

The Hermiston Herald

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POSTMAN TAKING HUCKSTER'S JOB

The new service of the postoffice department, authorized by an act of Congress which is under experimentation on route 4 of the Hillsboro postoffice, was first taken advantage of last week when Mrs. Gilbert C. Chase, wife of a farmer on the route, shipped 12 dozen eggs to Mrs. E. C. McKinney, publisher of the Hillsboro Argus. Clarence Blucher, mail carrier on route 4, brought the 25 pounds of eggs to market. Clearing about half on the postage, his profit is about 8 cents on the 17 cents postage.

The act of Congress authorized the creation of 50 of these districts to be selected at random throughout the United States. Route 4 of the Hillsboro district is one of these. The experiment went into effect July 1. Postmaster Holzner says as far as he knows it probably is the first delivery made in the U. S. in any of the 50 districts.

The purpose of the service is to furnish farmers with a cheap method of marketing their products. Blucher said almost anything can be sent in that farmers desire to market in town. They can send eggs, meat, chickens, butter and dairy products, vegetables, fruits, and, in fact, almost anything. Perishable commodities must be delivered on the day they are shipped.

"Mrs. Gilbert Chase stopped me at her farm when I delivered her mail," said Blucher in describing it to the Telegram correspondent. "She told me she had twelve dozen eggs to send into town. I could market them anywhere."

Securing her receipt for the half crate of eggs and putting her return address, Mrs. Chase started the eggs on their way. Uncle Sam was acting as her salesman. Not only was he to market the eggs but he was to collect for them.

Blucher reached the end of his route about 1 o'clock. Then the problem of soliciting for the commodity began. In driving up Main street it occurred to him that Mrs. McKinney was looking for some eggs. Driving his truck up in front of the Argus office he went in to see Mrs. McKinney. Three minutes later the eggs were sold and Blucher was climbing back into his mail truck, glad that his first attempt in marketing Mrs. Chase's 12 dozen eggs had been successful. He had made his profit and had collected the market price for eggs. On his next round he delivered the money to the Chase farm.

Postal authorities urge the cooperation and utilization of the service by the patrons on route 4. If the experiment proves a success there is a probability that it will be installed over the United States.—Portland Telegram.

Mrs. Henry Sommerer is expected home the first part of next week from the hospital in Pendleton.

Hollis Percy returned Monday from Flora where he had gone with a truck load of furniture belonging to Jack Harmon who recently moved from Hermiston to the above named place. Mrs. Percy accompanied her husband on the trip.

Queer Contributions to Medical Science

The Warwickshire county councillor who bequeathed his body to the General Hospital, Birmingham, in the hope that light would be thrown on the origin of headache, "the unmerciful scourge that has wrecked my happiness from my earliest recollection," followed a long line of posthumous benefactors to medical science.

Perhaps the most remarkable of all was Jeremy Bentham, the philosopher, who directed that his skeleton should be clothed, provided with a specially molded wax head, and presented to the medical section of University college, London, where it may still be seen.

Hospitals often receive queer bequests. Charing Cross hospital not long ago received a bag containing forty-eight farthings, a bust of Queen Victoria, and the return half of a railway ticket. Another famous hospital received the deeds of a freehold house, a pawn ticket for a valuable sporting trophy, a diamond ring, several prize rabbit skins, and twenty aspidochelons in pots.—London Times.

—READ THE WANT ADS—

Geologist Explains Causes of Landslides

In describing some troublesome landslides that have taken place in England, owing to wet weather, Mr. William Platt, author of "A Popular Geology," says:

The causes are simple enough. Whenever the geological formation is that of alternate hard and soft rocks, and when this occurs in any sufficiently steep bank, hill or mountain, there will always be the risk of a landslide, especially after heavy rains, which soak into the softer layers and make them loose and slippery.

Landslides may be divided into two classes—natural and artificial. The former occur in the wear and tear of nature.

That picturesque mountain in the Derbyshire Pennines called Mam Tor is so liable to landslides that it has been nicknamed locally "The Shivering Mountain." Another celebrated instance is the landslip near Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

At Merok, in Norway (Norangsdal) a huge landslide dammed up a river valley, causing the water to pile up and form a lake. The people who lived in the village in the valley managed to escape, but their red-roofed cottages can be seen today under the clear waters of the huge tarn thus formed.

Exactitude of Little Consequence in Map

An amusing story is told in Berlin by the publisher of geographical maps. A Mongolian prince recently visited Berlin to place an order for maps of his country. The publisher was glad to get the order, but told the prince that the latest maps he had were published before the war.

"I must confess," said the publisher, "that I don't know the exact boundaries of your country at present. Haven't you some material that will tell me how to draw the boundary lines?"

"No, I haven't," was the reply. "But it doesn't matter. Just you draw the boundaries as wide as possible, so that my people may see how large their country is."

Explaining Law of Motion

The first law of motion, one of the cardinal discoveries which contributed to the fame of Sir Isaac Newton, is that a body continues to move at the same speed so long as no force is applied to retard or accelerate it. It was a surprise to his contemporaries and continues to be to any one who hears it for the first time. Experience leads us to suppose that the natural condition of a body is stationary; but Newton asserted that neither rest nor motion is more natural than the other. Bodies set in motion by human agency always come to rest before long, because friction and resistance of the air are always operating to retard them; but the earth is surrounded by empty space, so that there is no friction.

Chairs and Their Makers

It is probable that very early in American cabinet making rocking chairs were introduced. It is not unreasonable to attribute their origin to a date previous to the Revolution, but after 1750. Not until the Nineteenth century was well under way, however, did that type become common as an article of furniture. It is probable also that Windsor chairs were the first to be fitted with rockers. The Windsor chair itself was invented in England, and its comfort quickly made its appeal. The old chair makers knew how to adapt their furniture to the human anatomy and the American inventor of the rocker added still more comfort.

Chinese Religion

Chinese religion, like Chinese art and literature, is quite indigenous, a natural expression of the Chinese philosophy of life. Indeed, the Chinese notion of religion is very slight. The thought by a definite ethical code, but it is not fierce or persecutory. "Religions are many, but reason is one." Chinese religion is more tolerant, more reasonable and less dogmatic than the religions of any other people. It is hardly more than an ethical code. In China there have never been religious wars.—Chi-Fung Liu, in Scribner's.

Ancient Golf Club

The Royal Blackheath Golf club of London is said to be the oldest. Records date back to 1757 and tradition carries the club back to the reign of James I, 1608-1625. The old Royal Blackheath course has been closed since it was no longer possible to keep it in playable condition. It was crossed and recrossed by roads and railways and surrounded by buildings. The course consisted of seven holes, a match consisting of three rounds of twenty-one holes.

Insect Civilization

That insects do almost everything known to mankind, whom they excel in skill, is the belief of a well known nature student, who spoke before a meeting of the American Institute of Phenology. While the less developed species live under rocks or in the earth and exist by hunting, trapping and fishing for prey, others colonize in large communities and keep herds, raise crops and use leaves for clothing and shelter. Many insects even build tiny streets and highways.

Continent Believed to Lie Under Ocean

Does the Atlantic ocean roll over a lost continent? Le Plongeon, who deciphered the hieroglyphics among the ruins of Yucatan, in Central America, came upon inscriptions describing a catastrophe which submerged the old Atlantean continent, legends of which have survived in literature from the earliest times.

It may be that this catastrophe gave rise to the equally widespread belief in the flood which destroyed the early inhabitants of our planet. Certain it is that the American continent, although called the New world, is geologically the oldest land on the globe, and the monuments found in the jungles of Yucatan were ancient when the pyramids of Egypt were built.

The catastrophe is supposed to have taken place about 9000 B. C., and at that time there was a highly organized civilization in Yucatan, which would seem to be a remnant of the lost continent. It is not a very large country, yet, in spite of the great difficulties of exploration, the ruins of 172 cities have been discovered. Some of these are so extensive that they must have contained half a million inhabitants, and it is possible that the pyramids found in the jungle gave the pattern at a much later date to the pharaohs of Egypt.

Easy to Foretell Change in Weather

It is not always easy to tell what the weather is going to be, but a few signs are very reliable. When it is raining you will sometimes notice that the sky starts to clear in the form of an arch. Close to the horizon you can see the little half-circle which is the beginning of the arch that will sweep across the sky until there are no clouds left. Then you may be certain it is not going to rain again for some time.

Look at the clouds at almost any time of the day, and if these get smaller or remain about the same size, rain is not likely. Should the clouds get bigger, expect showers soon.

In fine weather the wind increases up to midday and then gradually dies down. If the wind does not get less after noon, and still more if it blows harder toward sunset, you may be almost sure bad weather is coming.

Facing a Burglar

If a burglar is at your bedside and bids you throw up your hands, throw them up. Keep them up. If you are awakened by noise below or above or in another part of your apartment and, while you are investigating, come face to face with your burglar, stop where you are. Don't be foolhardy. Obey him implicitly. It is cheaper. You can earn more money, you can buy jewels to replace those he takes: But not, my friend, if you are dead.

But if you have the drop on him and are sure of it, if you are sure you won't miss—let him have it. It may not be the sporting thing to do but he is no sport. He is not giving you a sporting chance—and will not.—George B. Dougherty in Liberty.

Longevity From Sap?

Longevity through the utilization of sap from trees as a food for human beings is the theory of an Oregon scientist, who is investigating whether there is any foundation for a myth that the ancients who lived to a great age drank the sap of trees. Man must be satisfied with a life of seventy or eighty years, while a redwood tree in California, which was a seedling 325 years before Christ, goes on living at 2,500 years of age, he reasoned. If this scientist can find and isolate the long-life substance in the California redwoods, he believes he will have something better than a gland cure for restoring youth and prolonging life, says Capper's Weekly.

Pigeons Fly Far

Up to the year 1913, 800 miles was the record distance flown by any homing pigeon, but in that year a flight was organized between Rome and Derby, and a bird belonging to C. H. Hudson, a Derby fancier, arrived safely at its loft four weeks after being liberated in Rome. The distance exceeds 1,000 miles. Even this record has been exceeded by two birds which flew from Pensacola, Fla., to Fall River, Mass., a distance of 1,182 miles. The time taken was fifteen and a half days.—London Tit-Bits.

Wife Gave Him the Tip

Jones was an enthusiastic spectator at a big race. Having little knowledge of the sport, and being anxious to have a smart bet, he looked over the list of runners until his eye rested on "Behave Yourself."

Jones was one of the few who won on the race.

"How did you happen to pick the winner?" asked a friend.

"I had an idea. 'Behave yourself.'"

"That's the last thing my wife said to me when I left home."

Swindled

Doris Atkinson, little daughter of the Cahenaga Pass Demons, sided to her mother the other day and said:

"Virginia told me babies came from heaven. Is that the truth?"

"Well, said Blanche, smiling, "that is what I always was told."

"Then it's all right," declared Doris.

"What's all right, dear?"

"I can see why baby cries all the time. He wants to go back where he came from."—Los Angeles Times.

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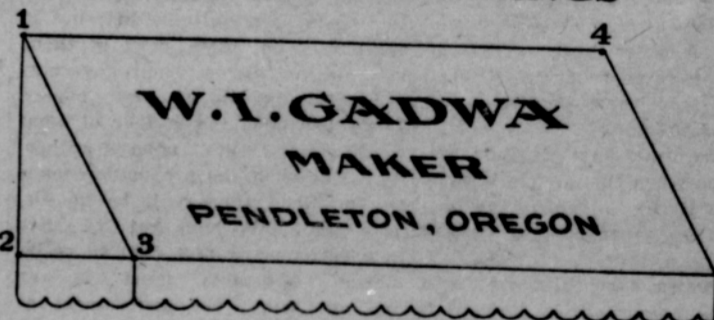
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