wear begins to tell. The life of a line of hose can therefore be somewhat prolonged if some method is found of preventing such breaks.

It has been found that this can be



done by slipping a coil spring 8 or 10 inches long over the hose at the point where the couple is made and fastening the spring to the band around the pipe. The spring prevents the hose from being twisted at too sharp an angle and holds it so firmly that a break is almost impossible.

Decline in Animals

A recent German census of animals shows a decline in five years of more than two per cent. of beef cattle, of more than one per cent. of swine and of almost 25 per cent. of sheep.

THE FLOWER BORDER

It is best to locate the flower border at the side or back of the lawn, rather than make it too prominent a feature in the front yard. It shows to best advantage against a background of shrubbery, or near a building or fence, which can be covered with vines and climbers. The size of the border need be limited only by the extent of the grounds and the time that they can be put upon it. A border with irregular outline varying from five to ten feet in width is preferable to a narrow one between straight boundary lines. The ground for the flower border should be prepared deeply and thoroughly, and be made as rich as possible by digging in plenty of well rotted manure or compost. The work of stocking a border may be done at various times throughout the season. Early in the spring is the best time to sow seeds and do most of the planting; the transplanting of seedlings may be done at any time during the season when the ground is moist. Hardy bulbs and tuberous rooted plants should be planted in the fall.

Nails in Plaster

There is hardly a householder who has not been annoyed when a nail he has attempted to drive into the wall will not hold in the plaster.

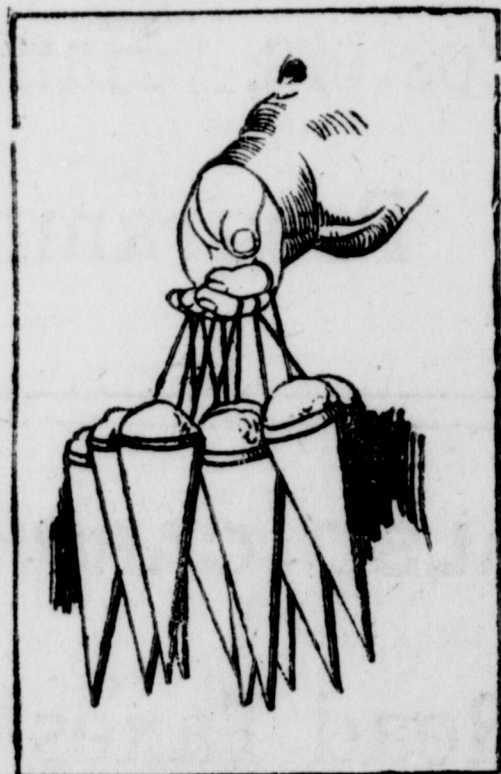


While he merits the sympathy and kindly consideration of all persons who have been similarly upset, there is a way out of the difficulty that seems so simple his anger becomes absurd. The nail to be driven into the plaster should have a notch filed in it near the end on one side and another notch a little further along toward the head on the other side. When the nail is to be put into the wall it should be dipped in liquid glue until it is well covered and then driven in place. As soon as the glue hardens it will become as firm as the plaster itself.

ICE CREAM CONE HOLDER

Enables Dealer to Carry a Number of Cones in One Hand

Under ordinary circumstances, a person can carry only about three ice cream cones in one hand, and the hands of the average dealer in ice cream cones are not such as one would care to eat out of. An Iowa man has patented a device for carrying these confections. The holder is itself cone-shaped and has a wire running up from it with a loop at the top. The holder is shallower than the ice cream cone, so that the latter may



HANDS DON'T TOUCH CONES

It may be placed in it and removed. By slipping the wire loops over his fingers a man may carry a dozen cones without trouble and in a much more sanitary fashion than if he carried them in his hands. Furthermore, if a cone is held in the hand for any length of time the heat of the hand will cause the ice cream to melt.

Using Farm Waste

A farm engine driven by a gas motor has been invented in Europe that is equipped with its own producing plant for making gas from waste material such as bark, sawdust or dry leaves.

A Huge Crane

The largest crane in the world, erected at a Scotch shipyard, can be utilized at every point within a circle 265 feet in diameter and can lift loads of 200 tons to a height of 140 feet from the center.

Not Yet Explored

It is estimated that there are about 7,000,000 square miles, or about one-eighth of the land surface of the world waiting to be explored by dis-

THE COMPOST HEAP

Successful gardening operations necessitate the possession of a good compost heap. It is easily made and a wonderful convenience and help. It stimulates growth in flowers and produces bigger and more highly colored blooms. For roses especially it is unequalled. A compost heap of manure from cow barns is used by all big rose growers.

The foundation of a compost heap is manure which is best obtained from a cow stable. In case this is not available, straw manure from horse stables or dropping from poultry houses will serve. Pile the manure about a foot deep, then alternate layers of sods, lawn clippings, weeds and any other vegetable material with manure. In dry weather the heap should be watered and should then be left until the material begins to decay. Turn the heap over occasionally and add some fertilizing material; also some additional clippings, weeds, leaves and other similar material.

One advantage of a compost heap is that it affords a means of converting almost every kind of garbage into valuable fertilizer. A compost heap of this character should stand a year to be really most valuable as a fertilizer. If, however, it has been kept damp and turned frequently it can be used in the course of two or three months. In a year's time a compost heap should be mellow, fine and black and sufficiently moist to make a ball when squeezed in the hand. It should not be wet nor should it emit an offensive odor.

QUEERLY INSPIRED

Drowsiness Also an Aid to Literary Inspiration

Mrs. Howe, who wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," one of the finest national hymns in the world, got the inspiration in bed. Someone had suggested to her that she should let some fine words to the tune of "John Brown," but though she tried repeatedly she could not compose anything that would pass muster. One night she dreamed she had composed the poem, and waking up got out of bed, went to her desk, and wrote the whole poem as it stands to-day.

Swinburne told Mr. Edmund Gosse that "Baudelaire" was written in a Turkish bath. This poet is often a little tropical, and he evidently wanted to get the right atmosphere. A famous playwright lately confessed that almost all his best ideas came to him while rushing about in a motor car. The swift motion seemed to excite thought. So much was this the case that he had had his car fitted with a tiny writing table, so that he could jot down all his happy thoughts as they came rushing on the wings of the wind into his brain. When the engine stops the inspiration stops too.

It is a remarkable fact that that poem of spring and flowers, "Oh, to be in England now that April's here!" was written during a bad attack of seasickness in the Mediterranean by Robert Browning. Mark Twain speaks of a man who had the "Oh, my's!" very bad in similar circumstances, but Browning's "Oh, my's!" turned to poetry of the highest order.

FOR STOCK RAISERS

Advice For Handling Milch Cows and Steers

The cow calving thin has a poor chance to make greatest profits, if any profits at all. The persistent milking cow needs four to eight weeks rest and good feeding before her next freshening. Is your cow which is not persistent less profitable because she is not so good, or because she is poorly fed and managed? Only by keeping records of milk produced and feed consumed can this be discovered. Discard the mongrel and scrub bull and save money. If calves are worth raising, they should be of the best breeding possible, on the sire's side at least. Use only the very best pure-bred bull available; good dairy cattle are more valuable each year and the good ones never come by chance, but are well bred and reared. Greatest profits are made in steer feeding when the animals are finished and marketed as baby beef 12 to 20 months or as prime 2-year-old steers. In finishing steers in summer the poor pastures must be supplemented by green fodder crops and a good grain ration.—Farm and Ranch Review.

ORIGIN OF SUGAR

China and India Made Discoveries in Refining

Sugar bears something of its history in its name, which is believed to derive, through various modifications—the French "sucre," Spanish "azúcar" and Arabic "sakkar"—from the Sanskrit, "Sharkara." It was in India, apparently, that cane sugar in the dry, granulated state was first prepared. The date of the introduction of sugar to England is uncertain, but large quantities of Egyptian sugar were imported via Venice in the Middle Ages. In very early times the use of sugar appears to have been unknown. The sweet sap of the Indian reed seems to have been first cultivated in the country extending from Cochinchina to Bengal. Thence it was imported to Europe under the name of saccharum, and used in medicine. It was in the seventh century that the art of sugar boiling was carried to China from India, but Egyptians taught the Chinese sugar refining.

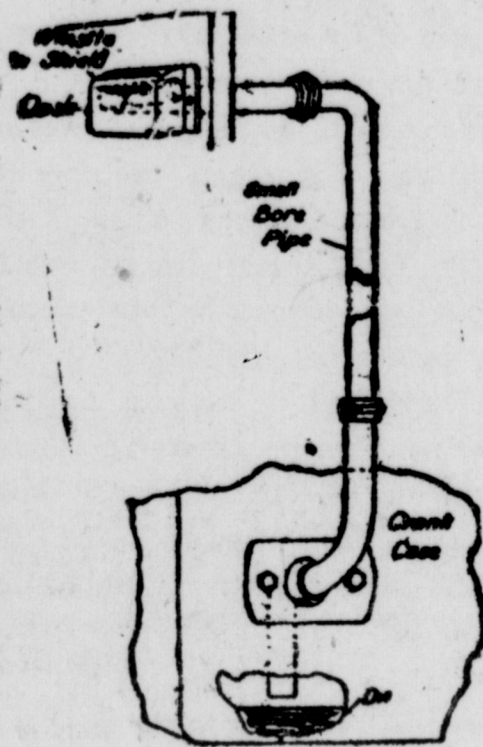
The various peoples of the Philippine Islands speak thirty-one distinct languages.

Twenty-five steps a minute is the average walking pace of a healthy man or woman.

LIKE A HUNGRY BABY

You Can Make Your Automobile Engine Cry For Oil

An Englishman is responsible for a new automobile accessory which virtually makes the engines call for oil



when the oil gets low. A continuous alarm is sounded if the lubricant in the crank chamber falls below a given level. The device consists of a small brass tube with a whistle of suitable size fixed in one end and mounted on the dash.

The tube is inserted through the crank chamber and the air pulsations produced by the moving piston have the power to sound the whistle. This can only be done, however, when the oil goes below the level of the tube which is placed so that its end will be just above the bottom of the case—or as soon as the quantity of oil becomes too low to get to the cranks.

Use a Knife Blade

The newest way to remove small particles of metals that become lodged in the eye is with a magnet, and as these small particles are flying about in the air most of the time it is a good thing to know that a knife blade makes a splendid magnet for this purpose when properly treated. Unscrew the cap and remove the diaphragm of a telephone receiver and gently stroke the knife on one of the magnet's exposed. Be sure you use the same magnet. Within a very short time the blade will become sufficiently magnetized to be used on the eye.

Paper Flower Pots

A good way to start plants is to plant the seed in a cylinder of paper



filled with earth and set in a tray that is also filled with earth. There is no bottom in the cylinder and the plant can be left in it throughout its life. When sufficient growth has been attained to warrant transplanting the plant cylinder and all are set into the ground. The roots will break through the paper if it is necessary for them to do so. This makes transplanting a much cleaner and quicker job than the old method of taking the plants from pots.

HELP FOR INEBRIATES

Ontario Act Makes Provision For Their Care and Cure

The London Advertiser says: One of the acts passed at the 1916 session of the Ontario Legislature that deserves some mention was "an act to amend the hospitals for the insane act." This act made provision for the admission, as a voluntary patient, of any alcoholic habitual, by the superintendent of the hospital, for care and treatment, but the patient must be capable of appreciating the fact that he is to be admitted as a voluntary patient. The time during which he may be detained is limited to one year. Of course the patient must agree to comply with the rules of the hospital. The patient may be discharged cured or incurable, or for breach of the rules.

Another important provision is that with respect to those so given over to drunkenness as to render them incapable of self-control, or of managing their own affairs. In such cases a judge in chambers, or a magistrate, applied to by a relative or connection of the inebriate, or by the family physician, may cause a petition to be served on the inebriate setting forth the facts, and appointing a time for the hearing of the application. The hearing is to be conducted as other proceedings in courts are, and the judge or magistrate is to report the facts to the inspector of prisons and charities, and transmit the evidence to him.

The inspector may have the inebriate placed in a hospital or placed where he will be detained and treatment administered for a period not exceeding two years. And the judge or magistrate may have the inebriate in a safe and comfortable place, but not in a jail, prison or reformatory. This is a humane act in the true interests of the public, the inebriates and their families. One wonders why such legislation has not long since found its way to the statute books. The credit is due to one of the young members of the Legislature, a former Londoner, Thomas Hook, member for South Toronto.

NEITHER FOOD NOR DRINK

As an illustration of the keen sense of humor possessed by the famous Scottish judge, Lord Mackenzie, Sir J. H. A. Macdonald, late Lord Justice-Clerk, tells the following story in his Reminiscences. On one occasion when the jury had retired to consider conviction or acquittal, they rang their bell, producing the usual stir of anticipation in court. It turned out, as reported by the mace, that they rang to ask if they might be allowed to have some water while they were in deliberation. According to the law of Scotland, it is forbidden, when a jury has been enclosed, that they should be suffered to have any "meat or drink" until they have returned the verdict. Everybody listened to hear what the judge would say. Lord Mackenzie, looking up meditatively, delivered himself in slow and deliberate tones, heard throughout the court, thus: "Well, ye canna call it meat" (and then more rapidly), "and it sairtainly is not a drink; they can have the water."

SOME STRAY PIECES OF INFORMATION

Injections of rattlesnake venom are used to cure epilepsy.

The atmospheric changes during a thunderstorm accelerate the discharge of all gases and it is now asserted that it is these, and not the electrical discharges which sour milk.

It is asserted that the germs of paralysis find their way to the brain through the nose.

The house fly is the principal source of infantile paralysis infection.

Hunger makes the brain heavier. A scientist says that the bassoon player is always cranky and the drummer generally lacks humor.

Where do the birds die is a question which has not been satisfactorily answered, although considerable attention has been given to the matter.

A statement has been made that life would be prolonged if persons would acquire the habit of stooping by the hips, instead of bending the backbone. In Prussia a whole new knee joint has been successfully grafted.

Every once in a while lumps of butter are dug up in the Irish bogs which are said to have been placed there many years ago for flavoring or preservative.

On the last day of each year the Chinese throws out of his house a new image of a man, which is said to carry sins and bad luck with it.

Chemicals are more effective in fighting mine fires than water.

Barely one-seventh of the population of the British Empire is composed of whites.

Great Britain carries on more trade with Germany than any other country, with France and the United States ranking second and third.