

"Third Light" Is Bad Experiment

That the "third light" experiment can not be safely performed by amateur electricians is the declaration of E. T. Busselle, engineer of the department of utilities of the state public service commission, after reading an article of fiction in a standard periodical entitled "The Third Light."

"Realizing the curiosity that may be aroused in the mind of the beginner or amateur electrician, and the possibility of harm to the boy who might attempt the experiment, it seems only proper that a few words be spoken regarding the third light experiment that may be made by youthful electricians following the publication of an article in one of our popular magazines, entitled 'The Third Light.'

"The article purports to convey certain information based upon practical electrical standards and practices. In this, however, it is in error, as there appears a drawing of equipment and circuit arrangement which is misleading and not in conformity to the thought expressed by the writer of the article.

"The dangers surrounding an experiment of this kind by the amateur electrician are many.

"The General Regulations Governing Overhead and Underground Construction, of the public service commission of Oregon, section 14, require the grounding of all neutral wires of low potential (secondary) distributing systems, and, where the neutral is not accessible, the grounding of one wire of the secondary or commercial lighting or power circuit. These regulations become effective October 1, 1913, and previous to that date a great many installations of transformers with secondary (110-

220) and other voltages) lighting and power circuits had been installed without ground connections. Therein lies the real danger to the youthful experimenter, for, should an ungrounded transformer secondary or house lighting wire be used to make the 'third light' experiment, and the transformer be faulty or leaky, the person making the experiment might receive the full 2,300 volts current, the result of which would be the maiming for life if not the instant death of the experimenter.

"Wiring conditions in Oregon are such that the experiment would fail unless it were made in some locality where the transformer secondaries or low potential distributing wires are not grounded.

"The principle involved in the 'third light' experiment, while it appears intricate, is very simple, and is nothing more than the substituting of a ground connection for the middle conductor of a circuit of two lights in series. It is therefore obvious that such an experiment can be made with batteries and small electric lights, such as are found in 'flash lights' and without the inherent dangers surrounding experimenting with the house lighting wires, whether they are properly grounded or not.

"Experimenting with commercial or residence lighting wires is not conducive to the success of the 'safety first' movement, and it is strongly recommended that such experiments be left to the advanced student or professor and be not attempted by the amateur."

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CONSTANTINE IN LIMELIGHT

The Man of the Hour in the Balkans.

The king of the Hellenes—to give him his constitutional title—is beyond question the man of the moment in European doings. He appears to hold the whip hand in Greek affairs. He has the army with him and if he so wills can seriously interfere with the plans of the allies in their defense against the advancing hosts of the Teutonic powers.

He has forced Venizelos for the time being into the background and has shown that, although a king only by consent of parliament, he intends to be a real king while parliament is not sitting and a king with the highest interests at heart of a country he loves and in the future greatness of which he has an unswerving faith.

Constantine represents the more conservative classes in the Greek nation and so far as he can do so constitutionally voices their present belief that Greece is safe only in avoiding international entanglement and doomed if she listens to the call of Mars.

As regards family relationships, Constantine is in a peculiar situation. His wife is a sister of the kaiser, but, on the other hand, his mother was a cousin of the Russian czar.

Constantine's career began in the army. But what a life of ups and downs has been his since he first joined the colors! It never was much of an army anyway—in fact, it was a sort of laughingstock among the military men of other nations—until he began to find out where it failed and helped to establish reforms that raised its dignity as a fighting force. But he had to fight against intense opposition from various quarters, and the unpopularity of the royal family of which he was a

The Land of Large Families.
In his article on the winter life of the French Canadians in Harper's Howard E. Smith tells of the extraordinary large families of these simple folk.

"Soon the twilight grew to night, and the large lamp on the table cast its orange glow over the room and the long table filled with steaming dishes. 'You have a large family, madam,' I remarked, as they gathered about the table.

"'Oul, monsieur, we are sixteen. It is a good gift to le bon Dieu, n'est-ce pas?' she said, turning toward the cure.

"'C'est vrai, mon enfant. It is. There is no better gift than that of another child to his kingdom.'

"I could not but remember that the law has also encouraged large families by passing a bill at Quebec giving ten acres of land to any family having from that time forth twelve or more children, and how in two years the law was repealed because the demand on those ten acre lots was in excess of the supply."

Strawberry Nose.
The most distressing of facial deformities, rhinophyma, which is characterized by a much swollen and reddened tip of the nose, making this look like a huge strawberry or a piece of cauliflower that has been dipped in beet juice, may be cured by a simple operation. Sir William Milligan of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, England, describes this in the London Lancet.

The operation consists in cutting off all the hypertrophied tissue, while the nasal passages are kept extended with absorbent wool in order to preserve their contour. Care is taken to avoid injury to the lateral cartilages, and only two insignificant blood vessels require tying. The raw surface is covered with two thin grafts of skin cut from the patient's thigh, over which a sheet of gold leaf is placed and a dry dressing fastened with adhesive plaster. It should be possible to remove the dressing in five days.

Races Within Races in the Balkans.
Language and religion are not the only basis of the intense subdivision of feeling in the Balkans. The whole region is parcelled out among race fractions, some of which are no larger than a hamlet. Roumanians, Bulgarians, Servians and Greeks have a sharp consciousness of race persistence, and at the same time every state is intent upon breaking up the race units of other peoples which exist within its borders. If Greece were peopled only by Greeks and Bulgaria by Bulgarians and Serbia by Servians, the task would be easier. It is a curse to the peninsula that the villagers have pushed this way and that wherever there was vacant land or wherever they could make a vacancy by driving out the previous holders. The result is the creation of race islands in the midst of angry race seas.—Albert Bushnell Hart in Outlook.

Making the Insects Speak.
In the 17 graphs of the world there is no passage more human and more humorous than the account by M. Fabre of his first interview with Pasteur, who had never seen a cocoon and was astonished that there was anything in it. He concludes the account thus: "Encouraged by the magnificent example of the cocoons rattling in Pasteur's astonished ears, I have made it my rule to adopt the method of ignorance in my investigations into insects. I read very little. Instead of turning the pages of books, an expensive proceeding quite beyond my means, instead of consulting other people, I persist obstinately in interviewing my subject until I succeed in making him speak."—London Spectator.

Limited Perpetual Motion.
Ambrose Fletcher solved the great problem of perpetual motion the other day, after laboring upon it for many years. It is in the shape of a ball which swings back and forth regularly and tirelessly, being propelled by a sort of clockwork mechanism. There is only one drawback to this solution of the old problem. He has to wind the machinery every eight days. There is always something wrong, isn't there? As soon as Ambrose gets it so it will run without winding he will have the problem definitely solved.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Exactly Alike.
"You ought to be pleased with these rolls, George, dear," said the young wife. "They are exactly like those your mother used to make when you were a boy."

"Of course they are," replied George gallantly. "In fact, I thought at first they were the same ones."

And the stupid creature could not understand why Mrs. George burst into tears!—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The Color of Air.
Pure air is blue in tint because, according to Newton, the molecules of the air have the thickness necessary to reflect blue rays. When the atmosphere is blended with perceptible vapors the diffused light is mixed with a large proportion of white.

A Slight Change.
Slight changes sometimes make a great difference. "Dinner for nothing," would be agreeable, for instance; not so, "Nothing for dinner."

The Main Question.
A man asks, "Is it durable?"
A woman asks, "Is it stylish?"
A child asks, "Is it good to eat?"—Judge.

Heaven often smites in mercy, even when the blow is severest.—Ballie.

THE MOVIES

The Christmas night crowd at the Vining Theatre was one of the best for several weeks. The picture, "The Allen," was very well received, George Behan as the Italian was wonderful.

The orchestral concerts at the Lyric are becoming more and more popular with Ashland theatregoers. A few months ago 7:30 was the earliest hour at which any one thought of arriving at a show. Now on orchestra nights the Lyric is well filled at 7 o'clock. The concerts are played between 7 and 7:30.

The "Two Orphans" at the Lyric Sunday and Monday last was a great relief from the problem plays which have become the main dependence for drawing crowds to the picture houses. The "Two Orphans," filmed from the famous old play which was familiar to our grandfathers, at times approached melodrama, but was smoothly arranged and magnificently staged. In this play Theda Bara, the vampire woman, appeared in a role new to an Ashland audience. As the affectionate sister of the little blind orphan Miss Bara reversed the opinions which many in Ashland had toward her.

Mary Pickford had another full house at the Vining Wednesday.

Pictures will be sidetracked tonight at the Vining for real big-circuit vaudeville.

Elsie Janis won over a few more admirers to her already big concourse at the Vining Tuesday in "Nearly a Lady." Miss Janis did a "lariat dance" which must have required many monotonous hours of practice. The plot of the story moved from a western ranch to New York society life and was well sustained. Incidentally the play was written by Miss Janis.

Anna Held, the celebrated French comedienne, has a wish, simple in its possibilities, yet to attain which she would yield her fame and fortune willingly for a day to any one possessing any number of choice watermelons. The petite comedienne wants to pass a day on some ranch in southern California where she can eat watermelons to her heart's content and not be forced to be satisfied with the slight portions served at hotels. Who wants to exchange places with her? Ever since her articles with her?

Ever since her articles began to appear in the papers supplied by the McClure Syndicate, Mary Pickford has been deluged with letters from people in all walks of life demanding information on the most alarmingly varied subjects. If the Famous Players Paramount star were called upon to answer all of these inquiries, she would have to be a doctor, nurse, civil engineer, lawyer, architect, chauffeur, French chef, and ten or twelve other things all rolled into one.

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feur, French chef, and ten or twelve other things all rolled into one.

Cecil B. De Mille, the Lasky-Paramount director general, is just completing "The Golden Touch," in which Cleo Ridgley and Wallace Reid are to be co-starred. In the big fight scene Reid was called upon to pick up Ray Hatton and throw him to the floor. He did it so realistically that, after the fall, water had to be splashed into Hatton's face before he woke up and inquired what other damage the cyclone had done.

Electric Cars To J'ville This Week

Medford Sun: The Southern Oregon Traction Company will operate cars to Jacksonville by the end of next week, and expect to inaugurate a service from the Siskiyou Heights district to the county seat by the end of February. The present workmen will be kept on the job, and work begun about the first of the year on the Siskiyou Heights extension through the Hillcrest addition. The finishing touches are now being put on the Jacksonville line. It was feared for a time that the east side route would be discontinued, and the announcement will be welcome news to the suburbanites. S. S. Bullis is now in the east, and upon his return is expected to have an announcement regarding still further development of the service.

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Photo by American Press Association. KING CONSTANTINE OF GREECE

member did not help him greatly in his efforts. In 1897, when he was twenty-eight, he was in charge of the troops when Greece entered upon her disastrous campaign against the Turks. He did the best he could with the two dollar rifles bought from the French, but he had to suffer the blame for non-success when it came. He and his brothers were actually "booted" out of the service later, and it was not until the Balkan wars came on that he had a chance to redeem himself and show the tough stuff of which he was made.

At the age of forty-three the crown prince found himself at the head of an army improved almost out of recognition by the efforts of Venizelos and others and brought home the spoils of a glorious war to an enthusiastic and united people. It was an extraordinary rehabilitation of a seemingly ill-starred military career. In one day, almost, the man had risen from the depths of unpopularity to the very height of national favor. When the war closed and he had succeeded his father (who had been assassinated at Saloniki in 1913), a war medal in his honor was struck by the Greek government. On the medal Constantine was called "Bulgarochthonos" (Bulgar killer), and the inscription read, "To the Bulgar Killing King."

Everything that has occurred since the accession of Constantine—the quarreling that has gone on between the king and Venizelos, the breakdowns of ministries, the charges of mendacity that have been hurled against the late prime minister by his monarch and the uncertainty that has existed regarding the immediate attitude of Greece toward the warring nations—all show that the man on the throne has a policy and that he is carrying it out with all the firmness and character he possesses.

The king's policy is that of a strict neutrality and the avoidance of any entanglement which will interfere with the political and economic building up of the nation as it now stands. The policy of Venizelos is to hold to the nation's obligations and to support the cause of the allies not only because of the dangers which any other policy would involve, but also because of the advantages which would accrue to Greece if the allies won.

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