TRANSYLVANIA—"OPPORTUNITIES EMPIRE"—NATURAL RESOURCES FOR LOCATING INDUSTRIES

EXPONENT OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY.

Brevard News

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MAKES CERTAIN OF SAFETY

Elephant Can Be Relied On to Be Sure He Is Walking on Firm Structure.

To test the stability of a bridge or other kind of structure there is no delicate instrument or measuring apparatus which can compare in exactness with the sound judgment of Jumbo. Owing to his weight an elephant has to think twice before trusting himself to anything that is not perfectly steady and secure. This circumstance has developed in him a mysterious extra sense by which he can tell instinctively whether he is treading on safe ground or not. In a recent case of a newly erected garage floor, doubt of its strength arose in the mind of the owner, although the architect maintained that the floor was quite safe. To make trial of its firmness, five elephants were borrowed from a traveling menagerie, and led into the garage. If there had been the least unsoundness or flaw in construction the animals would have bolted in a panic the moment their forefeet touched the floor. However without the least hesitation, the first elephant walked forward, followed boldly by his four companions. The combined weight upon the floor amounted to nearly 28 tons. The owner was satisfied and the architect vindicated.

WOULD NOT BREAK CIRCLE

Not One in Caterpillar Chain Had Initiative Enough to Break Away From Endless Procession.

Fabre, "The Insect's Homer," relates, in one of his books, an interesting experiment he made with certain caterpillars called "processionaries," because of their habit of following one another—nose to tail—in a long unbroken procession, apparently without aim or objective, except that of the one which happens to lead.

Fabre placed a complete circle of caterpillars upon the narrow ledge of a moulding around the circumference of an earthenware jar. There was no leader; each one had his head to the tail of the one in front. And they marched in solemn parade around the endless track for 81 hours, and apparently only a chance marching saved them from literally marching themselves to death. No single one of the insects had sufficient initiative in all those hours to leave the procession, to crawl off the ledge and to branch out for himself.

First Use of Envelopes.

The first envelope of which there is any knowledge, inclosed a letter written 76 years ago by Sir William Hamilton to Sir James Ogilvie. The epistle dealt with English affairs of state, and, with its covering, is carefully preserved in the British museum. At that period, and long afterward, it was the general custom to fold letters and seal them with wafers of wax.

Early in the last century envelopes began to come into more general use and stamped adhesive envelopes achieved wide popularity in England shortly after the establishment of the penny posts in 1840, and by 1850 were largely used on this side of the Atlantic. The first machine for the manufacture of envelopes was patented in 1844 by George Wilson, an Englishman, and improvements were made the following year by Warren De La Rue and E. Hill.

Sensible Laws Regarding Food.

Among Hindoos, where the household cooking is not entirely performed by the mistress of the house (it is the sacred duty and privilege of a wife to prepare and serve her husband's food) a Brahman cook may be employed even by a man of low caste, but in such a case, no member of the household dare defile the kitchen by entering it. The Brahman, moreover, will bathe before preparing each meal. All food is freshly prepared, and nothing is served a second time. In all such rules as these there are strong ramparts against contamination—a protection from disease and the many deaths that pursue unwise physical habits. The laws regarding food though set forth in severely religious formulae, are a form of science governing health and economics.—Asia Magazine.

As Others Saw Him.

An old negro from the southern rural districts had gone to the city seeking employment. Everywhere he went references were asked for. Finally he gave the names of former employers and in due time returned for a decision. Some of the letters were read to him, in which he was praised very highly and his work and loyalty greatly lauded. The old man's eyes opened wide with surprise and pleasure as he remarked:

"Well, I declair, if I had 'a 'known I was such a good niggah as dat, I sho would 'a' got mo' pay."—Everybody's Magazine.

IS THERE WARMTH IN SMOKE?

Matter Over Which There Seems to Be Possibility for Considerable Difference of Opinion.

It sounds rather unreasonable and, anyway, we would rather be colder and see the sunshine. We refer to the fancied discovery by a suburban New Yorker that coal smoke makes the city warmer. He writes: "Several towns on the south side of Long Island have noticed a greater discrepancy in the weather this winter than ever before. Instead of varying three or four or five degrees from the New York city temperature, it is noted that there is a variation of ten or fifteen degrees. That is, it is warmer in New York by that much. Is it possible that the use of soft coal, with smoke hanging like a blanket over the city, has a tendency to make it less cold?"

It would take a long and precise series of experiments to prove this; and there would still be the possibility that the higher temperature might be due to other causes. We know that the city is hotter in the summer than the country, but that is due to the reflection from the pavements and superheated walls of buildings.

If the "smoke pall" keeps out the greater atmospheric frostiness, it would possibly be explained on the same lines that a smoke smudge protects peach and orange orchards from northern blasts in early spring.

Cities live under a more or less perpetual smudge. The "smudge pots" are always going; but if we could have our pure air from heaven strained of smoke and the sun-rays falling upon us instead of the soot, we should cheerfully accept zero instead of ten degrees above.

NO AVAILABLE WOOD SUPPLY

Investigation Shows That United States Cannot Rely on Foreign Importations of Lumber.

A unique and exhaustive compilation of the forest resources of the world has been completed by the Forest service, United States Department of Agriculture. This reveals, among other things, that so far as our great structural and all-purpose woods—the soft woods—are concerned we must become self-sufficient or go without. If all the available Siberian timber were put at the undisputed call of the United States the yearly export would hardly supply one-fourth of our annual timber needs. There is an immense reservoir of hardwoods in the tropics which can be used for limited and special purposes and secured at mahogany prices. But the struggle for the world's supply of soft woods will become more and more intense, and those nations will fare best that prudently use their suitable waste lands for growing coniferous woods. This study shatters the dream of those who rely on importing the timber we need when our own is gone.

Standards of Measure.

For most of us the knowledge that a meter is 3.37 inches longer than a yard is quite sufficient. We must know as much as that, because the metric system of measure is so widely employed that one constantly finds it necessary to turn meters into feet or yards. But the refinements of modern science demand a far higher degree of accuracy in measurement than is perhaps ever dreamed of in the ordinary walks of life. The pains taken to obtain precise standards of measure are almost beyond belief of one who is not familiar with scientific methods. Every one knows that so-called "standard" bars, on which the exact length of the yard and the meter are marked, are in the possession of the governments of the United States, Great Britain, France and other countries, but every one does not know with what care these standards have been compared and with what patience they have been minutely measured again and again.—Washington Star.

Should Grow Timber.

The national lumber shipment in 1920 was about 2,070,000 carloads, and the average haul for each carload 485 miles. According to the best estimate of the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture, the freight bill on lumber for that year was $25,000,000. A fraction of this sum, says the forest service, wisely invested each year in forest protection and rehabilitation would grow timber where it is needed, reduce the nation's freight bill, cheapen lumber, and release vast amounts of railroad equipment and labor for unavoidable transport. Coal and iron cannot be grown, but timber can be.

Peanut Crop Worth While.

The value of the peanut crop in 1922 is estimated at $29,222,000 by the United States Department of Agriculture. In 1921 the value was estimated at $33,097,000 and in 1920 at $44,256,000.

Sanity, Soundness and Fundamental Nature of Co-operative Marketing

By C. C. MORGAN, American Cotton Growers' Exchange.

It seems to me that the recent council of co-operatives at Washington undoubtedly accomplished a great deal both for the co-operative marketing movement itself and from the standpoint of bringing to the attention of official Washington the entire sanity, soundness and fundamental nature of the movement.

It demonstrated the clarity of mind, the vision and the devotion of big men from every part of the country to the cause of co-operation, after having been convinced by intelligent and careful consideration that the farmer himself, under efficient leadership, can by co-operation solve most of his economic problems.

It showed the faith of these men in the fundamental institutions of America and their intention to place the farmer, through proper co-operative organization, in position to fit in with the established business groups and to co-operate with them as well as each other. It demonstrated that the businesslike farmers and their leaders are asking not subsidies and special favors, but simply that agricultural producers as business-men and the business organizations of agricultural producers be accorded the same business standing and the same basis of financing as other forms of business. And this basis is turnover.

Intellectual Manufacturing Institutions Dealing With Human Material

By DEAN OTIS E. RANDALL, in New York Herald.

Our colleges are in a sense great intellectual manufacturing institutions. We deal with very precious human material which comes to us from all parts of the world and which varies widely in quality. Out of this material we are expected to produce human machines which shall stand the highest tests and which shall efficiently meet the complex and ever increasing demands of the world about us.

This human material does not come to us in its original form, but is subjected to a great variety of transforming or molding processes before it is brought to that stage where we can profitably begin our work upon it. The quality of the material in this stage, which has so much to do with the quality of our finished product, depends very largely, if not wholly, upon the treatment which it has received before it is brought under the influence of the college.

If the great leaders in the industrial world have found it necessary to make such a careful study of the nature and the quality of the raw material which enters into their material production, should we, as leaders in the educational world, show any less concern than they about the quality of the material upon which we are to work and upon which the quality of our output is so dependent?

Large Groups of Foreign-Speaking Peoples Whose Assimilation Is Slow

By REV. DR. D. D. FORSYTH, M. E. Home Missions Board.

The most stubborn and critical situation confronting American cities is the presence of large and congested groups of foreign-speaking peoples whose assimilation has been slow. Immigrants have not been evenly distributed through our country. Seventy-two per cent are in our cities. Some cities are almost solidly foreign speaking and mere remnants of the normal population are left.

In others great colonies have been developed, known as Little Italies and Little Polands, where the ideals and standards of the Old World are prevalent.

These people are crowding into our schools, colleges and universities in great numbers. They are in every field of commercial and professional life. They constitute the great body of American toilers. They are to make up in a very large way our citizenship, yet they are outside the pale and outside the influence of the institution that has meant most to our country, namely, the Christian church.

While a surprisingly large per cent of these people is not Protestant, a large per cent is not Catholic and not Jewish. They have broken with every faith.

We Must Not Forget Some Credit Is Due to Him Who Lives for His Country

By JUSTICE F. E. THOMPSON, Illinois Supreme Court.

In contrast to the men of learning and vision and high principle of the early years of our national life we now find infesting the halls of congress and polluting other high places, counterfeit patriots, demagogues and hypocrites. In my opinion, the greatest menace to the continuance of popular government is this particular variety of varmint. He is the curse of both political parties and is found in every department of our government, local, state and national.

There is just one remedy for this evil, and that is that every citizen become a politician. We have too many political slackers in this country, too many voters suffering from dry rot. We hear too often of the individual who is successful in his private business, but who is too busy to give any time to the business of the government.

It is glorious to die for one's country and all praises to him who makes the supreme sacrifice. But in our praise for the dead we must not forget that some credit is due him who lives for his country. Unless more people begin to live for their country they will soon have none for which to die.

Breakdown Caused It

On account of a breakdown in the Linotype we are unable to print any local news this week. A new part has been ordered and is expected to arrive in few days, which will replace the broken part, and the News will appear on time in much better shape than heretofore.

BEAUTIFUL IN ITS RUINS

Historic Melrose Abbey Has Been Praised by Every Visiting Student of Architecture.

Melrose abbey was a beautiful abbey—now in ruins—on the bank of the River Tweed, Scotland, 40 miles southwest of Edinburgh. It was founded by David I (1124-1153) for the Cistercian monks in 1136, and became the mother church of the order in that country. After being twice damaged by the English, it was rebuilt in a style of increased magnificence between the years 1322 and 1505, but was again devastated by the English under the earl of Hertford, in 1545, and was totally ruined during the Scotch reformation. Since that time no attempt at restoration has been made, and the ruins have served as a quarry for the neighboring town of Melrose.

The ruined church is all that remains at the present day. It is greatly admired for the beauty of its architecture, which belongs to the Second Pointed style. Melrose abbey is the burial place of Michael Scott, the Wizard of the Lady; Alexander II, and Johanna, his queen; William Douglas, the "Dark Knight," and the second abbot, St. Waldhoof. The heart of Robert Bruce is said to be buried before the high altar.

PUBLIC SCHOOL IN AMERICA

Beginning of Institution Can Clearly Be Traced to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Early attempts to provide elementary education were made in Virginia, and by the Dutch in New York, but Massachusetts must be looked to for the beginning of the American public school. In 1635 a town meeting of the people of Boston requested Philemon Purmont to become schoolmaster, and voted him the acres of land in part pay for his services. The school begun by Mr. Purmont later became the Boston Latin school, and has had a continuous existence. Other colonies followed in Boston's steps, and the next ten years saw common schools established in all the New England settlements. In 1647 the general court of Massachusetts ordered every town of 50 families to select a teacher, whose salary was to be paid by the parents of the children he taught or by the inhabitants in general. At the same time townships having one hundred families were ordered to establish a grammar school to fit youth for college. The law establishing these two grades of schools laid the foundation of the American public school system.

The Idyl.

The idyl is sometimes distinguished from other poems by the fact that it presents a picture; it is always distinguished from the major types of poetry by the fact that it presents the qualities of one or another of them, in a reduced and exquisitely delicate replica. Such pastorals as the Book of Ruth, Spenser's Shepherd's Calendar, and all the rural idyls of Theocritus are little paintings, like the genre pictures of the Dutch school. The idyl may deal also with domestic, or social, even heroic, themes. The first kind is well represented by the Hebrew Book of Tobit or Burn's Cotter's Saturday Night. The social idyl may be of city or of court; it has been cultivated with great success by the Greeks and the French. The heroic kind is represented by the Book of Esther and by Tennyson's Idylls of the King. The Idylls of the King are an epic in a rose-window; each episode—atmosphere, scenes, images, and words—is stained with translucent color.—C. M. Gayley.

America's Oldest Coal Mines.

The oldest coal mines in America are those in the bituminous fields near Richmond, Va. In 1700, anthracite coal was discovered in Rhode Island, and, two years later, settlers from Connecticut discovered anthracite in the Wyoming valley of Pennsylvania. The rich beds of the Schuylkill were discovered in 1770. Five years later the government of Pennsylvania floated coal down the Susquehanna to Harrisburg, then known as Harris Ferry, and hauled it by wagon to the arsenal at Carlisle for use in the manufacture of [illegible].

LAND YET TO BE EXPLORED

Brazil Has More Wholly Unknown Territory Than Has the Entire African Continent.

Just as the most remarkable development of the Nineteenth century took place in North America, so the most wonderful developments of the Twentieth century are destined to take place in Latin America, Samuel G. Inman writes in Current History. Here is room for the overcrowded populations of the world; here is power to produce the food and raw products for the world; here is a great market place for the manufactured goods of the world, and finally in these countries is found one of the most remarkable circles of intellectual leaders in all civilization.

Beginning at the Rio Grande and stretching on down through Mexico, over Central America, beyond Panama, through Colombia and Venezuela, the Andean countries, Brazil, Chile, down through the abounding plains of Argentina to the Straits of Magellan, is the largest expanse of undeveloped fertile land in the whole world. There is more undiscovered territory in Brazil than there is in the whole continent of Africa. One state in that mighty republic equals the area of Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. If Argentina were as densely populated as is the state of New York—and it is far more capable of caring for a dense population—it would have 225,000,000 instead of its present population of 9,000,000. Venezuela is not considered one of the largest republics, but it has three times more territory than Japan, while Japan has a population equal to that of all South America. Arguments might have been made in the old days against the dense population of some of these lands because they are tropical, but modern science has overcome the difficulties of the tropics for men. The island of Santo Domingo is said to be more capable of sustaining a dense population than any other similar-sized territory in the world. Now that the United States is severely restricting immigration, the overcrowded populations of the Orient and of Europe will very rapidly turn to the great fertile fields and friendly climates of these Latin-American countries.

GIVE WARNING OF STORMS

Tides Said to Show When Unusual Atmospheric Disturbances May Be Looked For.

It has been shown, in the opinion of certain scientists, that West Indian hurricanes and other great storms at sea frequently produce a remarkable effect upon the tides along neighboring coasts.

When a tempest is approaching, or passing out on the ocean, the tides are noticeably higher than usual, as if the water had been driven in a vast wave before the storm. The influence extends a great distance from the cyclonic storm center, so that the possibility exists of foretelling the approach of a dangerous hurricane by means of indications furnished by the tide gauges situated far away from the place then occupied by the whirling winds.

The fact that the tidal wave outstrips the advancing storm shows how extremely sensitive the surface of the sea is to the changes of pressure brought to bear upon it by the never-resting atmosphere.

To Keep Relic of Warship.

The captain's cabin of H. M. S. Impregnable, one of the last of the old wooden warships, has, by a happy decision, not been broken up. Instead, it has been erected in the basement of a Westminster store and was opened as a wireless demonstration room by Admiral Sir E. Freemantle. The cabin, complete in every detail, is fitted with the original brass lamps, both oil and candle. Outside one of the portholes is a moving picture of what would be seen if the ship was anchored off Gibraltar at night. This moves up and down and represents the roll of the ship, while at the same time the swish of an artificial wave is heard. The Impregnable was built and launched at Pembroke in 1860, and about 1896 she served under Admiral Freemantle at Plymouth.—London Times.

Wiped Out the Gophers.

As a prize for the township killing the largest number of gophers, Linden township won purebred Holstein bull given by Cavalier county (North Dakota) in its 1922 gopher campaign, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture. The gophers were well cleaned up, saving the county 410,000 bushels of grain on a conservative estimate, and every farmer in Linden township has the privilege of breeding to the bull for a small fee charged to help defray the expense of keeping him. The prize promises to be of much benefit to the dairy industry of the township.