## EXPLAINING ORIGIN OF COAL

**Trees and Vegetable Matter, Carbonized by Hot Lava, the Foundation, According to Professor.**

The origin of coal has been discovered, says Prof. Barton Scammell, president of the Radium institute at Dover, England. He has been engaged in research work with lava from Mount Vesuvius, which is being used as fertilizer, and says this led to the discovery that the layers of binds—the mysterious substances found on the top and bottom of all coal seams—are identical in analysis with lava. The bind contains lime, iron, magnesium, potash and other elements required by plant life and, when made radioactive with solutions of radio phosphate of potash, it absorbs nitrogen in the air and forms a perfect fertilizer. The origin of coal is thus explained by Professor Scammell. It is a cellulose of trees and vegetable matter, carbonized by hot lava, thus forming coal, and sunk into the depth of earth by disturbances of the earth's crust at a remote period. He claims that conversion of the bind, now a waste product, into fertilizer will enrich the mining and agricultural industries.

## DOG RESCUED PLAYMATE

A German police dog, while running along the edge of thin ice covering part of the Connecticut river near Hartford, fell into the water. Although several persons saw the dog's plight, they were unable to help, and it seemed as though the animal would be drowned, but another large dog, a playmate of the police dog, went to the rescue. It ran down the river to the nearest clear water, and when the police dog came to the surface the rescuer rushed to the edge of the ice and pulled it out. The comrades celebrated by running up and down the river bank, barking joyously.

In Germany they have carried the manipulation of the mark so far—well, it seems hardly believable, but if they did the same thing to the dollar, it would take over ten million in paper money to buy that land. The primary producer can raise his prices, but not fast enough to equalize this drop in the gold value of unsound money. That is where the catch comes in.

## LOVE STORY MADE IMMORTAL

**Romance of Elaine, the "Lily Maid of Astolat," Subject of Great Verses by Tennyson.**

Elaine, "the lily maid of Astolat," loved Sir Lancelot, but was not loved in return. Sir Lancelot was sworn to celibacy, and in addition his interest was centered in Guinevere, the queen. Elaine, realizing the hopelessness of her passion, died of a broken heart. In accordance with her last request her body, clad in white, and resting on the bed on which she died, was placed on a barge and guided by an old dumb servitor to King Arthur's palace. In her right hand was placed a lily, and in her left hand a letter declaring her love. When the "dead steered by the dumb" reached the palace wharf, the king requested that the body be brought ashore. The letter was then read, and the departed buried in a manner befitting a queen. On the tomb was inscribed the sad narrative of Elaine's unrequited passion.

The story is derived from Sir Thomas Malory's history of Prince Arthur, and has been told in blank verse by Tennyson, forming one of the "Idylls of the King."

**Early Days of the United States.**

Virtuous early geographers of the United States did not confine their unflattering portrayals to lands across the sea. Benjamin Davies, in 1813, had this to say about his own country in "Manners and Customs in the United States."

"Travelers have observed a want of urbanity, particularly in Philadelphia; and in all the capital cities an eager pursuit of wealth, by adventurous speculations in commerce, by land-jobbing, banks, insurance offices and lotteries. The multiplication of inns, taverns and dram shops is an obvious national evil that calls loudly for legislative interference; for in no country are they more numerous or more universally baneful. Schools are spread everywhere through the well-settled parts of the country, yet the domestic regulation of children and youth is not duly regarded."

**Red Coral Long Traded In.**

Trade in red coral with the Far East began in very remote times. It is mentioned in a poem by the Chinese poet Y'ung Pai, who died in 117 B. C., and in the time of the Han dynasty. About 200 years later a traveler was sent from China to report on the coral fishery of the Mediterranean sea. At a later date it was introduced into the Chinese materia medica.

Reinach described the trade with the Celtic races in pre-Roman times. Specimens have been found in Britain and Ireland. The Romans stopped the trade with the Celtic races, however, in order to send the coral to India in exchange for frankincense, myrrh, and precious stones.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

## EDISON-FORD PLAN UNFAIR TO FARMER

### Third Article Shows How Credit Test Would Fail Him in His Need.

The unfairness to the farmer of the Edison-Ford "commodity money" scheme, although ostensibly aimed to improve his economic position, is discussed in the present article, which is the third in a series prepared by the American Bankers Association, reviewing the exposure of the weaknesses of the plan as presented by William T. Foster, Director of the Pollack Foundation for Economic Research.

Briefly, the plan, sponsored by Thomas Edison and Henry Ford, would provide for Government warehousing of basic commodities, against which currency would be loaned, during storage, to the producer without interest, up to half the average value of the products for the previous twenty-five years. On the other half of the value the producer would receive certificates which he could sell or use for bank loans.

**Restricted Credit**

In that provision allowing for Government loans only up to half the average value for twenty-five years Mr. Foster finds particular weakness in the scheme. He points out that prices have risen so high since 1896 that the farmer could borrow on most products much less than half the present value of the products—much less, in fact, than he could borrow directly from the banks. Loans on the other half the value, which would be on virtually a second mortgage basis, he says, would not be desirable for the banks.

"The plan is not fair even to farmers; it involves unjust discrimination," Mr. Foster says. "The Edison plan fixes the loan values of all products absolutely, uniformly and arbitrarily. It ignores the relative prospects of different commodity markets. Only by the merest chance would such a method give a fair loan valuation. Fifty per cent of the average price for the previous twenty-five years would be too high for some commodities and too low for most of them. With such details the Edison plan is not concerned.

**Banks Fairer to Farmers**

"The general practice of the banks is not only fairer to farmers, but it is sounder business. There is no justification for basing the loan value of anything upon average prices in past years. Sound banking practice looks to the future. A bank—for the protection of its depositors, if for no other reason—must consider above everything the prospects of getting its money back. And a farmer's prospects of repaying a loan from the sale of his product depend entirely on future prices, not at all on past prices. Last year's runs do not count in this year's game."

As to the claim that the Edison plan would curb speculation in farm products, Mr. Foster says:

"There is nothing in the Edison plan that would tend to abolish speculation. Even after the farmer had stored his products and obtained a loan from the Government, he would still be free to sell his products outright to speculators. The farmer would have all the inducements to sell that he has today, and speculators would have all the inducements to buy.

"Clearly, then, the Edison plan would not provide a money that is sounder than gold money; it would not provide a money less subject to fluctuation in value; it would not enable farmers to obtain larger loans than they can now obtain; it would not divorce agriculture from the banking system; and it would not eliminate speculation in farm products."

## PAPER MONEY PIPE DREAMS

By JOHN OAKWOOD

Hitting the pipe seems like the greatest way in the world to get something for nothing,—a whole paradise full of joy for a few whiffs of opium smoke. But—

* * *

By the way, the big lure about fiat money is that it seems to promise about as much for nothing as a whiff on the pipe. They are just coming out of such a dream now in Germany.

* * *

Here is the way that German soft money dream goes. Say in 1913 a man put a ten year mortgage for 20,000 marks on his farm. Marks were then worth, in gold, about four to the dollar. The debt, therefore, was equivalent to about $5,000.

* * *

In the ten years since that debt was contracted, the German Government has published, so to speak, trillions of paper marks. What happened? What would happen to the price of eggs if they had a hen at Washington laying a billion eggs a day,—even if they put a government stamp on them saying eggs were worth a quarter a piece? German marks have gone down from four to the dollar to 120,000 to the dollar.

* * *

Here is where the pipe dream gets

## RID HIMSELF OF THE BORE

**Clever Scheme by Which Painter Shut Out Undesirable Visitor From His Studio.**

A laughable story is ascribed to the artist and wit, Mr. Oliver Herford, by his associate, Mr. Edward Simmons, the painter. Mr. Simmons says that one day while he was enjoying a very agreeable call at Mr. Herford's studio their conversation was interrupted by a peculiar knocking at the door—three loud peremptory knocks at intervals of a second or two and then two more in quick succession.

Mr. Herford at once put his finger on his lip and motioned to his caller to be perfectly quiet. Neither man spoke or stirred while the curious knock was twice repeated. Then they heard the retreating footsteps of the knocker passing down the hall.

Then Mr. Herford relaxed his attitude of silent tension and smiled.

"That was Blank," he said, "a thoroughly good and well-meaning fellow, but a most frightful bore. I've stood all the calls I can from him. So I told him that I had given special knocks to all my most intimate friends in order that I might know when they called and let them in at times when I should be unwilling to be disturbed by less congenial callers. Blank was saying only the other night that I must have been out a good deal lately. He hasn't got in to see me since I assigned him his knock!"—Youth's Companion.

**Kept Worshipers Awake.**

To the tithing man in New England fell the task of keeping worshipers awake during church services. He had a long staff with a knob on one end to tap the sleeping men, while on the other end was a fox tail to dangle in the face of sleeping women.

One Allen Bridges is spoken of in one of the early journals. He was very proud of having been appointed to wake the sleepers, and was determined to show his authority. He fastened a thorn to one end of his waking weapon.

"On ye last Lord's Day he did spy Mr. Tomlins sleeping," the journal reads. "He gave him a grievous prick in the hand. Whereupon Mr. Tomlins did spring up much above ye floor and with terrific force strike hys hand against ye wall.

"And to ye great wonder of all, prophanlie exclaim 'Curse ye woodchuck,' he dreaming yt was a woodchuck had seized and bit hys hand."

**New Variety of Sugar Cane.**

The variety of sugar cane known as S. C. 12-4, produced by the federal agricultural experiment station in the Virgin Islands, is considered very promising. Recent reports to the United States Department of Agriculture from a plantation in Porto Rico to which cuttings were sent for testing say that the original two and one-half acres planted to this variety have been extended to 200 for the present year. Several of the fields are estimated to yield 60 tons of cane an acre, which, with the average sucrose and purity of the juice, should give nearly 11 tons of 96 degree sugar an acre. The original field is now giving a fourth ratoon crop that averages 20 tons of cane an acre. A profitable fourth ratoon crop has never before been produced on this plantation with any other variety.

Aurora has free auto camp ground.

## STATEMENT

of the Aurora State Bank of Aurora, County of Marion, State of Oregon, showing the amount standing to the credit of every depositor July 1, 1923, who has not made a deposit, or who has not withdrawn any part of his deposit (commercial deposits), principal or interest, for a period of more than seven (7) years immediately prior to said date, with the name, last known place of residence or postoffice address of such depositor, and the fact of his death if known.

| Name of Depositor | Residence or Post-office address | Dead, if fact is known to Secretary or Cashier | Amt. |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Telephone Co. | Unknown | ---------- | $22.00 |
| Aurora Electric Co. | Aurora Oregon | ---------- | 1.13 |
| O. H. Burgess | Aurora Oregon | ---------- | 1.07 |

State of Oregon, County of Marion } ss.

I, Zeno Schwab, being first duly sworn, depose and say upon oath, that I am the Secretary of the Aurora State Bank of Aurora, County of Marion, State of Oregon; that the foregoing statement is a full, true and correct statement, showing the name, last known residence or postoffice address, fact of death, if known, and the amount to the credit of each depositor as required by the provisions of Sections 10160-10163, inclusive, Oregon Laws.

ZENO SCHWAB.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of July, A. D. 1923.

(Seal)

HENRY R. ZIMMERMAN, Notary Public.

My Commission Expires January 14, 1927. 29-4t


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