

Our Query and Reply Department

When and where was coal first discovered in the United States?

An authority says it was discovered by Father Hennepin, a French missionary and explorer, in 1669 in what is now Ottawa, Ill. That was soft coal. Anthracite was discovered in Pennsylvania early in the nineteenth century, and the first shipment from the mines was in 1813, when five boat loads were floated down the Lehigh river and sold at Philadelphia for \$21 a ton.

Please tell what is meant by the term "The Great Divide."

A divide when used as a noun means a dividing ridge or section of high land between two areas of drainage—a watershed. The term has been applied locally to other divides, but the Great Divide is a meandering line following the crest of the Rocky mountains on the eastern side of which the waters flow to the gulf of Mexico and on the west to the Pacific. There is a town in Teller county, Colo., called Divide, another in Laramie county, Wyo., and a third in Silverbow county, Mont., each of which is situated near the crest of the great watershed. The term "Great Divide" was used and its meaning established by early United States geological surveys.

Please tell me the cause and the result of the war with Mexico.

There was a combination of causes, as our annexation of Texas, a disputed boundary line, border troubles and a long series of unneighborly acts by Mexico. Result, the virtual conquest of Mexico and acquisition of extensive territory by the United States.

Who was General Hull of Revolutionary fame, and why was he condemned to death?

In early life he was a divinity student, then became a lawyer and finally a soldier, serving with distinction in the Revolutionary war and later Indian wars. In the war of 1812 he commanded what was called the Northwest army, and in August, 1812, he surrendered Detroit to the British. He was condemned by a court martial for cowardice and sentenced to be shot, but President Madison remitted the sentence.

If a citizen of the United States takes government land and becomes naturalized in Canada, what would he have to do to become a citizen of the United States again?

He would have to be naturalized the same as a person of foreign birth.

How old is the world supposed to be? What is meant by the prehistoric period?

The age of the world implies fixing the date of the creation, and scientists do not attempt to do that beyond saying that it must be reckoned by millions of years. Many Bibles are printed with the year 4004 B. C. in the margin of the first chapter of Genesis, indicating that as the date of the creation of the world. It is only within comparatively recent times that science has demonstrated beyond doubt that the world existed millions of years before the period formerly assigned as the date of the creation and that its occupancy by man covers a period hundreds of times as long as that formerly accepted as the age of the world itself. (2) The prehistoric period means the period antedating written history, human records by means of hieroglyphics which, as now known, reach back far beyond the period formerly accepted as the date of the creation of the world.

Please tell me what uniforms Mexican soldiers wear, both federals and rebels.

The regulars usually wear either a blue cloth or white linen uniform, with blue or white cap. One of the artillery regiments has a blue uniform with red facings and a brass helmet. Some regiments wear the national sombrero and sometimes a basin shaped straw hat. The rebels or Constitutionals, as they call themselves, have no particular uniform.

What became of the man who wounded Colonel Roosevelt?

The man, John Schrank, was declared insane by experts and sent to the hospital for insane at Oakkosh, Wis.

Placing the Picture.

"Oh, pa, my Harold is so handsome he is a perfect picture!"

"That's all right, but you let him know that when I stamp my feet upstairs he's to get busy and be a moving picture."—Baltimore American.

The KITCHEN CUPBOARD

MEATLESS SOUPS.

DINNER MENU.
Peanut Soup.
Crackers.
Corn Oysters.
Escaloped Potatoes.
Lettuce Salad.
Jellied Prunes.
Cake. Coffee.

A RICH soup with vegetables makes a substantial meal for the Lenten season. Lenten soups may be made with milk and butter. Veal or chicken stock may be substituted when the fast is only a partial one.

Tomato Cream Soup.—Mix to a smooth paste one tablespoonful of flour with two heaping tablespoonfuls of butter, add one quart of boiling milk, a little at a time to prevent lumping. Stew one can of tomatoes until they can be strained easily and, if very acid, use one-half teaspoonful of soda; pour into the thickened milk, seasoning with salt and pepper and serve very hot.

Sustaining Lenten Fare.

Peanut Soup.—Shell a pint of roasted peanuts and remove the paper-like covering of the kernels. Grind the meats into a fine powder. Use the powdered nuts in a cream soup made from a pint of milk and a pint of water, a scant tablespoonful of flour and a full tablespoonful of butter rubbed together, one teaspoonful of salt and white pepper to taste.

Soup Worth While.

Potato Soup. Take three potatoes, one quart of milk, two slices of onion, three tablespoonfuls of butter, two tablespoonfuls of flour, one-quarter teaspoonful of salt, one-quarter teaspoonful of celery salt, one-eighth teaspoonful of pepper, a few grains of cayenne pepper and one teaspoonful of chopped parsley. Cook the potatoes in boiling water. When soft rub through a strainer. Scald the milk with the onion, remove onion and add milk slowly to potatoes. Melt half the butter, add other ingredients, stir until well mixed, then stir into boiling soup, cook one minute, strain, add the remaining butter and sprinkle with parsley.

Served With Wafers.

Vegetable Cream Soup.—To one level teaspoonful of cold cooked rice add one ounce of dry grated cheese, one cupful of vegetable stock (liquor remaining from cooking peas, cabbage, etc.), one and one-half pints of hot milk, one level teaspoonful each of salt and pepper. Put these ingredients into a saucepan. Stir over the fire until it boils, then remove and pour into soup plates. Beat the white of one egg until stiff, salt lightly; with a teaspoon dispose the egg in little mounds on the surface of the soup. Serve with cone shaped wafers.

Anna Thompson

ENGAGE VILLAGE MANAGERS.

Two Suburbs of Chicago Have Adopted This Plan of Government.

The village of Glencoe is the second of Chicago's suburbs whose board of trustees has delegated administrative duties to a general manager. Following the example of River Forest, which adopted the plan last June and where the whole village machinery is well lubricated in consequence, Glencoe chose Herbert H. Sherer from among 200 applicants to take charge on Feb. 1. He receives a salary of \$1,800 a year.

Glencoe, like River Forest, has a population of 2,500. Both villages are typical suburbs, most of their men being employed in Chicago. The village trustees, who serve without pay, are men of affairs in the city who cannot give proper attention to the details of administration. The new manager is expected to co-ordinate the different departments of the village, purchase supplies, employ workmen, O. K. bills, report regularly to the board as to what is being done and recommend such changes as he may advocate.

During the seven months' trial of the scheme in River Forest, say the trustees of that village, its manager, Karl M. Mitchell, has saved by a cost accounting system and improved methods in the various departments far more than has been paid him in salary. Mr. Mitchell had been connected with the Chicago Telephone company for sixteen years. He had received training at Northwestern university and the University of Chicago in finance, law and business organization.

Mr. Sherer made a record as superintendent of streets and alleys in Evanston, Ill. By the use of efficiency methods in his department he reports that he saved the city \$1,507.82 during 1913. In addition, \$469.79 was returned to

the city treasury by the sale of baled waste paper and compost. His most noteworthy accomplishment perhaps has been the cleaning up of alleys. Armed with snapshots of refuse and junk piles, taken by his alley inspector, he has obtained convictions against offending householders.

Not only does the public support him, but his workmen are for him to the man. Some time ago he posted an "honor roll" bearing the names of those street cleaners and refuse collectors against whom no complaints had been registered during the previous month. The honor men were allowed each a day off duty at the city's expense during the following month. The "honor roll" is now an established institution, and last month over 40 per cent of the employees of the department were listed.

ENTERPRISING FRIENDLINESS.

How Decatur Citizens Won the Hearts of Incoming Locomotive Workers.

When an industry moves from one community to another the change means for many of its employees deserting homes dearly paid for, taking children out of school, breaking of church and lodge affiliations.

It was for this reason that Decatur, Ill., through its chamber of commerce, determined to do everything in its power to make the locomotive shopmen employed by the Wabash railroad like their new place of residence when the road moved its machinery from the old shops in Springfield to the new plant in Decatur, one of the largest of its kind in the world.

When they learned that they were to be transferred to Decatur the shopmen sent a committee to that city to investigate. The report was unfavorable. The shopmen were informed that vacant houses were few, that rents were high and board excessive.

It was then that the Decatur chamber of commerce interested itself. An investigation of almost every boarding house in the city disproved the report that board was excessive. A meeting of builders was called, and, though no definite promises were secured as to how many houses they would erect, the chamber satisfied itself that enough would be provided by the following spring.

Through its secretary, John M. Byrne, the chamber compiled a list of boarding houses, secured the names of the shopmen who were coming and encouraged real estate men to write them with a view to finding out their needs. On the morning the advance guard of the newcomers, some bringing their wives and children, were due to arrive the chamber of commerce officials, accompanied by thirty citizens, each with his automobile, met the train, escorted the shopmen to the waiting machines and took them on a ten mile ride over the principal streets and through the park.

At the end of the ride any lingering feeling of prejudice and hostility had been removed and shopmen shook hands with their hosts. The news traveled back to Springfield, with the result that shopmen who had been planning to go elsewhere decided to remain with the Wabash and make Decatur their home.

It required little effort for a city to show itself human as well as enterprising.—Survey.

First Efficiency Exposition.

The first National Efficiency exposition and conference will be held in the new Grand Central palace, New York city, from April 4 to 11 under the auspices of the Efficiency society, incorporated. The exhibits will show the increasing application of scientific methods to modern conditions, and there will be assembled displays of appliances, methods and products in the fields of industrial, mechanical, governmental, educational and household efficiency. Special invitations to participate in the conferences to be held during the exposition will be issued to scientific organizations, state and municipal officials and authorities on efficiency.

Chicago Social Recreation.

West park No. 2 in Chicago, known as Stanford park, recently celebrated the close of its third year of play—a very busy year of genuine social recreation as is shown by a perusal of the director's brief page of statistics. There was a total attendance of 759,116 persons, 2,400 of whom organized into clubs; 68,000 used the reading room and 128,000 the swimming pool. These numbers can be, as Director Teller advises, interpreted only in terms of "justice, neighborliness, democracy, good citizenship and brotherhood."

RULE OF LIFE.

Look up and not down,
Look forward and not back,
Look out and not in;
Lend a hand.
—Edward Everett Hale.

Vicious Snipe.

A Dublin gentleman was spending his vacation with some friends in the west of Ireland. As he was being driven to his destination he noticed a bog that promised good shooting and asked his jayvee if there were any snipe in it. "Snipe, is it, sor? Did ye say snipe? Shure, if ye wint into that bog widout a gun they'd ate ye!"

Dear, Innocent Thing!

Hubby (while dressing)—That confounded trial balance was running in my head all night. Wifey—John, you must tell the manager, and maybe he will give you extra pay for working overtime.—Boston Transcript.

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