

## EXTREMES IN DAYLIGHT.

There is, in Reality, No One Longest or Shortest Day.

It is usual to regard Dec. 21 as being the shortest day in the year and June 21 as the longest. But this impression, like so many others that are ingrained in the popular mind, is not a strictly accurate one.

True it is, of course, that on Dec. 21 and June 21 respectively the sun reaches its most southerly and most northerly points in the zodiac and begins in the one case to ascend and in the other case to decline. But this is in theory only, because for two or three days preceding and following these dates there is no observable difference in its position or its hours of rising and setting.

This question of latitude, by the way, is extremely important when speaking of the shortest or longest day or days of the year.

In London and its neighborhood, for instance, the shortest days are seven hours and forty-five minutes and the three or four "longest days" around June 21 are sixteen hours and twenty-six minutes. At Tornes, in Finland, June 21 brings a day nearly twenty-two hours long and Christmas one less than three hours in length. In St. Petersburg the longest day is nineteen hours and the shortest five hours, while at Spitzbergen the longest day is three and a half months, the shortest being counted in seconds only.—London Answers.

## FEATHERED SCAVENGERS.

Crows as Track Cleaners and Gulls as Government Workers.

As unique a crew of track cleaners and police as could be found anywhere is enlisted in the service of the Southern Pacific railroad. The members are neither Americans nor foreigners. It is a crew of crows.

The big black birds built their nests near Hornbrook, Ore., on the northern division of the road. They have become fat and sleek living off the generosity of tourists and of dining car employees.

When the trains arrive at Hornbrook the crows leave their roosting places and circle about the depot. As the limiteds pull out the birds follow them for five or six miles. Scraps are thrown to them, and they devour every bit, pecking the tracks and acting as scavengers. The section hands and other employees of the road realize the value of these birds and keep them from being molested. Trains crossing the Great Salt Lake are followed by sea gulls, the latter, like the crows, feasting on scraps thrown from the diners.

In a similar way the great lakes are patrolled by white winged gulls. The government protects them, appreciating the work they do in following the ships or hovering over the fishing grounds and keeping the waters free of pollution.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## New Year Calls in China.

New Year calls are the custom in China, and you have to pay them in festive attire of silk or satin.

These fine clothes (says Archdeacon Moulle in the Chinese People) can be hired, the price being gradually lowered as the hours of the first six days pass by. We complained once of the very late arrival of a caller, who should have been among the first to salute us. He replied that money was scarce, and he was obliged to wait for the cheapest day to secure a fine robe already donned and doffed by a dozen of others. During these ceremonial days the whole community seems to give itself over to indiscriminate gambling, a practice illegal and condemned both by Chinese law and standards of morality, but winked at during this season.

## The Missing Window Pane.

"Every kitchen has a window with one pane out in the Brazilian town of Rio Grande do Sul," said a cook. "That town is a servants' paradise. Servants live in their own homes there, as they should everywhere. They come to work at 7 in the morning, and they quit at 7 at night, a twelve hour day. Quite long enough. The paneless window is for the milkman, the baker, the butcher, so that these traders can leave their supplies—they usually come early—in a safe place. The Rio Grande servant is, of course, not there to receive them. She is in bed at her own home."

## Sizing Him Up.

An eminent Scotch astronomer tells this excellent story against himself. He once explained in a lecture that a certain star looked no bigger than a threepenny bit a hundred miles away. After the discourse one of the audience said to him:

"You must be a Scotsman, for no one but a Scotsman would trouble about a threepenny bit a hundred miles off."

## Sign of the Times.

"Business is pretty slow here just now," confessed the Squam Corners merchant.

"I judged so," replied the baking powder drummer, "when I observed they had laid off one of the hands of the town clock."—Philadelphia Ledger.

## For the Sake of Peace.

"That's what I call hush money!" remarked a father as he put down the cash for a bottle of paregoric for the infantile members of his family.

## Good Board.

Bill—Do you get good board where you can eat now? Tom—Good board? Why, I eat off the arm of a chair every meal.—Boston Transcript.

Actions, looks, words—steps from the alphabet by which you spell character.—Lavater.

## School Notes

Verda Hamman has quit school. Regina Kerber will leave school soon.

The second English class is taking up the study of Emerson's Essays.

Olive Cavin and Sunur Svan-cara entered Miss Olmsted's room Monday.

The third English class is taking up the study of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.

The first English class will soon take up the Courtship of Miles Standish.

A short program was rendered Friday by High School pupils. Those participating were Wanda Brown, Miss Rupert and Charles Bermister.

A committee has been appointed to look after debates in the school. November 20 will be the first one. All interested are invited to come.

The pupils from Miss Olmsted's room not being tardy are as follows: Richard Childs, Cecil Shaefer, Rosa Allis, Alma Nendel, Thelma Riggs, Tillie Spaniol, Zora Stowell, Adam Kerber, John Olmsted, Regina Kerber and Louise Reiger.

## Lyons and Fox Valley

(To late for last week)

A birthday party was given at the Thompson home Thursday night.

Charley Hiatt and nephew, Willie Long killed a large bear on the Johnston place.

Willis Little is spending the week with his sister, Mrs. Fred Merrills.

The W. A. of the F. V. S. A. meets with Mrs. Vaughn Wed.

A Hallowe'en party was given at the Metzger home Saturday night.

Frank Siegmund and wife were Lyons visitors Tuesday.

## West Stayton

Miss Emma Peters returned home Tuesday after a short visit at the Branch home.

A. H. Wolf and wife made a business trip to Stayton Friday.

Arthur Forrette and wife are the proud parents of a baby boy that arrived at their home last Wednesday.

T. Y. McClellan and family have moved to this place, and at present are living in one of the Land Co's houses.

Mrs. Crum called on Mrs. Dively Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Geo. Spaniol and little son visited at the A. Forrette home the first of the week.

Mr. Inlay delivered a nice lot of hogs to Geo. Spaniol Tuesday.

## Sublimity Shots

J. W. Mayo was seen in earnest conversation with Mr. Ditter of the Ditter-Bell Co. at Sublimity, Tuesday night. Sugar took quite a jump next day.

Everyone around here help Miss Clara Rauscher win one of the prizes in the Stayton Mail Premium Contest by taking the paper for a year.

Mrs. Geo. Bell has been quite sick with tonsillitis.

Jack Petranos says that if the railroad strikes Sublimity he won't get to shoe so many horses. Don't worry Jack, the people would ride miles to see an electric car stop at Sublimity.

All trains will soon stop at Sublimity.

The new gravel road between here and Stayton is a dandy.

North Stayton and South Sublimity will soon be shaking hands over Mill Creek.

## Mill City Locals

Chas. Ransom and son Harold of Aumsville visited at Dr. C. L. Ransom's home Friday.

Mrs. Clyde Welborn and daughter Cleone are visiting home folks in Turner and Salem this week.

Guy McKnight of Scio has installed a pressing plant here.

Miss Elsie Pruner and Arthur Vaughn of Lyons visited in Mill City Sunday. They were the guests of Miss Nellie Albee of this place.

Mrs. Andrews has been on the sick list for the last week but is reported better.

Nora Holt returned to her home in Thomas the first of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Edd McCoy left Saturday afternoon for a short visit in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. A. Shaw of Albany visited J. R. Shaw and family the latter part of last week, returning home Saturday afternoon.

Dan Quinn and family made a flying trip to Albany Saturday afternoon, returning Monday.

Prof. Ayor of the University of Oregon is to lecture at the Parent-Teacher's meeting Friday night, Nov. 13, in the High School Auditorium.

## Mt. Pleasant

Frank Irvine and little grandson Irvine Howard of Eastern Oregon and Mrs. Leslie Townes and baby and Mr. and Mrs. D. Townes were visitors at the W. R. Ray home Sunday.

G. H. Ray spent Wednesday night at the H. Shank home.

John Huber was a Sublimity visitor Monday.

Lula Downing was a guest of Miss Hazel Lambert Sunday.

Marguerite Ryan is visiting relatives in Salem.

Miss Effie Ray and Harry Shank were Albany visitors over Sunday.

John Huber and wife were Sunday visitors at the M. F. Ryan home.

John Gunsauls, wife and son Bennie of West Stayton spent Saturday at the H. Shank home.

Mrs. Frank Haberman of Munkers is visiting at the M. F. Ryan home.

Arnold Senz called to see Mr and Mrs. Jos. Senz Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. W. R. Brenner called at the P. H. Lambert home Saturday.

Lee Downing and daughter Gladys were Stayton visitors Monday.

## Rock Point

Mrs. F. M. Fresh, Mrs. E. C. Downing and Miss Emma Frank visited the school Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Alvin Burns motored to Salem Saturday.

Wm. Cornish and wife of Stayton spent Sunday at the F. M. Fresh home.

Norris Frank has been on the sick list the past week.

Marion Downing of Lacombe spent the week-end with his mother and brother.

C. P. Darst was a Sublimity caller Saturday

Alvin Burns and wife spent Sunday with relatives on Howell Prairie.

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—Advertisement

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## EVENING TELEGRAM

The Evening Telegram's annual Bargain Period has begun and will close Dec. 31.

The regular price of the six-day daily has been \$5.00 per year, but by a special arrangement with the publishers we can get it for you in conjunction with the Stayton Mail for \$4.50.

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