

Scientific Miscellany

Making Objects Invisible—Standards of Color—Next—Vegetable Cancer—Colds and Coughs—A Weather Beacon—Refuted—The New Theater—Stations on the Farm—Electroplating Porcelain—Sand-Lime Bricks.

Certain objects are now made invisible by the physicist. Some years ago Prof. R. W. Wood coated the inside of a hollow globe with luminous paint and showed that a block of glass placed within was invisible when looked at through a small aperture. Transparent objects disappear when immersed in liquids of the same color and refractive index. A glass rod is made invisible in water by a strikingly by Prof. Kaufman, a famous German expert. The apparatus is a piece of cardboard. This is cut into the form of a funnel. A perfectly clear and clean glass rod is placed upright in the center of the funnel, with a glass lamp exactly over it at a height of a foot or two, and on looking through a slit in the cardboard the rod is found to be quite invisible. It comes into view suddenly when the lamp is inclosed, or the lamp is shifted.

An international color scale is being prepared by a Danish chemist. Accurate standards of weights and measures are established, but so far no scheme of colors has been adopted to enable one to make an exact record of any object. To make the reference standards as unchangeable as possible, it is suggested that they be reproduced in some permanent material like colored glass. Some color schemes based on Chevreul's original system have been proposed, but a color scale has not yet been adopted. The discoverer has not succeeded in detecting any parasite as a cause of the tumors.

A vegetable growth analogous to the cancer of animals has been noted by Dr. Bashford, the British cancer expert, in the sugar-beet. It occurs in galled plants as tumors, which can be grafted to other healthy plants and its general behavior is much like that of the animal cancer. The discoverer has not succeeded in detecting any parasite as a cause of the tumors.

It is rather surprising that not much is known about "common colds" which now seem to be not one disorder but several, and perhaps many. They affect the head, throat, larynx or chest or various combinations of these parts, and some appear to be due to infection of bacteria, which are of various kinds, while others result from irritation by plant pollen, draughts, acrid vapors or abnormal conditions of the membranes. From an investigation in Boston, Mass., for December, 1909, to June 1910, Dr. J. A. Honey, has concluded that over half of the population had colds in the six months.

Atlanta, July 12.—A handsome, red-headed actress, now under arrest at the local police station, is believed to know more than anybody else about the circumstances which led up to the double tragedy which occurred at 41 Crew street yesterday morning, when Robert G. Ingersoll, a traveling man, put a bullet through his wife's body and killed himself. It is not believed that Mrs. Bessie Henry, the actress, was responsible for the tragedy, or that she inspired the shooting, but she is held because she and the young wife, Mrs. Ingersoll, had been close friends, and were together just before the shooting. It was said that two young men had come to call on Mrs. Ingersoll and Mrs. Henry, but it is denied by Mrs. Henry that this had anything to do with the shooting.

though nickel may be used. Platters, bowls, tea sets, coffee sets, tureens and other dishes of porcelain can be ornamented, and it is claimed that they wear better than either solid silver or plain porcelain. The making of building bricks by pressing together milk of lime and 10 or 12 times its volume of coarse sand is a twentieth century industry. Beginning with the production of a few thousand bricks in 1901 at Michigan City, Ind., it has developed rapidly in the United States, and the product seems to have stood the tests of the laboratory and actual use. A geological survey bulletin shows that the annual production has been over \$1,000,000 since 1906, the highest yet reported having been \$1,225,769, at 94 plants in 1907.

NOTES FROM EGYPT.

(By Consul D. R. Birch, Alexandria.) Bridge plans.—The Egyptian government recently approved the plans for a new Nile bridge at Ghezleh and has opened a credit of \$500,000 for the purpose. Schools.—The total number of pupils now attending government schools in the country amounts to 14,923. This is distributed as follows: High schools, 1,484; technical schools and workshops, 1,750; secondary schools, 2,387; primary schools for boys, 8,792; primary schools for girls, 510.

Dredging.—It is probable, reports the Sudan Times, that the Egyptian government will approve the scheme of deepening and embanking the Nile Channel at Bahr El Jebel before the end of this year. It is also reported that seven more dredges of the dipper type will be ordered shortly from England or Canada. Castor-oil plant.—The Agricultural Department has issued a circular pointing out that the castor-oil plant can be easily grown in the sandy lands of Upper Egypt which are not suitable for any other crop. The cultivation of the plant in the Nubia, south of Assouan, has given good results, the seeds produced being of best quality.

New German service.—The Norddeutscher Lloyd Steamship Co. has recently inaugurated a new service between Egypt and Europe. The Schleswig leaves Alexandria every fortnight for Biserta (Tunis), Syracuse (Sicily), and ends the journey at Genoa. The Schleswig has been replaced on the Marseille-Alexandria line by the Prince Lutpold.

Electric railway operations.—During 1910 the Tramway Co. of Cairo extended its system by 1,489 meters along different lines to 55,571 meters (meter equals 3.28 feet). The company carried 53,492,219 passengers, an increase of 4,900,009 on the previous year. The receipts amounted to \$1,844,336, an increase of 8 per cent on those of 1909. The receipts of the Heliopolis Tramways increased last year to \$1,004,415, of which \$6,265 was realized by the Palais de Koubeh-Heliopolis line. The number of passengers on this line was 2,158,504 persons.

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ATTACK ON REFERENDUM AND RECALL

By Associated Press. Cedar Point, O., July 13.—An attack on the initiative, referendum and recall as "policies tried over and over again and under the operation of which some of the most famous nations have gone to decay," was made by Representative McCall of Massachusetts, in an address here before the Ohio State Bar Association. "It would be more correct to say," Mr. McCall declared in denying the name "progressive" to those who favored these policies, "to say that the opponents of these proposals are in favor of the progressive principles of the American constitution and that their supporters stand for reactionary policies which long ago demonstrated their lethal effect upon government. The typical initiative and referendum speech," the speaker continued, "presents as glowing a prospect as can be found in the most eloquent mining prospectus. It usually proceeds on the theory that however careless each one of us may be, however lacking in definite and close study, yet in our collective capacity we are incapable of doing wrong."

"The referendum," Mr. McCall said, "would afford a ready means for the cowardly legislator to dodge instead of bravely voting against some bad bill. He would dodge responsibility by voting to pass it on to the supreme court of appeal, the people. The recall of political officers would tend to make them constantly keep themselves in a plausible and easily advertised position. We should always have government by the politician and not by the statesman."

"The recall of the judiciary would subject our judges to the liability of having to argue their decisions on appeal before the people upon a proceeding to dismiss them from office in disgrace. The judge who desired to continue upon the bench would more diligently study the popular moods than the sources of the law."

Wanted to Work On Road Gang

Special to the News. Greensboro, N. C., July 13.—Frank Friese, a negro man, was arrested today for larceny and instead of sending at once for a lawyer to defend him in his approaching trial, he sent a message to Capt. J. W. Tyson, superintendent of the county convict camp. Capt. Tyson happened to be in the city and at once answered the summons of the captured negro. Frank hailed the captain through the bars of the prison as if he was a long lost friend and requested him to have the judge in the city court put him, Frank, on the county chain gang instead of the city force. "I leave it to you, captain," the negro said after talking the matter over with the superintendent. "I want to go out with you, so get me put on your force."

Frank was caught "with the goods on" after he had rifled the Vanstorty Clothing Co. of a box of shirts and the evidence against him is pretty conclusive. Charles F. Maulden, of Cincinnati, an expert inspector of police and fire alarm telephone systems, has been employed by the city yesterday evening over the whole 15 miles of fire alarm wire in Greensboro, with the purpose of detecting the faults and recommending improvements in the system. One of the large feed barns belonging to Mr. D. R. Hummes was totally destroyed by fire on his farm, two miles north of McLeansville, shortly after midnight last night.

Archie Frazier, who alleges he is the son of W. W. Frazier, among the alleged victims of Elisha A. W. Davidson, arrested here Monday, entered police headquarters here yesterday and asked to be shown the man arrested for killing his father. He was told the man had already been carried from the city to Pittsboro to be placed in Chatham county jail.

Gets Rhodes Scholarship. Edgar W. Turlington, of Mt. Airy, was in Greensboro today with friends en route to his home from a visit to the eastern part of the state. Mr. Turlington was the winner of the Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University, England, which was awarded to a member of the graduating class of the University of North Carolina this past year.

Pensions for Veterans. Atlanta, July 13.—Senate Tuesday was introduced in the Senate Tuesday was introduced by Senator Black of the 26th, to amend the constitution so that all Confederate veterans shall be entitled to pensions, wiping out the \$1,500 property clause.

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Atlanta Wants Rev. Bob Jones.

Atlanta, July 13.—Although the Rev. Bob Jones, the noted southern evangelist, seems to be limiting himself to work in towns rather than large cities, Atlantians who have followed his career with interest are hoping to bring him here before long for a big revival. He is now conducting a remarkable and stirring series of meetings at Dadeville, Ala., which have been going on for eight days past. The biggest portion of the county is in attendance, men driving twenty-five miles and more over rough roads in buggies and wagons to hear him preach, while every train that came to town was loaded with people. Hundreds of men pledged themselves to live a better life, the evangelist will have a brief vacation in August, and then will conduct a campaign in Kentucky.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

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