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THE DISPATCH OFFICE

A WALRUS ON LAND.

The Awkward and Bulky Creature la Almost Helpless.

As might be expected, a walrus is about as helpless on land as a canaly 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 of 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 with 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 o in herds, whether traveling feeding, fighting or resting ashore. In the days before the slaughter of an living creatures became a ruling passion in the breast of man the Pacific species inhabited the whole of Bering sea and strait in herds which often contained thousands and even tens of thousands of individuals.

Gave Himself Away. a man who is steadily employed finally had a day off and decided to go Ashing, 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 nappy and picking his teeth. "Did you find anything on the road as you came along?" asked the gentle-

"No, sah, - amwered the negro. "! didn't find nothing. Couldn't a dog have found it and eat it up?'-Every-

('wpatra's PearL Most persons know the story that h told of Cleopatra to Illustrate her luxprious habits of living-that she dissolved in her wine a precious pearl. No one seems yet to have questioned the drink, but scientists scoff at the possibility of such solution. The fact is year'thre not soluble in wine, The most powerful vinegar affects hem slowly and never entirely desolves them, for the organic matter remains behind in the shape of a spongy mase that is larger than the original peart.-New York Press

Porcing 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 fowers and fruit. This process, nowever, 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, sptraeas, 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

Hor Last Card. "I want a new bonnet, but my hus band says he can't afford it."

had not commenced to move

"Is that final, do you suppose?" "H. says it is, but I won't know until tonight." "Going" o get a definite answer

"Yes. I'm going to settle it one way or the other I'm going to start to ery when he gets home, and if that doesn't work there'll be no new bon-

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?'

net."-Detroit Free Press.

"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 resoluteness undaunte ? dif-

It is sedom that punishment, though hame of foot, has failed to evertake a rillain.—Horaca

ficulties and then success .- W. M. Pur-

"Seal Brand" means a certain. definite blend of high-grade coffee - uniform in quality and always delicious.

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Roumanian Army Is Now Safe

Paris, Dec. 18. - The Roumanian army is now safe, according to news received in Paris last night, says the Petit Parisien. The paper says that the survivors are now beyond the Sereth River, at Jassy and in Bessarabia, where they are being regrouped and refitted in view of further operations. The entire Roumanian front is now stated to be neld by the Russians alone.

After the Bucharest Ploechti line was lest, the story says, the Russians sent divisions and forces of cavalry to sup port the retreat of the Roumanian army. King Ferdinand fell back as rapid'y as possible. Assured of the possibility of reforming behind the shelter of the Russians and continued the withdrawal without halting until the Seieth was crossed. The Russians offered strong resistance to the Germans in the region of Buzeu so as to permit the engineers to construct a defensive front between Ripnik Sarat and the Danube marshes. on which front, it is stated, the Russ ians intend to stop the advance of the invaders.

London, Dec. 18.-The renewal of Bri tish activity on Mesopotamia after seven months quiesence is attracting attention. Nothing is known of the new movement except what is containd in the official communication. near approach of the British forces to Eut-El-Amara is not regarded as necessarily of great consequence, except so far as it may be part of a definite plan. because it is believed here that General Maude, who new commands the expedition, has been in a position to take Kut Ei-Amara at any time during the pest three months if he had so desired. It is remarked by the Times that if, as is possible, the British now enter Kut-El Amara the Turks will be compelled to evacutate Sannayyat without having the satisfaction of resisting another frontal. attack and adds that the Mesopotam ian expedition is in a much happier posi ion than it occupied at the beginning of the year. Two light railways are being built and have reached an advanced setage, the river flotilla has been streng t aned, spacious wharfage accomoda tion has been provided at the base as Neasra, ample supplies have been ac cumulated and the medical and hospital organizations are now believed to be sufficient for the largest possible de mands. The early blunders in Mesopot amia to a large extent have been recti fied. The ultimate object of the expedi tion, however, is still obscure.

Hugo Munsterberg Died Suddenly

Caul ridge, Mass., Dec. 16 .-Hago Munsterberg, Professor of Pyschology of Harvard University, died suddenly, to-day, while lerturing before a class at Radel ff.

(Prof. Munsterberg has been strong pro-German advocate since Agriculture will bring by return mai the war started. Born at Darzg, Gamany, he was 53 years of age He has written several books, in English and German, and has coutributed to magazines and educa tional publications.

Women's Hairpins On Banned Lis

London, Dec. 16 .- According to the parliamentary correspondent of the Daily News, the Government's orders for checking the use of metal in non tion of the further making of women's ported everywhere and railroads and

Wall Mary

Marketing Potatoes

Experimental Farms. Note'

From the consumers' side, the ques tion of marketing potatoes is of the greatest importance, especially so in years when the prices for this commodity are advancing daily. The officers of the Experimental Farms recently had an opportunity of inspecting quantities of potatoes in the consumers' own cel lars. The potatoes had been purchased in the ordinary way from small dealers. The condition of the potatoes was most unsatisfactory. In three cases the amount of rot came up to 75 per. cent of the total quantity in storage. This ret was the common Late Blight rot, and was certainly present when the potatees were dug, and before shipp ing.

The consumer is helpless in such cases, and rarely is there a way open to him for compensation. Nor is the small dealer to blame. The blame rests entirely with the shipper and the grow er. In order that such losses may be avoided and the consumer be in a pos tion to secure for his good money, goo potatoes that will keep over winter, it is necessary for the growers, on their part, to exercise more care in digging, sorting and handling potatoes. Late Blight is a preventable disease; every farmer should know this fact, since the Experimental Farms system has made every effort to demonstrate on many farms in the country the effect of spray ing, with results showing the product ion of sound crops, and an increase in yield amounting to some 90 to 100 bush

The sale of inferior potatoes is dis honest, if not illegal at the present moment: Farmers know from their own experience that storage rota cause great losses in their own cellars. It seems however, the general practice to dis puse of an infected crop immediately and shift the losses from rot from the farmer to the consumer. The latter. however, has to pay the price of good polatoes.

In some instances, no doubt, the com sumer is to blame by storing potatoes or other winter vegetables) in too warm cellars. Potatoes and similar vegetables must be stored in a cool place. They cannot stand frost, which causes a sweetish taste in potatoes; but the temperature should never rise above 40 degs. F. Where such conditions are non existent it is better not to lay in a winter's supply, as losses are sure to

Farmers are cautioned that the atti tude or consumers will eventually result in demanding grading of potatoes just like apples; and the farmer who does not control diseases in the field, will have all rotten or diseased potatoes thrown on his hands. Diseased pota toes, when boiled, still make good stock food, it should be remembered. A let ter or postal card addressed to the Pub lications Branch of the Department of all the required information relating to the growing of crops of potatoes free rom disease.

Heavy Snowstorm In Switzerland

Berne, owitzerland, via Paris, Dec. 16. - An exceptionally heavy snowstorm continues in Switzerland. The depth of the fall in Engadine is from twelve to sixteen inches, which is a record. A number of villages are completely cut off from the outer world and threatened with famine. Huge avalanches are te-