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Books of 50 each

THE DISPATCH OFFICE

THE LATEST FIDDLE

Improvement on This Old and Ever Popular Musical Instrument

For hundreds of years the beginner has been compelled to feel his way up and down the scale of a violin fingerboard that had not the slightest indication of the places where the tones changed. It has been necessary by hard practice to learn just where these points were and train the fingers to unconsciously cover them when a sequence of tones was desired.

Now a young Australian has come to the fore with a new violin that overcomes this difficulty and makes it possible to tell every note a violin can make at a glance. He has accom-



plished this by inventing a system of guide grooves for the fingerboard as shown in the drawing. Those for the low notes are wide and deep and those for the higher notes are narrow and shallow. But he has not been satisfied with simply placing guides along the fingerboard.

He has caused these guides to be made of different colored woods or painted different colors so that one can tell at a glance just what note is familiar with the system. Books of instruction containing music written on diagrams similar to the strings of the new violin are furnished students and they quickly and easily learn just how to master this most difficult—and sweetest—of all musical instruments.

DISH DRYER WORKS AUTOMATICALLY

This is a device for letting the dishes dry themselves. Two frames of pine strips are made, each one foot wide and long enough to fit across the kitchen sink. Cross strips are nailed across each frame, these strips being just far enough apart to permit a plate to stand on edge between them. The cross strips on the bottom frame should be nailed at right angles to



the cross strips on the top. Four blocks two inches high should be placed at the corners and between the frames to hold them apart, and the whole should then be nailed together.

After the dishes are washed they should be placed in this holder and then scalding hot water poured over them. That is all that is necessary. The dishes will dry themselves in a short time. The frames can be hinged to the back of the sink, if desired, and raised out of the way when not in use.

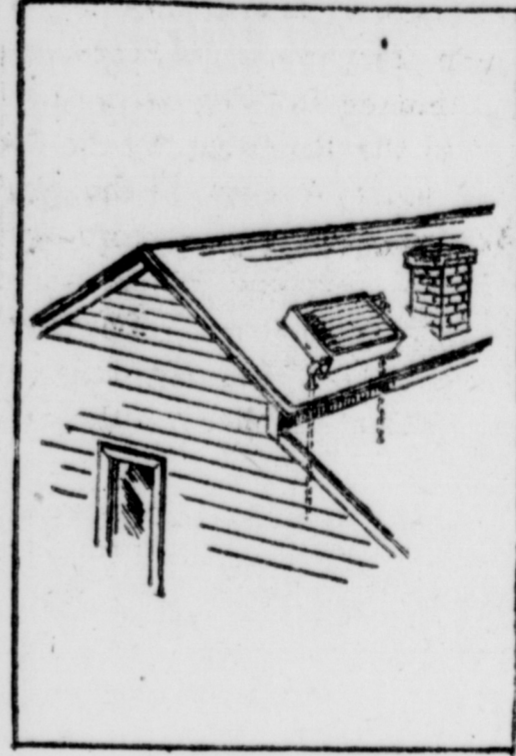
An Earthquake's Work

A fortunate landslide in China uncovered a rich deposit of coal many miles from where any coal had been known to exist.

SOLAR WATER HEATER

Heats on Housetop and Water is Heated by Rays of Sun

Through the ingenuity of two young engineers, it is now possible to have warm water in a house that has not a boiler in it. The apparatus which accomplishes this is known as the solar water heater, and its name indicates its operative principle. A coil of hot pipes of very thin metal, resembling a radiator, is set in a wooden framework which is mounted on the roof of the house. Two pipes lead down from this coil into the house, one of them bringing the water up



PIPES LEAD INTO HOUSE.

from the source of supply and the other carrying the heated water down into the bathroom or whatever room it is wanted for. The rays of the sun upon the metal coil heat the contents of the coil to a temperature high enough for most purposes, except on cold winter days.

Thunder Director

A scientist at the Lyons, France, observatory has perfected an appliance that detects thunder storms 300 miles away, the apparatus being an adaption of the wireless telegraph.

Small But Mighty

Though only one-tenth of an inch in diameter, a new steel wire for aeroplane guys has tensile strength of 350,000 pounds to the square inch.

WAR CHANGES MIGRATION

Migratory Habits of Birds Changed Since War

A French correspondent writes: War has made great changes in the habits of European birds. A convoy of pheasants heralded the naval battle of January 24, 1916, and pheasants have also been known to give warning of Zeppelin raids over the eastern counties of England. In normal times nearly all birds of passage used to pass over France on their way north or south, but the thunder of the guns has changed all this. The route taken by woodcocks leaving England for warmer climes is across the Channel into Brittany, and Landes to the Pyrenees, and as these birds do not have to cross the war zone, they have kept to their old route throughout the hostilities, but their brethren from Scandinavia and Holland, who used to fly by way of the Aisne and the mud lakes of Champagne, now make a long round by sea and do not touch land until they arrive off the coast of Brittany.

Snipe from Russia and Poland wing their way for sunny climes by way of the western coast of the Black Sea to gain the Bosphorus, or else cross Greece and Roumania. German and Danish snipe go south by way of Italy, and the thrushes escape the shrapnel of the front in France by crossing Switzerland and making for Italy. The wild ducks of the eastern lakes of England, which used to fly over the North Sea, have also a horror of battles, and now fly north, then west, and then south again, skirting the coast of Ireland.

The calendar of the migrations, which for thousands of generations has been rigorously kept, has since the war, become more elastic, and some birds, such as the martins, have renounced their return journey to the north and remain in Tunis rearing their young. Owls show no fear of artillery and remain in close proximity to the trenches, which they help to keep clear of rats and mice.

Mental Grasshoppers

Many of us waste fully one-fourth of our time and energy by constantly breaking away from the particular thing we are doing, to do or start something else—to return in a moment or so to finish what we left. We jump—mentally, physically, or both from one idea to another and back again all day long. In most cases this habit can be corrected. It is nothing more than thoughtlessness. And it should be corrected not only in the office or shop but in every part of our lives. They are nothing more than grasshoppers.

Phones in Holy City

The telephone has invaded Jerusalem, a system having been installed that connects official points, business houses and some residences.

Helping Theatre Patrons

In England there has been patented a combination of opera glasses and sound intensifiers for the use of playgoers whose hearing is impaired.

What promises to be a valuable deposit of asbestos has been discovered in Venezuela.

VARIED RICHES OF GREATER ONTARIO

Northern-grown Wheat is Province's Best—Climate, Minerals, Pulpwood and Fisheries Discussed

Mr. J. L. Englehart, as manager of the Ontario Government's Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway gave facts on the riches of Greater Ontario; the agricultural, fishery and mineral possibilities of which equal the very best in the world. The climatic conditions, he said, are all that are to be desired; the rainfall well distributed throughout the area, with temperate summers, delightful autumn, and sunshine at Halleybury equal to that at Toronto. There were virtually three soils mould, created by leaves and forests for countless ages; below this, clay which on test compares favorably with that of Lambton county, except for fall wheat and corn; underlying the clay is limestone—a reservoir into which roots descend and refresh themselves, create growth, ripen grain, roots, vegetables, etc. Greater Ontario has twenty millions of acres of alluvial soil. This does not include vast stretches of agricultural possibilities south and west of James Bay.

Success Already

Mr. Englehart said further that farms taken up by settlers at fifty cents per acre are now valued at from \$100 to \$150 per acre. Temiskaming took the highest mark in 1916 for potatoes in the standing field crop competition for Ontario. An exhibit of spring wheat from Uno Park was awarded first honors in competition with counties from York east and Parry Sound south. Settlers could get usually \$36 per acre for pulpwood cut, drawn and peeled; thus settlers were paid for clearing their own land, the work being easy as compared with old Ontario, as there are no tap roots; while uncleared spruce wood forms a savings bank for settlers on which they may draw as needed. In New Ontario the approximate value of pine on Crown lands was \$150,000,000; on licensed lands, \$10,500,000; pulpwood, approximate value, \$300,000,000.

Cheap Power and Munitions

Fisheries are important, with annual value of four millions. The largest fresh water fisheries on the continent, he claimed, are within the Province of Ontario. The salt waters in James Bay and Hudson Bay are teeming with fish—a virgin field. The speaker predicted that that region would form the future summer resort of the Province, with motoring from Pacific to Atlantic. Between Couchane and James Bay there were more than a million horse-power. Some day the navigation of that region will come to Ontario and Toronto. In that secluded part of the world are ideal conditions for munition factories that may be of imperial importance, as minerals are plentiful which furnish nitrates for explosives and also for the very best fertilizers, which will be needed in our Canadian West.

WELSH SURNAMES FEW

Quaint Peculiarities of People of Celtic Principality

Wales has plenty of coal, slate, iron, and copper, but very few surnames. If a Welsh schoolmaster should say, "Jones, you may go home now for being a good boy," the whole school would quit. People who are not called Jones are called Williams, or Evans, or Hughes, or Lloyd. They divide these names between them, and make the best of it. They do not follow the English method of taking their surnames from towns and villages. They felt that to do so would cut them off from the rest of mankind. Nobody could possibly call on Mrs. Llanymynech. Dislocation of the jaw is a great drawback to social intercourse.

The Welshman has the Celtic imagination. He never calls a spade a spade. When he has done describing this implement of agriculture, the stolid Englishman thinks he has been listening to a story from the "Arabian Nights." Hence the Englishman says the Welshman is an "untruthful." He isn't really. It's only a difference of method. The Welshman means the truth, which is the main thing. His conscience is all right, if his story isn't.

The Welshman is intensely patriotic. He regards Wales as the hub of the universe, "look you." The Welsh and the Manx are akin, and it was a Manxman who spoke of "the Isle of Man and the adjacent islands of Great Britain." But Welshmen are not devoted to the imperial spirit. They have helped to colonize the earth's empty spaces. They have fought in every continent side by side with their countrymen.