

NOT WISE ABOUT OSTRICHES

Grave Difficulties Seem to Surround Scheme Devised by a Soldier Who Wants a Mascot.

The machine-gun sergeant at Douglas who wants an ostrich for a mascot and is willing to hatch it himself if somebody will provide him with an egg, does not know much about ostriches or the task in which he proposes to enlist, in the opinion of the Arizona Republican. If he gets the egg and is not otherwise restricted, he might as well be mustered out of the service. The Germans will be at peace so far as he is concerned.

He has perhaps been misled by stories he has heard of the careless, irresponsible way in which the ostrich race is perpetuated, by the laying of the egg in the sand, where it is left to its own devices until it becomes an ostrich. That may happen in Africa, where there is plenty of sand and heat, but it will not work in the climate of Douglas, where, though there is no lack of sand the sun cannot be counted upon to assist in the business of

incubation. The sergeant would have to go to setting. Moreover, the ostrich is a bird of slow growth. It would be a long time before one coming forth from the egg could become a potent influence in the struggle between autocracy and democracy. By the time it would be in readiness to be taken to Berlin the war would be over and only historians would yet be talking about it.

We would recommend some other kind of mascot, one of quicker though even of less sturdy and magnificent growth.

Care of the Telephone.

The telephone is a fine receptacle for germs of every kind, and little attention is paid to sterilizing this much-used machine. It should be washed out with alcohol as often as required, and to keep the dust out of it make a small round cover of soft leather or heavy cloth and stitch a broad ribbon around the edge, through which can be run a drawing string or elastic. Put this over the transmitter.

A WANT AD will do it

STANDARDIZATION CUTS FLEET COST

Ships Built Cheaper Than Was Believed Possible Before the War.

ADDS WEALTH TO NATION

Great Saving in Cost and Maintenance of Ships by Adopting Standard Sizes and Patterns—Long Hauls Cut.

Washington.—An item which eventually will appear in tremendous figures on the credit side of the great war ledger to help offset some of the staggering figures of the debit side will be the added wealth to the nation of the huge American merchant fleet which the demands of the war have brought into existence and which, pessimists to the contrary notwithstanding, will not pass with the passing of hostilities.

The United States is turning out at this time not only many more ships than ever before in the history of the nation, but many more than any other nation ever turned out in the same space of time. And, too, they are being built cheaper than before the war it was believed within the range of possibilities. And the great secret of this rapidity of construction and economy of cost is summed up in one word—standardization.

In times of peace the building of merchant ships in the United States was not quite a lost art, but it certainly was far from being one of the great and important industries here. The United States government was keeping hands off and there was little encouragement for private capital to go into the enterprise. But when the war came all was changed. A great fleet of merchant ships became necessary for the successful prosecution of the war, for the conveyance of troops and supplies to the countries overseas. The United States government undertook the task. Time became an important factor and then it was discovered that lack of standardization was a serious handicap and must be overcome if rapid progress and economy in cost were to be considered. Standardization was necessary and standardization was put into practice.

Benefits of Standardization.

The manufacture of clothing, hats and shoes is largely standardized as to sizes and patterns. For this reason a standardized suit of clothes or a pair of shoes costs much less than so-called made to order apparel. It is because standardization permits of the use of labor-saving machinery, plus quantity of production. Other familiar examples of successful standardization are found in the dollar watch and the corresponding thing in automobiles.

America's problem, then, is to make a dollar ship, so to speak, or, if you prefer it, a seagoing "dollar," something easily replaced in whole or in part, but at the same time a thoroughly sound proposition from the standpoint of utility and economy. This means standardization all along the line. The more nearly the fabricated shapes for hulls and all ship machinery and ship equipment conform to standard sizes or patterns, the greater will be the saving in initial cost and maintenance of ships.

It is the purpose of the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet corporation to effect this, something it has already accomplished with respect to many things. The fact that no such thing existed when emergency shipbuilding began made early progress slow. There were not only the problems of organization, but the further complications always attending large construction enterprises before materials and methods have become fully standardized.

Long Hauls Eliminated.

Under standardization it is possible to let contracts on a geographical as well as cost basis, thus eliminating long distance hauls. Under the old plan it was sometimes necessary to ship

boats and rafts from Vancouver, Wash., to Bristol, Pa. This meant high transportation cost.

In the early days blocks came in 200 different sizes. Blocks and fittings have been so cut in size as to increase plant facilities about 35 per cent. Manufacturers are now concentrating on production where formerly a large part of the business included the making of new dies with attending increase in cost.

In the case of costly machinery, such as boilers and engines, standardization has eliminated many intermediate sizes. Nautical instruments, plumbing fixtures, winches, windlasses—in fact, all of the thousand and one things that go to make a fully equipped ship—will be entirely standardized whenever it is possible to accomplish it. Standardization has invaded even the galley and is being applied to stewards' outfits. There will be no longer miscellaneous sets of equipment that may meet the requirements of one ship but not those of another. Linen, bedding and furniture are being standardized.

Serves His King Though 80.

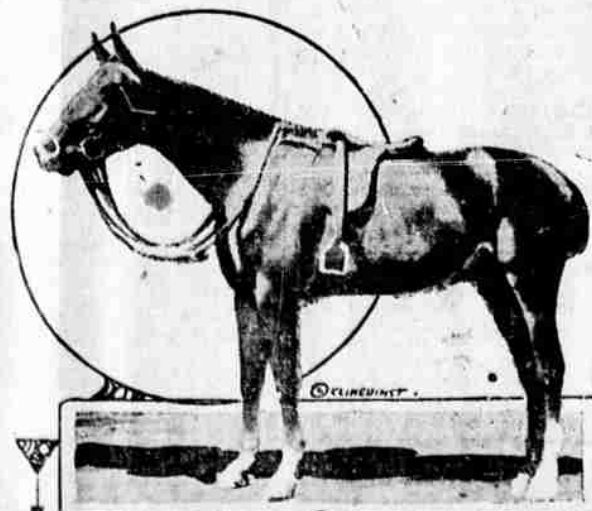
London.—Although a veteran of both the Indian and Crimean wars, Lord Ruthven joined up the day war was declared and has been serving since as an extra king's messenger and assistant provost marshal in London. He is eighty years old.

Happiness Above All.

He is a fool and worse than a fool who trades his happiness for any other thing that the world has to offer. If, with a crust you are happy, do not trade the crust for a feast. If you buy a fortune with a penny and lose happiness, you have made the worst of bargains.—Aristotle.

WANTED—Clean White Cotton Rags at the Observer Office: 3c per lb.

THE BACK THAT BEARS THE BURDEN OF THE WORLD.



This is the back that bears the back that bears the burden of the world. The donkey may be all right for a party emblem, but when it comes to riding for recreation President Wilson prefers this horse. It's name? "Democrat," of course!



WHERE QUALITY TALKS

Sample Suit Sale

100 Suits Bought at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ off

And to be Sold the Same Way

Come and see these suits at once, if interested, and don't be surprised if every suit is sold by Saturday.

This is all high grade merchandise, suits ranging in price

\$23.50 to \$60.00

HATS

Beautiful at the hats that are on sale; the entire stock to be sold at reduced prices. You can almost get a hat for the asking. Be on hand and get yours first.

E. E. KIRTLEY

SHINOLA

AMERICA'S HOME SHOE POLISH.

We have complied with the Government's request to be satisfied with a reasonable profit and to keep the quality up to standard.



The Same Quality

The Same Size Box

The Same Price—Ten Cents

Our increased volume of sales, foresight in buying and rigid economy in manufacture, enable you to buy

SHINOLA At The Same Price As Always—Ten Cents

50 Good Shines to the Box

Good for Leather

Makes Shoes wear longer and look better

Black - Tan - White - Red - Brown

You Need Less Sugar When

POSTUM

is your table beverage

The natural flavor of this family table drink is closely like excellent coffee.

POSTUM is a good addition to the grocery list these days — saves sugar.

No caffeine—No sleepless nights

"There's a Reason"

INSECT POWDER GROWN HERE

Americans Lost No Time In Developing Industry Once the Secret Was Discovered.

In our grandfathers' day the so-called Persian insect powder (commonly sold nowadays under the name of "pyrethrum") cost \$16 a pound. Pretty dear for a bug-killer.

The stuff was a mystery. Beyond the fact that it was of a vegetable nature, nobody knew what it was.

As a matter of fact, it came from Transcaucasia, where its production was a very important industry. For centuries it had been widely used in Asiatic countries, and the source of the material was a secret carefully kept.

Eventually the secret was revealed by an Armenian merchant, who, traveling through Transcaucasia, discovered that the insect powder was simply the ground-up flower-heads of a plant nearly related to our own field daisy.

Later on, attempts were made to introduce the plant in the United States, but the seeds refused to sprout. This (as finally ascertained) was due to the circumstance that the persons from whom they were bought had baked them.

At the present time we grow all our own insect powder in California.

Need for Discipline.

The price we must pay for continually proving and possessing the good is eternal vigilance. Often a sort of pig-headedness in self-assertion, in self-management, sets up its own discipline. That is one reason why discipline—submitting ourselves in some ways to the will of others—is good for us all, big and little, young and old. It is the best and often the only means of breaking down the willfulness that is likely to enter any one of us at any moment.—Youth's Companion.

Incurable, Too.

Little Edith was very fond of hearing her father play the guitar, but one evening he placed a table knife across the strings and it sounded somewhat like a ukulele. Edith listened for a moment and then said: "Papa, what makes the music sound so sick?"

Sherry's—tomorrow and Friday, William Farnum in "Les Miserables." 11-20-11

NOTICE.

The Morehouse Business College will promptly resume all class work on Monday, November 18, at the Oregon Hotel. Secure a studentship with us and come prepared to hustle through your study hours, that the better opportunities which lie just ahead, may soon be yours. Classes from 9 to 12 a. m., 2 to 5 p. m., and evening classes, 7 to 9 p. m.

Our progress will be built on practical common sense.

W. D. MOREHOUSE.

11-15tf.

The Christmas Cards and Stickers for packages and all kinds of Christmas letters and greetings, at Silverthorn's. 11-18tf

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

Notice is hereby given that I will not be responsible for any debts incurred after this date by my wife, Mrs. E. J. or Fay Brown. Dated this 18th day of November, 1918.

11-18-10t, pd. E. J. BROWN.

PIMPLY? WELL, DON'T BE!

People Notice It. Drive Them Off with Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets

A pimply face will not embarrass you much longer if you get a package of Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. The skin should begin to clear after you have taken the tablets a few nights.

Cleanse the blood, the bowels and the liver with Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the successful substitute for calomel; there's never any sickness or pain after taking them. Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets do that which calomel does, and just as effectively, but their action is gentle and safe instead of severe and irritating.

No one who takes Olive Tablets is ever cured with "a dark brown taste," a bad breath, a dull, listless, "no good" feeling, constipation, torpid liver, bad disposition or pimply face.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a purely vegetable compound mixed with olive oil; you will know them by their olive color.

Dr. Edwards spent years among patients afflicted with liver and bowel complaints, and Olive Tablets are the immensely effective result.

Take one or two nightly for a week. See how much better you feel and look. 10c and 25c per box. All druggists.

Do Your Christmas Shopping Early

Our Stock is now Complete

We Will Save You Money

Siegrist & Co.

Largest Jewelry Store in Eastern Oregon