

NATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

Lack of Geographical Knowledge Has Cost the World Millions.

Lack of geographical knowledge has cost the nations of the world millions of dollars in treaty making, declared Sir Thomas Holdich, the British geographical authority, in a lecture before the Royal Geographical Society on "Problems in Boundary Making."

"Lack of exact knowledge," he said, "is the first rock on which boundary treaties split. Where maps did not exist and where it was out of the question to wait for them to be made, the arbitrators have been forced repeatedly into adopting the worst of expedients, the straight line."

"The disadvantages of a straight line have been illustrated in several instances lately, notably in boundary disputes in central and southern Africa. In one case an awkward international complication arose when it was found that a wide tract of valuable land had been erroneously assigned to England and had to be transferred to Belgium. Then there was the adoption of a definite meridian which crossed the Kalahari desert, the eastern limit of German southwest Africa. This entailed years of scientific labor, costing a sum equal to the value of thousands of square miles of useful map making, to find out where the meridian really lay."

"Absurd incidents arose over the delimitation of the boundary between the United States and Canada. One of the main difficulties treaty by a 'main channel.' Between Vancouver and the mainland there is an archipelago, and among them at least three channels that might be called 'main channels.' Chief among these islands was one called San Juan. In 1859 a pig was shot by an American on San Juan, and the American was haled before a British magistrate and threatened with imprisonment. This put a climax to the dispute. American honor was touched, and troops were landed from both sides. It looked as if the pig incident would lead to war, but the position was saved by arbitration. The award gave away the whole archipelago to the United States."—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

Rice in the Orient.
Rice is "wet" that grows for the most part in flooded land, or "dry," that raised on uplands. Its growth

in those regions where civilization has penetrated least is pathetic. Parts of the east are still covered with virgin forest of tall trees. Underneath all is dark in heavy shade. Creepers twine up hundreds of feet and are all topped off with indescribable orchids, all hunting for air and sunshine. In the thick wood a suitable spot is chosen, for rice they must have or starve. Undergrowth is cut out and staked and hedged around to make a fence for the little rice farm.—*Exchange.*

Repairing a Crown.

What curious old records one comes across sometimes in unexpected ways! Here is one which has reference to Edward III. and Philippa of Hainault and is kept, with other documents, at Harwich, their majesties having had at the time a palace at Felixstowe. It runs thus: "For repairing ye queen's crown which ye king threw into ye fire, item 3s. 6d." The points which strike one in this memorandum are the violence of the king's temper and the cheapness of the mending process.—*London Graphic.*

There exists in Australia a species of spider that makes its habitation along the seashore, in the crevices of the rocks, between high and low water marks. But when the tide is in their homes are covered with water. Instead of deserting them, however, the spiders solve the difficulty by means of closely woven sheets of silk, which they stretch over the entrances, behind which they manage to retain sufficient air to keep them alive during the time they remain submerged.

When He Pleased Himself.

Out of the ninety odd plays that he has written, most of which have been produced in this country, Henry Arthur Jones, dean of the English playwrights, is said to have written but one play to please himself. That one was "Michael and His Lost Angel." He pleased himself in writing it, but the public drove it off the stage.—*Argonaut.*

MacPherson's Testimony.

The MacPherson—Man, Judkins is right—there's a deal of sufferin' attendant on yon whusky drinkin', for, McTaggart, ye'll mind me, whiles a mon's drinkin' his ain whusky there's the terrible expense tae think of, an' whiles he's drinkin' a friend's whusky he drinks sae much that he suffers terrible the morn.—*London Telegraph.*

GAME OF SWEEP AND SHELL.

Rowing is the Oldest of All Our Intercollegiate Sports.

Intercollegiate rowing antedates all sports in which our American universities engage. Students of Yale and Harvard first met in competition on Center harbor, Lake Winnepesaukee, on Aug. 3, 1859. In the sixties and seventies aquatics reigned without a rival. In neither popularity nor scope was baseball, football or any other sport to be compared with it.

Rowing is still the most important major sport in seats of learning where adequate facilities exist, important not alone in its tradition and present prestige, but in the part it is playing in the general campaign of eliminating from the undergraduate body the fashion of taking athletics by proxy.

Originally a sport in which the few came to row and the many to cheer, rowing today calls to the inept and to the mediocre as well as to the man qualified to sit in a university shell. As a muscle builder no sport equals the game of sweep and shell, and it holds poetry and pleasure as well as physical benefit for its devotees.

At Harvard, Cornell, Yale, Princeton, Pennsylvania, Syracuse, Annapolis, Columbia, Wisconsin, Lehigh, Stanford, California and Washington definite advances in aquatics have been marked each year, and at all the interests of the nonvarsity oarsmen have been observed in varying degree as the support of generous alumni has permitted.

Following the lead of such schools as St. Paul's, Groton, Exeter and Middlesex, preparatory institutions throughout the country have done much to interest their students in rowing for its own sake, with the result that each year seats of higher learning receive large groups of boys who care for the sport not so much for the opportunities it may offer them to beat some one else as for the physical improvement and mental pleasure they derive therefrom.—*Lawrence Perry in Scribner's.*

Hopi Courtship.

When a Hopi maiden decides which of the eligible young men of the tribe she wishes to marry she goes and sits in his house and grinds corn until he is sufficiently impressed by her industry to marry her. After the ceremony, which is an elaborate one, the couple go to live in the wife's house.—*if she*

ure of her husband she can obtain a divorce by merely throwing his middle out of the house. After marriage the house, fields and all their property except the herds belong to the wife.

The Hopis are indulgent parents. The right of the children to do as they please is never questioned.

Robert Royal.

King Edward VII. was never at a loss for a quick, suitable answer. One day he was coming around a street corner on one of his periodical walks in London when he collided with a very stout person, who, being nearsighted, did not recognize the king, took him by the lapel of his coat and gave him a tongue lashing.

"Do you know, sir," finished the irate man, "that I am a member of the London council?"

"In that case I beg your pardon," replied the king, "for I am only the king of Great Britain."

The World's Southernmost City.

The capital of the territory of Magellan, belonging to Chile, is Punta Arenas, the southernmost city in the world, with a population of about 12,000, good wharfs and stores, paved streets and extensive traffic. All vessels going through the strait stop at Punta Arenas, and much wool is shipped from there. It is a free port, has a wireless telegraph station, is a station for the Chilean navy and does a large business in the coaling of steamers. It is, in fact, a crossroad station between the east and the west.

Her Poor Memory.

To Mrs. Hopkinson, a very quarrelsome old lady, her pastor said:

"You must never cherish an enemy, madam, against your neighbor. If your neighbor injures you, forget it."

"So I do forget it, doctor," said Mrs. Hopkinson piously, "but the trouble is, I've got a powerful bad memory, and I keep forgetting I've forgotten."—*Exchange.*

A Bull For a God.

The ancient Egyptians believed that the spirit of their greatest god, Osiris, dwelt among them in the form of a pure white bull marked by a certain sign. Herodotus mentions two of these signs—a black eagle on the back and a black forehead with a square of white in its center. These creatures when found were worshipped during life and mummified after death.

Harmony in the Leaves of a Tree.

One of the remarkable characteristics of a tree is the process of leafage, and if we examine the bough upon which the leaves grow the admiration of the scientific agriculturist will become thoroughly aroused over the perfect consistency and artistic skill manifested in the arrangement of each spray and the exact number of leaves arranged with the most exquisite art and regularity. Every group of leaves forms merely long lines, no two alike, no two in the same position, yet all so perfect and harmoniously blended that there can be no antagonism, no same-ness and all those thousands and thousands of strange and delicate forms grouped together, neither confused nor ill arranged.

Man and the Camel.

When man first saw the camel he was so frightened at his vast size that he fled away. After a time, perceiving the meekness and gentleness of his temper, he summoned courage enough to approach him. Soon afterward, observing that he was an animal altogether deficient in spirit, he assumed such boldness as to put a bridle in his mouth and to set a child to drive him. Use serves to overcome dread.—*From Aesop's Fables.*

Know This Burglar?

"Had every cent taken last night. Woke up hearing some one in the room. Reached under the pillow for my revolver, but didn't shoot."
"Why didn't you?"
"I'd probably be a widower if I had."—*New York Journal.*

Orchids.

Many plants have the power to shift their quarters. The orchid can move one step every year, and, although it takes a long time to cross the meadow, if the orchid goes on long enough it would move one step forward toward finishing that long walk every year.

Wig Wearing Very Old.

The ancient Egyptians all wore wigs, and the early Christians from A. D. 427 to A. D. 917 considered a false head covering a badge of distinction—this, too, in direct opposition to Tertullian, who in vain declared them devices and inventions of the devil.

Little Words.

Out of the 267 words in Abraham Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg speech 196 are words of only one syllable. It isn't the big words that count.—*New York Herald.*

The worst of the person with nothing to say is that he is never happy till he's said it.

One virtue will offset many vices; one vice will offset many virtues.—*Balsac.*

Federal Inquiry or Railroad Strike?

Faced by demands from the conductors, engineers, firemen and brakemen that would impose on the country an additional burden in transportation costs of \$100,000,000 a year, the railroads propose that this wage problem be settled by reference to an impartial Federal tribunal.

With these employes, whose efficient service is acknowledged, the railroads have no differences that could not be considered fairly and decided justly by such a public body.

Railroads Urge Public Inquiry and Arbitration

The formal proposal of the railroads to the employes for the settlement of the controversy is as follows:

"Our conferences have demonstrated that we cannot harmonize our differences of opinion and that eventually the matters in controversy must be passed upon by other and disinterested agencies. Therefore, we propose that your proposals and the proposition of the railroads be disposed of by one or the other of the following methods:

1. Preferably by submission to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the only tribunal which, by reason of its accumulated information bearing on railway conditions and its control of the revenues of the railroads, is in a position to consider and protect the rights and equities of all the interests affected, and to provide additional revenue necessary to meet the added cost of operation in case your proposals are found by the Commission to be just and reasonable; or, in the event the Interstate Commerce Commission cannot, under existing laws, set in the premises, that we jointly request Congress to take such action as may be necessary to enable the Commission to consider and promptly dispose of the questions involved; or
2. By arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Federal law" (The Newlands Act).

Leaders Refuse Offer and Take Strike Vote

Leaders of the train service brotherhoods, at the joint conference held in New York, June 1-15, refused the offer of the railroads to submit the issue to arbitration or Federal review, and the employes are now voting on the question whether authority shall be given these leaders to declare a nation-wide strike.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is proposed by the railroads as the public body to which this issue ought to be referred for these reasons:

No other body with such an intimate knowledge of railroad conditions has such an unquestioned position in the public confidence.

The rates the railroads may charge the public for transportation are now largely fixed by this Government board.

Out of every dollar received by the railroads from the public nearly one-half is paid directly to the employes as wages; and the money to pay increased wages can come from no other source than the rates paid by the public.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, with its control over rates, is in a position to make a complete investigation and render such decision as would protect the interests of the railroad employes, the owners of the railroads, and the public.

A Question For the Public to Decide

The railroads feel that they have no right to grant a wage preferment of \$100,000,000 a year to these employes, now highly paid and constituting only one-fifth of all the employes, without a clear mandate from a public tribunal that shall determine the merits of the case after a review of all the facts.

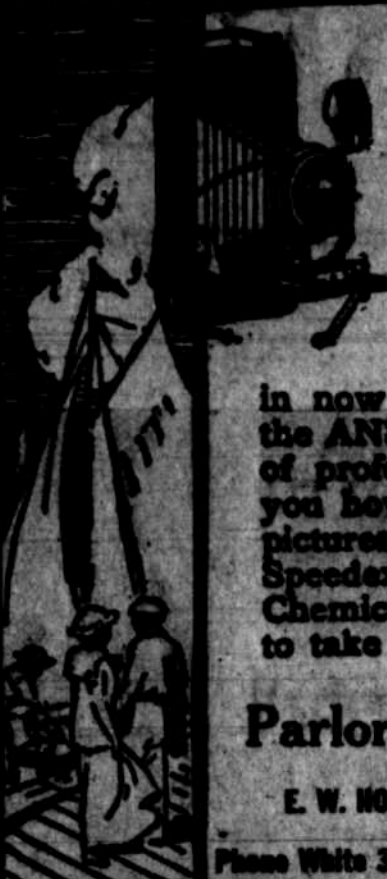
The single issue before the country is whether this controversy is to be settled by an impartial Government inquiry or by industrial warfare.

National Conference Committee of the Railways

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LANGUAGE AND THE BIBLE. at which the ability of the expert is shown.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

The Book That Standardized All the Dialects of Britain.

Before the printing of the Bible there was no English language. It was the Bible that standardized all the dialects of Britain and that bound them together into a living speech, and it was the Bible that was the foundation of the education and culture of England. As the English historian Green says: "The English people became a people of a book, and that book was the Bible."

To a large degree the same is true of Germany, but it is not necessary to go back to the middle ages to find the Bible forming a nation's culture and fixing its language.

On many of the mission fields, especially in Africa, the language of the natives had never been reduced to writing until the missionary provided them with an alphabet in order that the Bible might be translated into their tongues. The Bible has then become both the language textbook and the spiritual guide of these African nations. In mission schools the world over the Bible is the language textbook. The people of the mission lands want their children to learn the western tongue, and they send them to the school. They learn the missionary's language, but in the learning they find the missionary's God.—*Christian Herald.*

EGGS IN HEATED RICE.

A Way the Chinese Have For Hatching Ducks and Chickens.

The Chinese method of hatching as many as 500 duck and chicken eggs in one sitting has not yet been adopted in this country.

Unfertilized rice is used for the purpose, and when this has been roasted it is either cooled by a fanning process or the wind is allowed to blow through it until it is lukewarm.

The breeder then sprinkles a three inch layer of rice in the bottom of a wooden tub, and on this surface places about 100 eggs; another layer of rice about two inches thick is spread over them, and on this layer eggs are also placed, and the tub is filled in this way until there are six layers of rice and five of eggs, making 500 eggs in all in the tub.

Every twenty-four hours the rice has to be heated, and for this purpose the eggs have to be removed, the bottom layer this time being placed on top and the other layers one row lower down, the eggs that occupied the central position in the tub now being placed at the edges.

There is some difficulty in gauging the exact time at which the eggs will hatch, and unless care is taken some of the young ones are likely to be

The Chippewyan Woman.

Ideals may vary, but it seems that the Chippewyan Indians also had a well rounded conception of "woman's sphere." "Women were made to labor," an old chief told the traveler Hearne. "One of them can carry or haul as much as two men can do. They also patch our tents and make and mend our clothing—in fact, there is no such thing as traveling any considerable distance without their assistance."

A Change.

"We must economize," he said emphatically.
"I'm so glad," his wife exclaimed. "You take the announcement more good naturedly than usual."
"Yes; it's pleasant to hear you use the plural pronoun. Ordinarily when there is any economizing needed you expect me to do it all."

Wishing Them a Safe Voyage.

"Mabel and George after much quarreling over the arrangements for their honeymoon have decided to take the trip in an airship."
"Well, I trust that when they get above the clouds they won't have a falling out."