

MOON AND STARS AND THE SUN CUTTING DIDOS ALL THIS JUNE

By ISRAEL KLEIN
(Science Editor, NEA Service)

June will be an auspicious month for science and superstition.

The sun was darkened, the moon obliterated and a great ball of fire, with an enormous tail appeared to threaten us in the sky.

Years ago special prayers went up, people shut themselves in and others even committed suicide under the awesome spell of any of these events. Now, we prepare differently for these as great spectacles of scientific significance.

The darkening of the sun and obliteration of the moon are eclipses of the great bodies in space, and the great ball of fire we know now as a comet.

The first event of the three to occur this month was the eclipse of the sun and moon, completely shutting off direct sunlight from our satellite. This occurred in the night of June 14-15, and was seen all over the western hemisphere.

First the moon cut through the earth and slowly crossed into the umbra or dark shadow, which it reached at 1:43 a. m. eastern time, June 15. For the next hour and a half the moon's eclipse increased until it was totally eclipsed at 3:14. This totality lasted 21 minutes, after which the moon moved slowly out of the earth's shadow, only to be obstructed from our view by the coming of dawn.

Comet Comes Next
A week later the day becomes the longest of the year, with the beginning of summer, at 5:22 on the morning of June 22.

Almost at the same time, if we happen to be up and point a weak-lensed telescope toward the rising sun, we may be able to detect a stranger in the sky, coming toward us. It is the Pons-Winnecke comet, discovered in 1819 by a doorknocker at the observatory at Marseilles and since then noticed every six years.

Comets are a strange lot of heav-

only bodies, each a collection of fiery meteors and dust particles grouped together by some sort of electric attraction and whirling around the sun at an enormous speed and over a huge eclipse, or flat circle. Some of them have tails of thin gas, so thin that we on earth don't feel their presence, even when we might be passing right through them.

The Pons-Winnecke comet is approaching us at the rate of 24 miles a second, faster than the earth is traveling, and on June 26 it will come nearest to us—a distance of 3,600,000 miles.

If we stay up until 3 in the morning of June 26, eastern time, we may see the comet perhaps without the aid of a telescope, but barely visible in the sky almost directly above us. It will be moving southeast almost as fast as the moon seems to move, but the presence of a waning moon, at the same time may drown out the view of the comet.

Sun's Eclipse June 29
Of far more importance to science, although invisible in the United States, will be the sun's eclipse on the morning of June 29. As the sun rises that morning, the moon will get between it and the earth so as to cast a circular shadow 30 miles in diameter, moving northeast across the earth.

This shadow will start a little west of the Bay of Biscay, cross the Atlantic and pass over the populous section of Lancashire in England.

It will proceed along the length of Norway, the north of Sweden and Lapland and over the desolate region of the Arctic ocean north of the Siberian coast. It will go on over the eastern end of Siberia and leave the earth at sunset at the tip of Alaska.

Scientists have been preparing for this event for a whole year. Some American scientists are going to points in Norway to set up instruments by which they may study the sun's corona, the great prominences of fire that can be seen favorably only when the moon covers the disk of the sun. They want to know what materials form it and exactly how.

For this long preparation the scientists will have no longer than 50 seconds to study this phenomenon. That's the longest the eclipse will last in totality. In England, where British scientists will study the eclipse, it will last only 22 seconds. But enough material, it is hoped, will be gained to reward the scientists for their long preparations. Hoping that it's a clear day!

HIGHLANDS NOW IN MIDST OF ACTIVITY

"Bobby" Jones' Father and Associates Buy Big Boundary for Select Golf Center

(Asheville Times, June 9)
First steps in the development of a golf club project which is expected eventually to represent an investment of more than \$600,000 will start at Highlands, Macon county, within two weeks, according to announcement in Asheville Thursday by Henry G. Robertson of Franklin, one of the attorneys for the undertaking. Mr. Robertson returned Wednesday from Atlanta, where he had conferred with some of the larger investors. Further plans for the project are to be formulated at a conference to be held at Highlands next Saturday, he said.

One of the principal investors in the project, as had been announced, will be Robert T. Jones, Sr., of Atlanta, father of the famous Bobby. The young golf star is taking no financial interest in the project lest it jeopardize his standing as an amateur. Mr. Robertson explained.

Hudson Promotes Project
The chief promoter of the proposed club is Scott Hudson, capitalist and sportsman of Atlanta, according to Mr. Robertson. Mr. Hudson has arranged for capital to be supplied by Atlanta, Chicago, and Texas interests, the attorney continued. Among the other principal investors will be Samuel N. Evans of Atlanta, a law partner of the elder Jones, and A. Franklin Pugh of New Orleans and Dallas.

Launching of the project involves a total expenditure of \$200,000 this year. Mr. Robertson said. Most of this sum will be spent in the purchase of lands and in other preliminaries. Transfers of lands valued at more than \$60,000 already have been completed, he said. Lands of equal value are to be transferred to the corporation as soon as the papers can be drawn, he added.

After the expenditure of \$200,000 this year, the club expects to spend \$150,000 a year for three years in completing the project, according to Mr. Robertson. Complete plans for the clubhouse have not been drawn.

To Incorporate
The project is to be incorporated next week with an initial capitalization of \$200,000, Mr. Robertson said. This full amount will be paid in as soon as the incorporation has been completed and as the project develops the capitalization will be increased, he said. The original incorporators will be Mr. Robertson, J. G. Pearson and Miss Albertina Staub, the latter two of Highlands.

The name of the club will not be made public until the time of incorporation, Mr. Robertson said, lest another organization take it. Donald Ross of Pinehurst and Atlanta, noted expert in the construction of golf courses, already has been engaged to direct the Highlands project, Mr. Robertson announced.

On Highway No. 28
The course will be one of the most beautiful in the United States, it was said, and portions of it will have an altitude of 4,000 feet. As soon as the paving of state highway No. 28 has been completed the club situated one mile west of Highlands, will be easily accessible to Atlanta, Asheville, and Walhalla, S. C. This state highway has been surfaced already from Brevard to Toxaway and most of the remainder of the route to Highlands has been graded. On the other side of Highlands approximately twelve of the twenty miles of the highway toward Franklin has been graded.

The club will be open to non-members, Mr. Robertson said.

Forty commercial poultry growers in Transylvania county find six different reasons for the high mortality of baby chicks in the county this spring. In order of importance the causes are stuffy houses and overheat, feeding too early, lack of sunshine, minerals and exercise, insanitary conditions, mixing different aves, and too much of the first feed.

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SEMI-STARVATION — FASHIONABLE SUICIDE

(Good Health Bulletin)
Fashion has declared that woman must be slender so an epidemic of fasting or semi-starvation is rapidly spreading among society women. The mortality tables will soon begin to show the result.

Women are naturally plumper than men, their bodies are rounder, and they have a larger proportion of adipose tissue. After forty, women naturally increase somewhat in weight. It is always dangerous to attempt to thwart the purposes of Nature. For a woman naturally inclined to plumpness the semi-starvation necessary to keep herself slender lowers her vital resistance and opens the way for tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. Besides such as unphysiologic course lessens endurance, fitness and efficiency. Food is fuel, and a reduction of the intake of food below the actual requirements of the body so that the body itself must be consumed in order to meet current demands is a damaging procedure which can only result in injury.

The warnings which of late years have been issued against over-fatness refer only to the excessive fatness which comes from overeating or excessive indulgence in candies and other sweets. The semi-fasting to which many women are subjecting themselves is simply slow suicide. They are simply opening the way for chronic disease and early breakdown and are certainly shortening their lives. A German physician has recently called attention to the fact that by this abnormal reduction of weight the abdominal organs lose their normal support and the kidneys and other organs may become loosened from their anchorage. The weakened abdominal muscles allow an excessive accumulation of blood in the abdomen. This withdraws blood from the brain and other parts requiring a full blood supply. Such persons soon discover that they quickly become weary when on their feet. They feel well enough when lying down, but when on their feet they quickly become exhausted because of the excessive accumulation of blood in the abdominal cavity.

GAS ECONOMIES INCREASE CONSUMPTION

The gas industry has shown a gain in sales of 130 per cent during the past decade, with the year 1926 the best in its history. The big increase in consumption has been in the industrial field, although household use has shown a steady growth. Increased heating efficiency plus the elimination of smoke, ashes and labor are fundamental reasons for the astonishing increase in gas use in home and factory.

A farmer serving as a witness in court recently could not answer the question, "What is a farmer?" This man says he would like for someone to give him the correct answer.

CHRIST SCHOOL TEAM'S RECORD

The Christ School nine, under the leadership of Catch Fayssoux, romped through a successful season, failing only twice out of many attempts, to "Bring home the bacon." Only one game was lost on the home ground. Lady Luck refused to smile on the Warriors that day, so Weaver College, the invading team, carried off the honors to the tune of 12 to 2. But Christ School upset the dope bucket the Saturday following their defeat by journeying over to Weaverville and winning a ten-in-

ning, hard fought scrap 5 to 4. Christ School lost to Brevard at Brevard 3 to 2, but avenged this defeat on the home field by swamping the Brevardites 12 to 3. After licking Hendersonville 14 to 2 on the home diamond, the Warriors journeyed over to Hendersonville and lost the last game of the season in a hard fought struggle 4 to 0.

These three teams were the only ones that the selfish Arden boys divided the candy with, the rest of the opposing teams were defeated in due order.

Following are some of the teams that were defeated: Farm School, Asheville School, Lee School, Asheville High School, Brevard High School, Weaver College, Hendersonville High School, Fairview and Biltmore High.

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