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WHERE THE DAY CHANGES.

The International Date Line in the Pacific Ocean.

A great many people cannot see why when a man crosses the international date line in the Pacific ocean if he goes toward the east he loses a day and if toward the west he gains a day—that is, if it, say, happens to be Tuesday just this side of the line, he will find it to be Monday just the other side. The distance he may have actually gone need be only a few feet, but it is true nevertheless. The actual time may be only a second's difference.

To understand this remember that we go from Monday to Tuesday at 12 o'clock at night—jump immediately from one day to another. Consider also that if a man could travel toward the east as fast as the earth rotates and if he started at midday, with the sun directly overhead, he would go completely round the earth in no solar time at all, for the sun would always be just over his head and to him it would be 12 o'clock all the time if he measured time by the position of the sun. He would not experience any night at all and so would have twenty-four hours of sunlight. But it has actually taken him twenty-four hours to get around, so the time when he reached his starting place again would be 12 o'clock noon all right, but would be a day later than when he started.

So it can be readily seen that some meridian on the earth's surface must be picked out as the starting point of a new day, and the chosen one lies almost entirely in the Pacific ocean. Every Week.

A DOCTOR'S HOBBY.

There Was a Quaker Twist to the End of Peebles' Experiments.

There was a British physician named Robert Peebles who created a sensation in London and Edinburgh several years ago by his insistent coaxing of athletes for the privilege of studying their bodies after death.

Peebles had been experimenting with the muscles and had arrived at what his associates termed a fantastic notion that some sort of operation could be performed on the leg of the human runner so that his speed could be increased. Leapers and high jumpers were his hobby, and in the course of five years it was estimated that he had examined the leg muscles of nearly a

thousand men, making comparisons with the running and leaping muscles of the frog, the deer, the grayhound and other animals.

Peebles was a man of means, and after he had succeeded in inducing half a dozen athletes of reputation to "will him their legs" the attention of surgeons was attracted. They took the matter under consideration at one of their quarterly meetings and warned Peebles they would have him committed to a sanitarium if he continued his strange pursuit. Peebles defied them, and they had a commission appointed. While his sanity was being tested Peebles died. In his will he bequeathed his brain to the commission. — Exchange.

Figure It Out.

A beggar boy asked an old gentleman in the street for sixpence. "What will you do with it if I give you one?" asked the old gentleman. "Turn it into ninepence quick," replied the boy.

"How?"

"Give me the sixpence and I'll soon show you."

The boy got the money, darted off to a baker's shop and bought a three penny loaf, with which he returned to the old gentleman and handed him back 3 pennies.

"How's this? You said you would make the sixpence into ninepence."

"So I have. The baker's got three-pence, you've got three-pence, and I've got a three penny loaf. That's ninepence." — Pearson's Weekly.

An Interesting Talk.

In the days of Henry Clay, a Kentucky farmer sent a servant to Lexington with a note for the president of a certain bank. When the man returned he said to his master:

"I met Marse Henry Clay in the bank and had a conversation with him."

"Indeed! And on what topic did you and Mr. Clay converse?" inquired the master with interest.

The darky removed his hat and made a sweeping bow. "Says Mr. Clay to me," "And another very low bow. 'And I the same to Mr. Clay.'—Everybody's."

"Why don't you let the other fellow do the worrying?"

"I try to," replied Mr. Growcher. "but he comes around and worries me." — Washington Star.

NIPPED THE REVOLT.

Dramatic Manner in Which Zelaya Caged 134 Conspirators.

Zelaya, the extraordinary man who for sixteen years retained the presidency of Nicaragua, only to lose it because he went too far in offending the government of the United States, was never satisfied unless he performed his coup d'etat in the most dramatic fashion possible. This story the New York Sun tells of him:

His spies once brought him information that a revolution was being planned by several of his army officers. They were to meet on a certain evening at the house of one of the conspirators to arrange the final details. While they were eagerly discussing the best way to seize the president the door opened and in walked Zelaya himself.

"Good evening, gentlemen," he said pleasantly. "I heard you had a party here this evening, and I have dropped in to share the fun. Quite a distinguished gathering. You are discussing military matters, no doubt."

He went on, chatting affably for a half hour, while his enemies were torn with fear and suspense. Did he know of the plot? Most of them thought he did and wondered whether they had better not put a bullet in him at once. But he was so cordial, so thoroughly at ease, that they hesitated.

"A toast, gentlemen," he said. "Here's long life to the president of Nicaragua and confusion to all traitors!"

As he spoke he hurled the glass against the window, where it smashed in pieces with a crash. The door flew open and thirty or forty soldiers, who had been waiting outside for the signal, rushed in. All the plotters were convicted, but the president dealt leniently with them. Some were imprisoned and some exiled, but none was shot.

Why One Feels "Mean."

The average adult man sustains on every pleasant day an atmospheric pressure of about fourteen tons at sea level when the barometer is at 30, and a drop of an inch or more to 29 and below practically takes off half a ton or more of his load to which he is accustomed. Paradoxically, instead of feeling lighter and freer, man feels its disturbing, depressing effect on his tissues. He has to become adjusted to this alteration from normal tension to one of unusual relaxation. The relaxed condition of unpleasant weather extending over a number of days makes us feel "out of sorts." — Health Service Bulletin.

A Marvel of Training.

Rose had called on her afternoon out to see her friend, Arabella. Arabella's mistress had just purchased a parrot, and Rose was much interested in the bird.

"Birds is shore sensible," she observed. "You kin learn them anything. I uster work for a lady that had a bird in a clock, an' when it was time to tell de time ob day it uster come out an' say 'cuckoo' jest as many times as de time was."

"Go along. Yo' don't say so," said Arabella incredulously.

"Shore thing," replied Rose, "and de mos' wonderful part was dat it was only a wooden bird too." — Harper's Magazine.

To Whom Honor Is Due.

As a pendant to the story of the professor who upon being questioned on the witness stand declared that he was "the greatest living scientist," saying apologetically afterward that he "was on oath," comes the following anecdote from a New England college:

Dr. H. had been unfolding to his class in physics a new and startling idea, and at the end of the explanation one of his students said deferentially, "Is that your own theory, professor?"

"No," the professor replied, "but," he added reassuringly, "it's a good one." — Youth's Companion.

A Useful Mother-in-law.

"After all, a mother-in-law is a pretty good thing to have sometimes."

"What wonderful experience have you been having lately?"

"My wife was afraid to discharge our cook, and she wouldn't go for me, so we sent for Birdie's mother and turned her loose in the kitchen. They smashed some of the furniture, but the cook's gone." — Exchange.

A Nonbeliever.

Mrs. Fidget (as she lays down her novel)—These ghost stories are silly. Just as if any one could believe them!

Mr. Fidget—Yes, that's so. But you had better go to bed now, dear. It's after 11 o'clock, and I'll have to be up for a couple of hours yet.

Mrs. Fidget—What! Go to bed right after reading that book? Not much! — Exchange.

MASSIVE BEAUTIES.

Ibibbo Women Stuff Themselves With Food to Become Fat.

The strangest institution of the Ibibbo women of southern Nigeria is known as the fattening house. The first great event in the life of an Ibibbo girl is her entrance into the fattening house, where she is kept in seclusion for a few months, allowed to eat as much as she likes and is pampered on every side. Freeborn girls of good family go twice, and sometimes three times, into the fattening house before marriage. The second period varies, according to the wealth of the family, from a few weeks to two years, and girls of good position who are regarded as likely to repay the expenditure by the man's dowry money are sometimes sent a third time into the fattening house.

The result is that they ultimately emerge, to the admiration of their adoring relatives and to the townsfolk at large, perfect mountains of flesh.

"A day is set apart," says Mrs. Talbot in "Woman's Mysteries of a Primitive People," "for the first appearance of the girls of each town who are ready to emerge from the fattening house. On several occasions we have been present when these swollen specimens of femininity strutted through the market place, enjoying their brief hour of importance, while the men, who at every other period of a woman's existence are looked upon as of superior race, draw back admiringly to give them passage."

The women, who stand during this parade appraising the merits and value of the various debutantes, afterward hurry to the parents with offers of dowry. A marriage is speedily arranged for each, and the young bride quickly finds her place amid the new surroundings, no longer petted, spoiled and pampered, the center of attention for whom her family stint and deny themselves, but only too often the slighted, hard worked drudge of her new lord.

E Pluribus Unum.

The translation of "E Pluribus unum" is, "One from many," referring to its use on the seal of the United States to the fact that one country was evolved from or composed of many states. It was first proposed by Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who had been appointed a committee of three to prepare a device for a seal. This device was not accepted, however, and it was not until June 20, 1782, that the motto was adopted as part of the second and successful design submitted by Charles Thompson, secretary of congress. In 1796 congress decreed that the words should appear on certain specified coins.

Woodcraft.

"No one who studies man's beginnings in the light of modern research can doubt that woodcraft was the earliest of our sciences," writes Ernest Thompson-Seton. "It was woodcraft, indeed, that constructed man out of the crude and brutish stuff that was then the best live product of the earth. We can see a little of the process today in our children, just as we see the baby panther wear first the spotted coat of his long past forbears before he dons the brown of his older kin. And weightier yet, it seems to me that woodcraft, in its broad entirety, more than any other activity is calculated to save our species from decay."

First Steam Battleship.

In comparison with the Dreadnoughts of the present day the Demologos, the first steam war vessel ever built, furnishes some interesting contrasts. This ship was 167 feet long. It made its first speed trial on July 4, 1814, and developed a speed of a little more than six miles an hour, which was thought to be very good at that time. The Demologos never engaged in battle. On June 4, 1829, the ship was destroyed in the New York navy yard by an explosion of its boilers, which killed twenty-nine persons. Some of the naval launches of the present time have a greater horsepower than that of the Demologos.

Branding the Innocent.

When a witness under cross examination is admonished to answer "Yes" or "No" to all questions and is then asked, "Have you stopped beating your wife?" he feels that something is wrong with a system of court procedure that puts him in that position. Either "yes" or "no" convicts him of beating his wife at some time or other. Such trick questions are heard in court every day and the witness gets little satisfaction out of the assurance that he can explain on re-examination if the lawyer on his side of the case thinks it worth while to give him a chance and does not forget to do so. — Exchange.

The British Constitution.

In England there is no such thing as a constitution as we understand the word in this country. The British constitution is merely a mass of law consisting partly of statutes and partly of decided cases and accepted usages, in conformity with which the government of the country is carried on from day to day. The constitution of the United States is written and can be read in twenty minutes' time, while the British constitution is unwritten save as it is contained in hundreds of volumes of statutes and reported cases.

He Popped.

A gentleman who had been in Chicago only three days, but who had been paying attention to a prominent Chicago belle, wanted to propose, but was afraid he would be thought too hasty. He delicately broached the subject as follows:

"If I were to speak to you of marriage, after having only made your acquaintance three days ago, what would you say of it?"

"Well, I should say never put off till tomorrow that which should have been done the day before yesterday."

Modern Life.

"Guess we have time to play another game of pool."

"Won't your wife scold about keeping dinner waiting?"

"No; I think I'd better allow her a little leeway about dinner. I just saw her scolding by with a bridge prize under one arm and a can of soup under the other." — Louisville Courier-Journal.

Baffling Case.

"You'll have to quit smoking," said the physician.

"I don't smoke."

"Then you'll have to quit drinking."

"I don't drink."

"Haven't you any habits?"

"None at all, except taking medicine." — Washington Star.

Brute!

"Does he like to fashion his wife's gowns?"

"Yes; he feels it is the only way he can shut her up." — New York Sun.

A man must either imitate the vicious or hate them. — Montaigne.

How He Lost the Cook.

"Well, where's that cook?" demanded his wife. "Don't tell me that she wasn't on the train."

"She was on the train," timidly explained the commuter, "but I got to playing cards and a Lonelyville man won her at whist." — Atlanta Journal.

Chinese Fathers.

A Chinese father has the supreme right of life and death over his children and is not amenable to any law in this respect.

Although the world is full of suffering, it full of the overcoming of it. — Keller.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

Its Status From Both Local and International Standpoints.

The declarations of the Monroe doctrine have never received the sanction of an act or resolution of even our own congress, and therefore form no part of the municipal law of the United States. Nor do they have any of that authority which European states attach to a royal ordinance. Indeed, congress has never been willing to commit the nation to any compact or pledge upon the subject.

This is apparent from the fact that our national assembly declined to enter into or send official delegates to the congress at Panama in 1826, when some of the Spanish-American states met to consider means of carrying the doctrine into effect. So, it is readily to be presumed that the Monroe doctrine is not an international law in any conceivable sense.

The doctrine has for its object the maintenance of peace on the western continent and the preservation of the integrity of the American states. In this respect it bears a relation to the American states, resembling in some respects that borne by the principle of the balance of power to the states of Europe and has the same claim to consideration from the point of view of international law.

If not an international law, then what is its status? The Monroe doctrine is an executive declaration of the course that the United States would follow in international affairs. It is the avowal of an existing administration of what its own foreign policy would be and what it thinks should ever be the policy of the country on a subject of paramount and permanent interest, the relations of the United States with the powers of Europe as touching the South American republics. — Eugene S. Bibb in Case and Comment.

Painful.

A little story comes from way back concerning Forrest, the tragedian.

It was during his last appearance at Niblo's Garden, in New York. At the time he was suffering untold torture from the gout. A sort of runway had to be constructed from the stage to the dressing room, for he was quite unable to step up or down stairs.

The performance had been "Coriolanus," and Forrest was petulant from pain and tired with his work. He stumbled against the runway, causing such a twinge in his toe as to make him cry out with the pain.

A young actor standing by unfortunately addressed the tragedian at the wrong time, saying:

"Dear me, Mr. Forrest, that must have been exceedingly painful."

"Not half so painful as your acting," was the crusty response.

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