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DERIVATION OF GRASS WIDOW

Term Probably Is Corruption of Grace and Comes From Middle Age Usage.

How did the term "grass widow" arise? The most popular derivation, according to Pearson's Weekly, is that "grass" is a corruption of grace, the pronunciation of which, in the Latin, is grahse.

In the Middle Ages widows were said to be "under God's grace" for a year after their husband's death, at the end of which period they might properly, if they wished, remarry, and so a widow in grace meant a new widow.

About the same time the wives of the marriages that were, in exceptional cases, annulled by the church, began also to be spoken of as widows of grace, in the rather different sense that they owed their virtual widowhood to the "grace" or favor of the church. So, then, a grace-pronounced grass-widow came to mean a wife, called a widow by courtesy.

Another explanation is that, exactly as we now refer to a sham party in a business transaction as a "man of straw," so an unmarried woman with a child who explained her condition by mention of a supposedly dead husband, was contemptuously spoken of as a "widow of grass."

It is in this sense that the phrase is commonly used on the continent, whereas in this country the term generally means a real wife temporarily living away from her husband.

KNEW HOW TO RUN HIS CAR

Motorman Resented the Help of the Truck Driver, and Then Repented.

A street car approached a busy downtown corner, the motorman clenching his going. A truck driver stepped from in front of his machine parked near the truck. He waved reassuringly at the motorman and measured with his hands to signal sufficient clearance.

The motorman resented the truckman's role of traffic director. He growled his resentment to a platform passenger.

"I don't need nobody to show me how to run a car. I been runnin' one long enough to know when I can get by."

He changed angrily toward the next corner where other trucks were parked.

"I suppose some fool will step out here to tell me how to run my car," he snapped. He glanced contemptuously at a truck as his car glided toward it. But there was no "fool" to give directions this time and, to the very great astonishment and chagrin of the motorman who knew "how to run 'em," his car sideswiped the truck.—Kansas City Star.

A Kind Wish.

When Jean went to her little neighbor's to visit she often talked to the grandmother of the house. "I have a grandmother, too," she would say, "but she's in heaven."

And she and the grandmother of the house were good friends until one day the grandmother was cross. She scolded the two little girls for leaving the screen door open, for walking in a flower bed and dropping crumbs on the floor.

The two youngsters sought refuge on the porch. Grandmother started to follow them there a little later, to try to make up. She realized the necessity of doing so, for when she reached the door she heard Jean say, "Tut, I wish your grandmother was visitin' my grandmother today."—Indianapolis News.

A Field for Profitable Operation.

In the northern part of Texas one can ride overland for six days without ever being out of sight of the candle-lila plant—a weed from which a very high grade wax is made. Huge fortunes await the men who will develop the industry of wax making. As yet only six factories are working. The candle-lila plant grows from one to three feet high, and as many as 5,000 stems come from the same root. It flourishes in the poorest soil, and reproduces itself annually. The cost of labor is low, and the supply of material is practically vast. The wax is made by boiling and steaming the weed. The crude wax is refined and used in making candles, phonograph records, polishes, varnishes and even linoleum. And from the fibrous waste a good quality of paper is turned out.

Jack Dempsey tells a listening world that King George and the rest of the royal family of Great Britain are "nice looking people." Always the diplomat!

When one reads of the crowds which gathered around the champion marbles shooters in that New York contest one realizes that this is not a very serious-minded world.

OPAL DIGGERS OF AUSTRALIA

They Live in Burrows, Work Hard and Now Can't Sell Their Gems.

Opal is the Australian natural gem, but latest reports from that country show that the diggers are experiencing very hard times, owing to the slump in the precious stone in the European markets.

Coober Pedy, the home of the famous South Australian black opal, is 100 miles from anywhere, and probably the most primitive village in the British empire. The Australian blacks christened it Coober Pedy, or "white man living in a hole," and it well deserves its name.

Of all the rough outback jobs in Australia, digging for opal is about the worst. Coober Pedy lies in the heart of the Stewart range, 170 miles from the nearest station on the East-West railway, and its whole population of between 70 and 80 diggers lives underground in burrows scratched out of the hillside. A tin shanty, in which diggers keep their tools, is the only sign of life showing above ground.

Every morning the diggers come out of their burrows and set out for the opal fields, to cut patiently through the rock in the hope of finding the beautiful black diamonds lying beneath. Between them they have dug many thousands of pounds' worth of opal in the last four years, though they have worked only a small area of a field said to be 40 miles long. In normal times opal is worth \$150 an ounce, but now that there is practically no demand for the gems the diggers have opal, but no money.

SHAH JEHAN'S PEARL MOSQUE

Beautiful Temple at Agra Is Lined With White and Blue-Veined Marble.

Among the most beautiful of Shah Jehan's sculptured monuments is the pearl mosque at Agra. The entrance gateway of red sandstone contrasts effectively with the interior of white and blue-veined marble, says a writer in Asia. An inscription in letters of black marble states that this mosque may be likened to a precious pearl, for no other mosque is similarly lined with marble. The Indian influence upon Mohammedan architecture of this period is evidenced in the lotus petal cap decorating the domes and in the purely Hindu shalals, legitimate Mohammedan mosques bearing instead the simple spire with the star and crescent. The foliated arches come from a Buddhist source, symbolizing the lotus-leaf shaped aura around the body of Gautama. The pointed upper foliation is derived from the shape of the leaf of the bodhi or pipal tree, under which Gautama attained to enlightenment and Buddhism, and is commonly used in Buddhist idolatry to indicate the nimbus around the head. The master builders of Mogul days were chiefly Indians from Bengal, and, since they were artists and artisans rather than mechanical workmen, much of the inspiration of the architecture of this period must be accredited to them.

Time Called on the Mayor.

Most people who meet Mayor Ora Davis of Terre Haute are impressed by his huskiness. He is proud of his strength, and tells stories galore of the tests to which it was put back in the days when people used stoves instead of furnaces.

Then Davis was a popular man in his home neighborhood. In early spring and late fall he received first invitations to the raising and lowering of stoves, even to the one he attended one morning on a day labeled "April the First." After having been told a neighbor wished him to help take down a stove, Ora Davis rushed there and was beginning to take down the pipe preparatory to removing the stove, when some one happened to remind him of the date.

"But I would have had that stove down in a few minutes if they hadn't called time," he laughs at the end of the story.

Logging in Western Hills.

In the West logging camps are mostly situated in the hills and the heavy loads of logs have to be hauled out, always downhill. Often that helps to make the hauling easy, but sometimes the grades are so steep that it makes it too easy—so easy that it entails difficulty. Indeed, in these instances the term hauling is a misnomer, for that implies pulling the load, and the operation actually consists in pushing against the load instead of pulling it. Two and a half miles of specially constructed track is used at one Western logging camp for transporting heavy loads on a large motortruck down a very steep grade. The truck, described in Popular Mechanics, is six-wheeled, and has powerful brakes on its four rear wheels. These brakes are controlled exclusively by one man, while another takes care of the driving and steering.

Our Higher Institutions of Learning the Base of Educational System

By CALVIN COOLIDGE, Vice President.



Our higher institutions of learning are not the apex of our system of education. They are its base. All the people look up to their influence and their inspiration. They must be under the guidance of men of piety and men of an open mind. They must continue their indispensable service to the cause of freedom by bringing all the people unto a knowledge of the truth.

There must be an increasing reliance upon religion. It is the source of all faith. It is the evidence of the eternal purpose, and of the true power, the true nobility of mankind. It gives a divine sanction to the authority of righteous government, to faithful service through economic relationship, and to the peaceful covenants of international understanding. It represents the only hope of the world, the only motive by which mankind can bear the burdens of civilization.

The peculiar meaning of America is faith, faith in the first place in an international power, faith in the second place in mankind. There are those who doubt the stability of republican institutions. There are those who question the ability of a people long to maintain a democracy. The progress of the race does not lie merely in the intelligence, philosophy, or the art of a few, but in their possession by the many, in their general acceptance.

America lays no claim to the discovery of the theory of freedom of self-government. Its glory lies in the ability of its people to put those theories into practice, not merely the power to state them but the capacity to live up to them.

The inalienable right of man to life and liberty and to be protected in the enjoyment of the rewards of his own industry have their source in religion. The rights of man as man, the dignity of the individual, find their justification in that source alone. Whenever its teachings were fully admitted, the rest followed as a matter of course. It was religion that came first; then the establishment of free government.

With these there came the opportunity for a general education, for a broader service by the institutions of higher learning, which ushered in the age of science, resulting in the great material prosperity. These were the institutions which Americans built up and supported out of their faith in an eternal purpose and out of their faith in mankind.

Federal Government Control of All Game and Fish in Western States

By R. C. PARVIN, Colorado State Game Commissioner.

The federal government will gain control of all game and fish in the western states if the federal public shooting ground and bird refuge act is passed by congress. As set out in a resolution of the Western Association of State Game Commissioners, the secretary of agriculture has exclusive and absolute jurisdiction over the entire field covered by the bill, with one exception.

This exception provides that the attorney general of the United States shall pass upon the titles to properties acquired for game refuges and public shooting grounds. A special committee of seven will be authorized to pass upon the lands and waters to be acquired.

Under this act a refuge would not necessarily be a public shooting ground area, but on the contrary, it is reasonable to suppose that shooting would be entirely prohibited in the refuges. The \$1 license fee to the government will have to be paid whether one hunts in public shooting grounds belonging to the federal government or anywhere else in the state.

The Women's Vote Will Play a Greater Part in National Elections

By MRS. PETER OLESEN, Dem. Candidate for U. S. Senate.



The Indiana and Pennsylvania primary election results are typical of what will probably happen west of these states.

In my campaigning thus far in Minnesota I have been astonished by the prairie fire spread of independent political thought. It is not a matter of parties. Party lines are falling away. People out here are less tied to party strings than they have been at any time in the last twenty years. They pride themselves on reading both sides of a question and framing their own conclusions. They are independent in their judgments. Today not only in Indiana and Pennsylvania voters want a change. Anything for a change, they say. How often have I heard this in my trips throughout the state. I have found widespread dissatisfaction with the present congress everywhere.

In the elections in Minnesota this fall I believe many voters will forget parties and vote independently for the candidates they think will honestly represent the common interests of the great majority.

The amazement of the country at the way women are using their franchise will grow. The women's vote is going to play a greater part in the selection of governmental representatives with the passing of every year.

The women found the vote a new thing two years ago. They were probably, in most cases, governed by the advice of men. Now they understand voting and they realize that the franchise is the citizens' badge of sovereignty, and when alone in the voting booth with their conscience and their God, they will vote right, as they have the light to see the right.

Here in Minnesota the League of Women Voters is a great help. Men voters have no similar organization that helps them as unselfishly and as intelligently as does this organization. It stands for no party-organization, though it deals with the leading political questions of the day. It stands for what is best in civic life.

WATTS, AMPERES AND VOLTS

Terms Commonly Used by the Electrician Are Explained for the Layman.

The language of the electrician is Greek to most people. While he talks glibly of volts and amperes and watts, they know only that they have to pay an electric-light bill for so many units, and let it go at that, remarks a London Tit-Bits writer.

Though electricity is not a fluid, we can understand most of its terms by comparing it with water flowing through a pipe. If we turn a stream of water onto the paddles of a water-wheel, the work that the wheel will do depends upon two things—the amount of water delivered every second and the pressure of the stream. We measure the first in gallons and the second in pounds.

In the case of electricity, we measure the rate at which it flows in amperes and its pressure in volts. The work which it will do is found by multiplying amperes and volts together, which gives the answer in watts, or units of energy.

The board of trade unit is 1,000 watts, often called a kilowatt, while the electrical equivalent of one horsepower is 746 watts.

You will find the number of watts they require engraved on most electric lamps, and from this you can discover what they will cost to use. A 25-watt lamp will use one unit of 1,000 watts in 40 hours' burning; and if electricity costs tenpence a unit, the lamp will work out at a farthing an hour.

The ohm is another electrical measurement which can be understood by a comparison with water. Water flows easily through a large pipe, but if the pipe is narrow, only a small quantity can force its way through. What the pipe is to water, the wire is to electricity. The smaller the wire, the more difficult electricity will find it to pass, because the fine wire resists its flow. The electrician measures wires by their resistance in ohms.

LIGHTHOUSES MURDER BIRDS

Thousands of Feathered Migrants Perish Yearly, Death Toll Being Greatest in Fall.

Every spring lighthouses destroy many thousands of birds flying between their winter homes in the South and their summer homes in the North. The death toll is greater in the fall. Lighthouses stand every few miles along the 3,000 miles of Atlantic coast, but those especially destructive of birds are the lights on the Fowey Rocks and Sable Key at the south end of Florida. This is because of the character of their lights and their position.

Countless birds pass each year to and from Cuba, and these lights, at the top of high towers, are on much-traveled "migration routes." The light on Fowey Rocks is a fixed white light, which is curiously deadly to migrating birds. A flashing light frightens birds away, and a red light is avoided by them, but a steady white light looming up in the mist and darkness attracts many of the night-traveling birds. Generally they do not strike against the windward side of the glass of the light, but they fly around to the leeward side and wear themselves out fluttering in the bewildering rays.

A Fable of Russian Rubles.

Here is an incident of the regime of the soviet, says the New York Tribune. A certain inhabitant of Moscow who had succeeded in saving a few rubles decided to go into business, and so converted his fortune into 500 kilos of sugar, which he sold again. The operation was so good that he found himself in possession of several million rubles.

Again he bought sugar, but this time, though his capital had become tenfold, he could buy only 400 kilos, because meanwhile the price of this commodity had considerably increased. He sold it again, and his fortune reached hundreds of millions of rubles. This he once more invested in sugar, but got barely 300 kilos, the sale of which, however, considerably increased his fortune. Then he continued to buy and sell, until one day, when he had hundreds of millions of soviet rubles, he could no longer buy more than one lump of sugar. Then he was compelled to pawn it to buy a rope and a nail with which to hang himself.

What Our Soldiers Protect.

In comparison between the national wealth of the United States and the number of soldiers now maintained in the regular army, each American soldier is charged with affording protection and national security to \$1,755,597 of the \$30,000,000,000 total of the national wealth. Likewise, each soldier is at present protecting 25 square miles of territory of the mainland and dependencies, and giving 548 of the people of the country security against foreign interference with their constitutional rights. All this at a cost of \$3 per capita of population.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by The American Legion News Service.)

PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTH

Capt. George Shuler, Passes Command of Marines in Parade to South Carolina Officer.

Proving that the Civil war formed a nation and that the sons of the Confederacy and the Union hold no malice, Capt. George K. Shuler of Lyons, N. Y., whose forebears wore the Union blue, thought that it would be most appropriate that a Southerner should take his place as commander in the parade at the unveiling of the Grant memorial. Accordingly, he selected Capt. Thomas P. Cheatham of South Carolina, whose folk fought against Grant in the struggle between the states for the honor.

Shuler had a notable record with the marines during the war. He received the Croix de Guerre, Navy medal, Distinguished Service medal and citations from Marshals Foch and Pétain, General Pershing and General Lejeune.

THE SAN JACINTO DAY FLOAT

Legionnaires' Display Proves Prize-winner at the Anson (Tex.) Celebration Held April 21.

Outside of the Lone Star state, people don't do much celebrating on San Jacinto day. Down in Texas, however, the school children and everybody else take a holiday on April 21. It is the anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto, where Col. Sam Houston, with 750 soldiers, put to flight 5,000 Mexicans and took General Santa Anna and other notables of the Mexican army captive.

This year, the American Legion in all parts of Texas took part in the celebration of Colonel Houston's victory.



Legionnaires' Prize Float.

The Legionnaires' float in the parade at Anson took first prize for being the best decorated of the scores that were seen on San Jacinto day.

FOCH PRAISES AMERICAN WAY

Pride of France Well Pleased With Enthusiastic Welcomes Throughout the Country.

Marshal Foch of France, has given to Commandant de Mierry, formerly of his staff, the task of writing the impressions of the generalissimo on his recent visit to America as the guest of the American Legion. Marshal Foch has made it a life-long rule not to write for publications of any sort.

In speaking of his trip across the American continent, Marshal Foch said: "There was always the same enthusiasm, the same warmth, all through the weeks that I travelled, no matter whether we were in the West, the North, the South or the East. No matter what the weather, thousands of men, women and children were always ready with a cordial greeting."

The Marshal paid an especially high tribute to the "cordiality and friendship of the American Legion," which he said, "rendered easy the journey of more than 26,000 kilometers in forty-five days."

The Permanent "7."

"You are having a great deal to say in affairs of government just now." "Of course I have," answered Farmer Cornstossel. "I represent the farmers that raise the food. It doesn't make no difference how many fancy problems come up for discussion, the populace always gets around to the one basic question: 'When do we eat?'"