

The Proposed Oregon, California & Eastern and Connecting Lines

The latest map of Oregon, California & Eastern system, projected by Robert E. Strahorn to connect the different stub ends of railroad which now approach the central Oregon empire, but stop at its margin, shows the completed surveys on which construction work is expected to begin in the spring. In general,

the main lines are the same as those shown on former maps but there are a number of interesting and important additions which are here mapped for the first time, the most important change being on the Klamath Falls end, where instead of connecting with the Southern Pacific at Kirk, the line runs straight into Klamath Falls.



From a City's Mountain Tops. Upon the top of one of New York's man made mountains there is the same peaceful quiet as on any mountain top. No sound from the street below comes up this distance. Men on the sidewalks are infinitesimal dots, darting hither and yon. Looking down upon them, one is inclined to reflect what puny beings humans are and from this lofty point of view almost forgets his sym-

pathy for their personal interests. Then comes the realization that this mountain was built by these puny beings from materials dug out of the earth in a crude state, purified, shaped and fastened together in a manner that will make it stand practically for all time, and then a feeling of reverence for the human brain—that God given boon which has made these things possible.—National Geographic Magazine.

GREEN SHELLED FLEAS.

Tiny Parasites That Attack Nearly All Fresh Water Fish.

Scarcely any species of fresh water fish is free from the attacks of the little disklike fish flea, its flattened, greenish body being pressed close against the skin of the fish.

The so called fish louse is neither flea nor louse, but a member of a simple group of crustaceans, well known to naturalists for the parasitic habit of most of its members.

It is far from having reached the ultimate degeneration of the chronic parasite, however, and often forsakes its victim to enjoy the pleasures of the free.

I have watched the fish fleas during these excursions into the open water, apparently engaged in their gamboling, greenish disks dash hither and thither in direct course, and on suddenly downward or upward or turning over and over in a series of rapid somersaults, which have been reckoned to number some hundred a minute.

Should a fish flea wish to resist host it approaches until it is caught up in the swirl of water which accompanies the movement of the fish, and, so soon as it touches, it lays quick hold upon the skin of its victim by a pair of peculiar sucker organs, placed on the under surface near the mouth.—London Tit-Bits.

VAST AREA OF TEXAS.

Some of the Magnificent Distances in the Lone Star State.

Those who live in the east and north have little or no conception of the magnitude of distances in Texas. Here are just a few figures that will help to illustrate the vastness of area of the Lone Star State.

The distance from Houston to El Paso by the nearest rail route is 833 miles, which is only 114 miles less than the distance from New York to Chicago, 947 miles.

It is 820 miles by rail from San Antonio to El Paso. This is 114 miles greater than the distance from Chicago to Pittsburgh.

The distance from Echo, Tex., the most eastern point on a direct railroad route, to El Paso, is 944 miles, or three miles less than the distance from New York to Chicago.

The distance from Brownsville, Tex., on the gulf coast, the easternmost point on the Texas-Mexican border, to El Paso, the western terminus of the border, is more than 1,200 miles. This is greater than the distance from New York city to Tampa, Fla., or to Springfield, Ill. It is greater than the distance from New York to St. Louis by 140 miles.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Diana of Ephesus.

Ephesus was one of the twelve ionic cities of Asia Minor and was situated in Lydia, near the mouth of the river Caystrus. According to Strabo, it was founded by Androclus, son of Codrus. It ultimately came into possession of the Romans, and in the time of Augustus it was the greatest place of trade of all the cities of Asia west of the Taurus. St. Paul resided there three years, but the destruction of its great temple by the Goths in 290 A. D. gave it a blow from which it never recovered. This was the famous temple of Diana. Near the western extremity of the town are still to be seen some massive structures, which have since 1808 been carefully excavated. It is now certain that these stand on the famous temple site.

Joss Sticks.

The composition of the candles called joss sticks, which are used in all the religious ceremonies of Buddhism, for a long time remained a mystery, the preparation of the sticks being intrusted to certain persons chosen from a limited class. A French chemist, however, learned the manner of making joss sticks in Indo-China. A stem of bamboo is rolled in a preparation containing fourteen different odoriferous drugs, two of which are significant as showing a knowledge of chemical and physical properties. These are acornite, which serves to protect the sticks against the attacks of rats and mice, and camphor, which causes them to burn steadily without being periodically extinguished.

His One Regret.

"There's no use trying to deny it," remarked Mrs. DeFlatt, "this is the worst cook we've had yet. There positively isn't a decent thing to eat on the table."

"That's right," rejoined DeFlatt. "But," continued his wife, "there's one thing in her favor. She can't be beat when it comes to washing."

"Pity we can't eat the washing," sighed the hungry husband.—Chicago News.

Would Help Some.

"What—er—what sort of a part has she in your show? Do you think she'll please the audience?" he queried anxiously.

"She ought to. She gets killed in the first act," replies a sister contemporary.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Why Children Like Candy.

Children like candy because of its properties of sugar, a food quickly absorbed by the human system. The purpose of all food is to supply the energy that is wasted by physical exertion. Some foods more than others contain the elements necessary to furnish this supply and vary in the time required to feel their benefits. Sugar is actually turned into real energy within a few minutes after it is eaten, and candy gives a quick supply of the energy called for by the activities of youth. Thus the constant need of energizing force by children leads them instinctively to crave candy.—Exchange.

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