

## SHAPE OF SUN CHANGING.

A Jekyll and Hyde Tendency Has Been Revealed by Recent Observation.

Prof. Frank H. Bigelow, a weather observer for the bureau of meteorology, has recently been making a study of the atmosphere, and presents a mass of data and observations showing that "the sun should be regarded as an incipient binary star." Recent scientific work in investigating the circulation of the solar atmosphere in accordance with the laws governing the convection and radiative action of a large mass of matter contracting by its own gravitation have led Prof. Bigelow to this hypothesis, that "the electric fiery envelope conceals two discs," says a Washington report.

A series of observations extending over many years on the period of solar rotation at various points on the surface shows that the "same meridian of the sun is seen twice in a single rotation of the entire mass; first as the eastern limb, and second, 13 days later as the western limb. Whatever may be the intrinsic activity of the sun at a given zone and on a given meridian, that display becomes visible twice, first to the west and second to the east."

The theory proposed by Prof. Bigelow gives the rate of angular rotation of various zones of the sun's surface show that it is far from uniform, being increased in proportion to the distance from the equator. As yet little has been done regarding "the fundamental problem of the mode of the internal solar circulation." This difference of external activity of the sun "on two opposite sides of its mass as if a certain diameter had greater energy than the one at right angles to it" is similar to a recent discovery of Prof. Bigelow in regard to the earth's atmosphere and leads him to the conclusion already stated, that "this persistent excess of outflowing energy on two opposite sides of the sun suggests the possibility that the sun should be regarded as an incipient binary star where the dumbbell figure of rotation prevails instead of the spheroidal. If this is really the case, and the evidence suggests it, then there would be a reason for the existence of the two primary centers of activity of the sun instead of its having a single center."

"From this we should expect to find that the sun has two magnetic and two meteorological centers, and to find some double-acting systems, some increase itself generally upon the existing conditions. This view is quite in harmony with the well-known fact of the existence of numerous binary systems of stars more or less widely separated and it cannot be regarded as unlikely that the sun is a double in the same way. The enormous mass of the sun would seem to entitle its constituents to group themselves preferably about two centers for the physical processes involved in circulation and radiation, rather than about one, and I suspect that this is the correct explanation of several well-known phenomena."

**Illuminating.**  
Representative Hogg, of Colorado, said something about "astro-physics" in a speech he was making.

"What is astro-physics?" asked a member near him.

"Two Latin words," replied Hogg; "and, now, gentlemen, as I was saying—"

Seed potatoes are often planted whole in Germany, as the Germans claim the vines are not as strong if the potato is cut before it is planted.

The city of Moedling, near Vienna, has just celebrated its 1000th anniversary. It claims to have the oldest electrical tramway in central Europe.

There is no generally accepted explanation of the origin of the term "Hoosier" as applied to the people of Indiana.

Marquis Oyama is a giant among the Japanese. Six feet tall and weighing nearly 300 pounds, he is the national patron of wrestling and of swordsmanship and the idol of the army. Notwithstanding the recent honors won by the foreign trained generals, Kuroki, Oku, Nodzu and Nogai, this representative of the samurai class is the idol of the army, which regards him as the embodiment of the spirit of old Japan. Marquis Oyama is the youngest of the empire builders of Japan, among whom Marquis Yamagata and Marquis Ito are best known. He is now about 62 years of age.

Felix Green a Lake county stock man passed through Alturas last Sunday with a bunch of eighty head of fine horses which he was taking to the San Francisco market.—New Era.

Gibbins & Mulkey last week wired up E. Lauer & Sons flour mill. Mr. Lauer recently put in a 40-horse power motor, and hereafter that mill will be run by electricity.—New Era.



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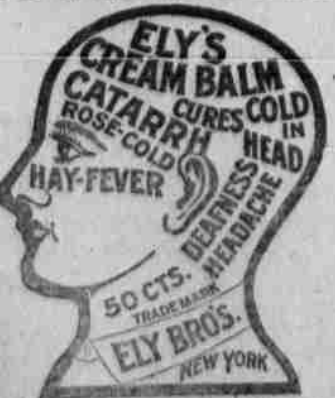
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