

FIRST FLAG OF WORLD

Origin of the National Banners—Japan Heads List

The most ancient national flag in the world is either the dragon banner of China or the chrysanthemum flag of Japan.

MANITOBA'S WEALTH

Great Natural Mineral Resources in Western Province

Sir William Mackenzie, president of the Canadian Northern Railway, said: "The un-spoiled natural resources of Manitoba will stagger the world."

As an example of what can be done in the mining industry, the Porcupine district of Ontario might be cited.

IN BACKWARD CANADA

Quaint Ways and Customs of Islands in St. Lawrence Gulf

A night's sail to the north of Prince Edward Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, one happens on the Magdalen Islands.

Here in these islands, whose history dates back to the French discovery and possession of Canada, one happens on rare things—women in sunbonnets riding in carts, knitting in hand; berry-pickers, ready with a pleasant smile to have their pictures taken.

READ INSURANCE POLICY

Householders Careless About Details That Might Mean Loss

The following, or a similar clause, appears in all policies of fire insurance: "The company is not liable for losses following, that is to say: Where the insurance is upon buildings or their contents for loss caused by the want of good and substantial brick or stone or cement chimneys; or by ashes or embers being deposited, with the knowledge and consent of the assured, in wooden vessels; or by stoves or stove-pipes being, to the knowledge of the assured, in an unsafe condition, or improperly secured."

Disposal of Ashes During the winter months the disposal of ashes from stoves and furnaces demands attention.

"Calf" Week The terms "calf week," "cow week," "pig week," are applied in many instances to great industrial centres three weeks before the close of the holiday week.

LIFE OF A BOOK FROM START TO FINISH

What a Printer's Warehouseman has to Know—Warehouse is an Indispensable Part in Printing

The warehouse in a printing establishment is the place where the finishing touches are given to the printer's work, and is not merely a packing and despatching department.

Making the Book In dealing with book work, the printer's warehouseman has to bring various kinds of ingenious machinery into play to aid him in his work, such as folding, rolling, and stitching machines.

The Work of a Day If they require to be stitched, the papers will have to be passed through the wire stitchers, and then be gathered again to be placed in the cutting machines and their edges trimmed up.

HOW DO THEY KNOW? The birds know when old King Winter is about to relax his grip on the country.

CLEAN MILK METHODS

Brush the cow's udder and wipe with a dry cloth; use clean water and dry with a clean towel. Milkers should wash their hands with soap and water and dry with clean towel.

CHIMNEY FIRES

For a chimney fire a few pounds of wet thrown in at the top is probably the best handy extinguisher; but a ball of sand, earth, ashes, or even coal, will be very helpful.

COMPRESSED WRITING

In competition for a prize offered by a paper for the best examples of microscopic writing, a reader sent in a fairly readable and exhaustive account of the first voyage of Christopher Columbus and the discovery of America, written on a hen's egg.

POISON WARNING

An Attachment to a Bottle Rings a Bell

Some time in the still, dark night somebody, the wife, the baby or yourself may get suddenly ill, and somebody will hurry to the medicine case, or the pantry shelf, or wherever the medicine bottles are kept.

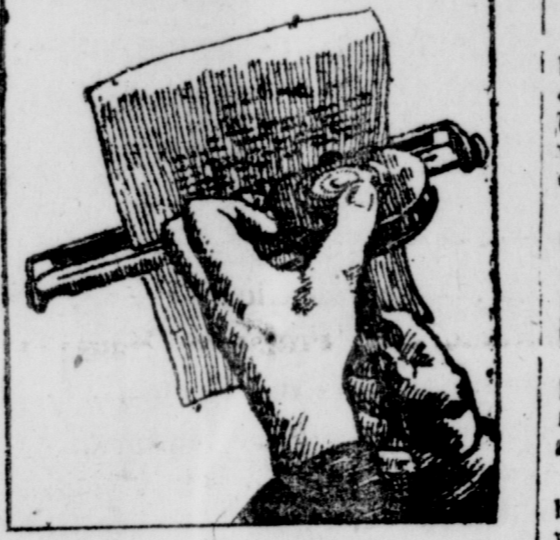


Bell bottles—that's by way of warning. Get a number of tiny bells, and fasten a bell to each bottle containing poison or any medicine which may have a serious effect if taken unintentionally.

A Pocket Typewriter Just as the pen has replaced the sword and the fountain pen displaced the ordinary pen of commerce, so the time is probably approaching when the typewriter will send the fountain pen back to the scrap heap.

WHY FOWLS NEED SO MUCH AIR

Fowls are obliged to throw off much of the waste of the body through the lungs, they do not sweat in the sense that do other animals, but instead breathe several times faster than breathing animals when heated.



His genius, with the result that a pocket typewriter has been evolved. A young German is credited with the perfection of the newest writing device. It is a folding machine that its maker guarantees to keep in perfect order for three years, and can be carried in the pocket, requiring no more space than the average watch or tape measure, and a foot rule combined.

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BRIQUETTING LIGNITE

Prairie Provinces Might Adopt New Method and Save Money

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta contain many millions of tons of sub-bituminous coal and lignite but the comparatively low heating value of this coal and the fact that it disintegrates rapidly when exposed to the air prevent its economical transportation for any considerable distance.

In a plant in Denver, Colorado, with a capacity of 500 tons of lignite per day, lignite is distilled, the by-products are saved and the residue is manufactured into briquettes. These briquettes are of very good quality, and are suitable for domestic or railway locomotive purposes.

CURIOUS SINECURES

It will be interesting to know if an all-round reduction of Government salaries takes place, whether the motor persists in missing when only a light load is being carried, before resorting to adjustments of the carburetor try making spark gap a little wider, presuming, of course, that the magnet is being used.

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RAIN COMES THE LAST

Why the Rain Follows the Thunder and Lightning

Why does a heavy downpour of rain often follow a clap of thunder? But as is popularly believed, because the thunder jostles the cloud particles together into raindrops.

TREE THAT OWNS ITSELF

At Athens, Georgia, there is a giant white oak tree which no one may buy or sell or cut down; nobody owns the land in which this tree stands. The tree owns itself. It stands on top of one of the hills of the city, and is said to be between 500 and 600 years old.

EASTERN NATIONS' DISCOVERY

The Eastern nations, which are far more pestered with flies than we are, have discovered how much flies dislike blue. The Arabs treat their houses with a kind of light blue wash, and the Japanese hang curtains of blue glass beads and bamboo at the entrance of their baker and butcher shops.

GRAND TOTAL OF C.P.R.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has a grand total of 1,500 miles of double track. Ontario district has a double-tracked mileage of 105. Manitoba district is laid with no less than 643 miles of double tracks.

THE FIRST LETTER BOX

The first letter box seems to have been installed in Paris, as a useful part of the first penny post established in any country.

WHERE JUNE 21 IS NOON OF THE YEAR

Sounds Strange, But Is True—Polish Novel Facts About Night and Day

We are apt to refer to a day or a night and to indicate a specific period of time without realizing that these terms have a different meaning in different parts of the world.

The fact is that a day is not a fixed number of hours, but the length of it varies during which the light of the sun illumines any part of the earth. In some parts of Norway the day lasts from May 21 to July 22 without interruption. In Spitzbergen the longest day is three and one-half months and the shortest two and a half of actual light.

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HOW TO TRIM A LAMP

Good oil can be made to burn badly and poor oil can be made to burn well. The following are some rules for getting good service out of the lamp: The wick, to begin with, should hang straight down in the oil. Then the oil will pass more freely to the flame, and a better light will be obtained.