

RESERVE HORSES FOR WAR.

Switzerland's Method of Preparing For Rapid Mobilization.

In Switzerland the state is part owner of horses used by reserves. It purchases a remount at three and a half years old, and the soldier pays half the cost of the horse to the government, together with the difference between its cost and the price that the horse fetches at auction, for all horses are sold by auction to the men.

After every year of training the government refunds one-tenth of the original half cost to the man, and at the end of ten years the horse becomes the absolute property of the soldier. In this manner the soldier is not only always well mounted, but as he keeps his horse with him at his home his mobilization problem is of the simplest nature.

The average price of these Swiss troop horses is about \$45, says Bally's Magazine, and as most of these horses are imported from Ireland and north Germany their price is considerably higher than it would be in Great Britain. Thus the state secures the services of a horse for an annual outlay of about \$4.10. But there are certain other expenses which must be included in this estimate, such as the cost of the establishment for remount depots, etc., which raises the total cost of horses for the Swiss government to about \$8.12 a year.

ROADS IN CHINA.

They Are Narrow and Crooked and Edged With Ditches.

The Chinese road is private property, a strip taken from somebody's land. This is done much against the will of the owner, since he not only loses the use of it, but also still has to pay taxes on it.

One consequence is that it is wide enough for only one vehicle, and carts can pass one another only by trespassing on the cultivated land. To prevent this the farmers dig deep ditches by the roadside. As the surface wears away and the dust blows off it gradually grows lower, and after awhile it becomes a drain for the surrounding fields. A current forms in the rainy season, which still further hollows it out, and thus has arisen the proverb that a road a thousand years old becomes a river.

Those whose lands are used for roads naturally prefer to have the roads run along the edge of their farms instead of cutting across them, and this accounts for the fact that Chinese roads are often so crooked that one may have to go a considerable distance to reach a place that is in reality but a few miles away. This always interests the stranger.

Only Pursuing His Profession.

A Brooklyn magistrate recently had four darkies who were caught in a gambling raid before him. The first of the lot to be brought to the bar was an undersized man, with a comical face as black as night. The dialogue between the magistrate and the prisoner created some merriment in the court.

"What is your name?" inquired the magistrate sternly.

"Mah name's Smith," replied the darky.

"What is your profession?"

"I'm a locksmith by trade, sah."

"What were you doing when the police broke into the room last night?"

"Judge, I was pursuin' mah profession. I was makin' a bolt for the door."

"Officer," said the magistrate, with a merry twinkle in his eye, "lock Smith up."—New York Tribune.

The Art of Overlooking.

Nobody can live long in the world and not admit that the words "nothing for nothing" contain a sad amount of truth. He is of course a fool who does not count the cost so far as the future is concerned, but scarcely less a fool is he who does not overlook past costs. If we have any good or delightful thing in this life, at all hazards let us not taint our enjoyment by considering what we gave for it. Was it more than we could afford? Never mind. We have afforded it; we have made our purchase. Let us take off the ticket with the price and burn the receipt. There are items in life's ledger which must be overlooked unless we would spend all our days in balancing closed accounts.—London Spectator.

How She Rules Him.

"Skipphint's wife certainly has remarkable success in managing him. I wonder how she does it."

"When he undertakes to deny her anything she really wants she threatens to sue him for divorce."

"Does he care so much for her, then?"

"Oh, no, it's not that, but he figures that it is cheaper to let her have her own way than it would be to either defend the suit or pay alimony."—Chicago Post.

A Bad Start.

"A man always looks foolish when he proposes," said the frank young woman.

"Yes," answered Mr. Meekton, "and I have evidently failed to overcome the absurd impression I made on Henrietta on that occasion."—Washington Star.

Social Paradox.

"It's impossible for me to dress on \$5,000 a year."

"Well, my love, you must wear less."

"Don't be silly! You know perfectly well that the less I wear the more it costs."—Judge's Library.

Common sense is instinct, and enough of it is genius.—H. W. Shaw.

THE FIRST CLOCKS.

One at Padua That Was a Wonder of Mechanism.

It was, we are told, in 1309 that the first clock known to the world was placed in the tower of San Eustorgio, in Milan.

The greatest astonishment and admiration were manifested by crowds who flocked to see the timepiece. In 1344 a clock was installed in the palace of the nobles at Padua. This was a wonder of mechanism indeed, for besides indicating the hours it showed the course of the sun, the revolutions of the planets, the various phases of the moon, the months and the fates of the year.

The period of the evolution from the clock to the watch was seventy-one years—not so very long, all things considered—and the record of the first watch is 1380. A half century later an alarm clock made its appearance. This, we are told, was looked upon by the people of that age as "an instrument prodigieux."

The fortunate possessor of this clock was Andrea Alciato, a counselor of Milan. The chroniclers have placed on record that this clock sounded a bell at a stated hour, and at the same time a little wax candle was lighted automatically. How this was done we are not told, but it must not be overlooked that until about seventy years ago we had no means of obtaining a light other than the tinder box, so that the Milanese must have been centuries ahead of us in this respect.

Not much progress was made with the watch until 1740, when the second hand was added.—London Globe.

TEMPTED, HE ATE.

A Story of Heinrich Heine and a Toothsome Lyons Sausage.

Returning from a journey to the south of France, Heinrich Heine met a friend, a German violinist, in Lyons, who gave him a large sausage that had been made in Lyons with the request to deliver it to a mutual acquaintance, a homeopathic physician, in Paris. Heine promised to attend to the commission and intrusted the delicacy to the care of his wife, who was traveling with him. But as the postchaise was very slow and he soon became very hungry, on the advice of his wife both tasted of the sausage, which dwindled with every mile.

Arriving at Paris, Heine did not dare to send the remainder to the physician, and yet he wished to keep his promise. So he cut off the thinnest possible slice with his razor, wrapped it in a sheet of vellum paper and inclosed it in an envelope, with the following note:

Dear Doctor—From your scientific investigations we learn that the millionth part of a certain substance brings about the greatest results. I beg, therefore, your kind acceptance of the accompanying millionth part of a Lyons sausage, which our friend gave me to deliver to you. If homeopathy is a truth, then this little piece will have the same effect on you as the whole sausage. Your HEINRICH HEINE.

—Ughetti's "With Physicians and Clients."

Old Time English Elections.

In old time England each constituency gave its representative in parliament a horse to carry him to Westminster and also paid his expenses on the road. These expenses, together with an allowance for each day spent on duty at the house of commons, generally at the rate of 80 cents a day, were refunded in one lump sum when the member returned home at the end of the parliamentary year. Sir F. Delaval totaled seven votes in an attempt on Andover in the general election of 1768. An item in his election agent's bill is typical of the reckoning he had to pay: "To being thrown out of the George Inn, Andover, to my legs being thereby broken, to surgeon's bill and loss of time and business, all in the service of Sir F. Delaval, £500." Lord Lindaff won Dungarvan in 1868. The item "£547 whisky," caused him to protest faintly. "Begorra," said his election agent, "if ye want to squeeze a pipkin like that ye'll never do for Dungarvan."

Real Sea Serpents.

In New Caledonia sea serpents are frequently seen and sometimes captured. They are curious creatures, the head being very small and scarcely distinguishable from the body and the tail being formed like an oar. In length they are generally between three and four feet. In the jaw there are tiny glands containing poison, but as the mouth is very small it is difficult for them to bite, and the natives handle them fearlessly. A European traveler witnessed an experiment at Noumea which shows that under certain conditions the sea serpent can do deadly work. A rat was caught in a trap, and its tongue was grasped by a pair of pinchers and placed in the mouth of a sea serpent. The serpent immediately bit it, and the rat died in four minutes.

Cause of Thought.

"You look thoughtful tonight, Smith," remarked Brown as he stretched himself on two chairs.

"Yes," said Smith. "I have just got a note from the landlady."

"What does she say?"

"She says that I must pay my board as once or her daughter will sue me for breach of promise. I'm thinking what I'd better do."—London Tit-Bits.

Force of Habit.

"You know that pretty salesgirl I took home from the dance?"

"Yes."

"Well, I stole a kiss."

"What did she say?"

"Will that be all?"—Judge.

JAPANESE ENGLISH.

A Sample Circular Composed by a Native Tradesman.

There comes from a correspondent in Japan this example of circulars in English that Japanese tradesmen sometimes compose:

"Dear Sir—I have the honour to write a letter for you that I have now established the meat market and its branch to deliver the meat as one of the branch of my slaughter house, as which I have many cattle, their pastures, their markets, milk houses, and a slaughter house, etc., and I will have a fresh meat with the most cheapest price from my slaughter house than other butchery and especially make you many reduction for every day purchaser for month. I beg you can soon make me your order without your servant's commission, as you know your servant is always making money by your meat. I will make you the pass-book for the creditor only."

"P. S.—If you handed bad meat from your servant while you are making purchases the meat from my market every day, you will soon to let it exchange by the servant without any hesitation. Please make me your order, and if you can make me order by letter I will have the postage reduction from the count of meat with kind regards. Your truly."—Boston Transcript.

THE DELUGE.

Queer Old Australian Tradition About the Flood.

The aboriginal blacks of Australia have a queer tradition about the flood. They say that at one time there was no water on the earth at all except in the body of an immense frog, where men and women could not get at it. There was a great council on the subject, and it was found out that if the frog could be made to laugh the waters would run out of his mouth and the drought be ended.

So several animals were made to dance and caper before the frog to induce him to laugh, but he did not even smile, and so the waters remained in his body. Then some one happened to think of the queer contortions into which the eel could twist itself, and he was straightway brought before the frog, and when the frog saw the wriggling he laughed so loud that the whole earth trembled, and the waters poured out of his mouth in a great flood, in which many people were drowned.

The black people were saved from drowning by the pelican. This thoughtful bird made a big canoe and went with it among all the islands that appeared here and there above the surface of the water and gathered in the black people and saved them.

Curiosities of Superstition.

When Egypt was in the height of her power, when she was most highly civilized and delighted in being called the mistress of the land and sea, her people worshipped a black bull. There was some discrimination, however, even in this form of worship. In order to be an object of mad adoration it was necessary that the bull calf be born with a circular white spot in the exact center of his forehead, and the advent of such a creature in any herd was the signal of wild demonstrations from the Mediterranean to the border of the Libyan desert. Even as late as the time of Cleopatra, star-eyed goddess, glorious sorceress of the Nile, such animals were shod with gold and had their horns tipped with the same metal. Herodotus tells of a man who died with grief because he sold a cow that soon after became the mother of a black bull calf marked with the sacred white circle in his forehead.

Lead Pencil Experiments.

An English statistician was asked how many words could be written with an English lead pencil, and, being determined to answer it, he bought a lead pencil and Scott's "Ivanhoe" and proceeded to copy the latter word by word. He wrote 55,008 words and then was obliged to stop, for the pencil had become so short that he could not use it. A German statistician who heard of this experiment was dissatisfied with it because all the lead in the pencil was not used on the work, and therefore he bought a pencil and started to copy a long German novel. When the pencil was so short that he could not handle it with his fingers he attached a holder to it, and it is said that he wrote with this one pencil 400,000 words. Possibly, however, his pencil was longer or the lead in it was of a more durable quality.

When Silence Is Deadly.

Silence is commonly the slow poison used by those who mean to murder love. There is nothing violent about it. No shock is given. Hope is not abruptly strangled, but merely dreams of evil and fights with gradually stifling shadows. When the last convulsions come they are not terrific. The frame has been weakened for dissolution. Love dies like natural decay. It seems the kindest way of doing a cruel thing.—George Meredith.

Rubbing It In.

The Bride—That nasty Mrs. Jones, next door, said I'd better try these blacuits on the dog before I gave 'em to you. The Groom—Hasn't she got a mean disposition! Why, I thought she was fond of dogs!—Cleveland Leader.

Often the Case.

Sillicus—What do you suppose caused him to go to the bad? Cynicus—Trying to be a good fellow.—Philadelphia Record.

The fool's ear was made for the knave's tongue.—Ramsay's "Indian Fables."

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Treasurer's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that all outstanding Morrow County warrants registered prior to and including November 12, 1908, will be paid upon presentation at the office of the treasurer of said county. Interest ceases after the date of this notice.

E. G. NOBLE,

County Treasurer.

Dated at Heppner, Oregon,
March 31, 1910.

Read About the

Mt. Vernon Hot Springs

They are located in the beautiful John Day Valley, 2 1/2 miles north of Mt. Vernon, and 12 1/2 miles west of Canyon City in Grant County, Oregon. The elevation is 2700 feet and the climate is mild throughout the year. The springs which furnish water for the bath and swimming pool flow 25,000 gallons per day of highly mineralized hot water of a temperature in the different springs of 100 to 122 degrees F. These springs are without rival or competition for the reason that you can get the water just the proper temperature for bathing without artificial heating or diluting with cold water and thereby destroying the medicinal properties. These springs have but recently come to public notice. They have just been fitted up for the comfort and benefit of the invalid and those seeking recreation.

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For further information address

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NOTICE.

Before the Board of Control of the State of Oregon,
Water Division No. 2, Umatilla and Morrow Counties.

IN THE MATTER OF THE DETERMINATION OF THE RELATIVE RIGHTS TO THE WATERS OF THE UMATILLA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES, SAID UMATILLA RIVER BEING A TRIBUTARY OF THE CO. COLUMBIA RIVER.

To all whom it may concern:
In the Name of the State of Oregon: You and each of you are hereby notified that the State Engineer of the State of Oregon will begin the investigation of the flow of that certain stream, and the tributaries thereof, known as the Umatilla River, in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, Oregon, together with the ditches diverting water therefrom, on Monday, the 9th day of May, 1910, pursuant to a petition heretofore filed with the Board of Control of the State of Oregon requesting a determination of the relative rights of the various claimants to the waters of said stream and its tributaries and those owning or being in possession of lands bordering on said stream or the tributaries thereof and having access thereto; and you are hereby further notified that the Superintendent of Water Division No. 2, of the State of Oregon, will commence the taking of testimony as to the relative rights of the various parties claiming water from said stream or any of its tributaries as follows, to wit:

On Monday, the 16th day of May, A. D. 1910, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., in that certain building known as the City Hall, in the town of Koko, Umatilla County, Oregon; and on Thursday, the 19th day of May, 1910, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., in the Circuit Court room, in the County Courthouse, in the City of Pendleton Umatilla County, Oregon.

By order of the Board of Control of the State of Oregon, made the 7th day of March, 1910.

JOHN H. LEWIS, State Engineer.
President of the Board.
H. L. HOLGATE, Superintendent
Water Division No. 1.
F. M. SEXTON, Superintendent
Water Division No. 2.

Attest:
JAMES T. CHINNOCK,
Secretary of the Board of Control,
of the State of Oregon.
March 31 Apr 7