

FOUR
SCHOOLS PLANNING
FOR OBSERVANCE OF
'SHAKESPEARE DAY'

Children Themselves Will Take The Part Of Immortal Characters.

Washington, D. C. April 17.—Schools throughout the United States are again planning to observe April 23 as "Shakespeare Day," according to reports received by the bureau of education, department of the interior, which has just issued an official publication containing suggestions for appropriate school celebrations.

Acting of Shakespeare plays by the children themselves is advocated by the bureau's publication as one of the best ways to celebrate the day. "My ideal of a Shakespeare day," says H. S. Wells, the novelist, who is quoted in the bureau bulletin, "is a day on which, in every school, Shakespearean plays are acted by the children themselves. The one person, the other person, who ought to speak for Shakespeare on 'Shakespeare Day' is Shakespeare himself. So let Shakespeare be read and played for our 'Shakespeare Day' celebration in the schools, and let the rest of us keep silence while he speaks."

Day Must Be 'Pleasurable.'
Whatever plans are made for Shakespeare celebrations in school they should be pleasurable, asserts Professor Caroline F. E. Spurgeon, of Bedford college, London, now on a lecture tour in the United States. "Let the day be one of enjoyment," she says. "The reason why children do have an unpleasant association with Shakespeare is that the study of him is made lifeless and dull. He is not to them the most laughter-loving, the most sympathetic of human beings, but he is some one who wrote a large number of intolerable notes in order to explain the obscure words and strange phrases and faults of grammar and spelling in which he seems to have delighted. I believe that the institution of a day like this might sweep away some of these misconceptions if it were arranged so as to be a living thing in which they would be acting and singing, the children themselves taking part."

Many School Subjects Involved
Celebration of the Shakespeare anniversary offers a particularly good opportunity, Percival Chubb points out, for coordinating work done in a group of interrelated subjects. Literature, music, art, the handicrafts (such as showwork and sewing) and physical education, he says, are all involved in an adequate Shakespeare celebration.

"A new emphasis is needed in literary work upon the fact that literature is primarily something to be heard," says Professor Chubb; "something declaimed or sung or dramatically interpreted, and not merely a matter of print. School music should become more deliberately the handmaid of literature, and should include very many more of the singable lyrics memorized and studied in the English classes than is commonly the case. Physical education, which everywhere includes the dance (both folk-dances and interpretative dances, or dance-drama), should have relation, through the words of old singing-games and the delightful old tunes, with literature and music; it should be utilized both for school celebrations and for social groups outside the school—in the home, the club, and the Sunday school. The handicrafts of the manual training departments may well profit by the impetus which is gained by directing them toward immediately practical and enjoyable uses."

The bureau bulletin gives lists of books where teachers may find helpful suggestions for presenting plays and pageants suitable to Shakespeare day. The further suggestion is made that "one way for schools to remember Shakespeare is to have school-garden plots, indoor boxes or home garden beds in which the flowers named by Shakespeare can be grown."

STUDEBAKER CELEBRATES RECORD CONSTRUCTION

South Bend, Ind.—The new \$15,000,000 plant of the Studebaker corporation here has just observed an anniversary. A year ago—on March 19, 1919, to be exact—ground was broken for this latest addition to the Studebaker plant system, the biggest factory construction job in the automobile industry and the home of the new Studebaker Light-Six soon to be forthcoming.

Commencing with the laying of railroad tracks and the clearing of the site, work on the various units has been carried on during the past twelve months until today the buildings are practically completed, and fittings are being rapidly installed.

That these new factories will be one of the show places in the automobile industry is considered certain.

One of the striking innovations and efficiency ideas in the new plant is to be found in the building where final assembly will be carried on. Cars will be assembled on a conveyor as they progress from one operation to another. Materials will be stored on upper floors and will be dropped to each station of the assembly line, piece by piece, in the number required for each individual car. The arrangement of this progressive assembly provides for the mechanical handling of all material, and reduces to a minimum the cost and confusion of moving stock.

The sub-assembly building, of reinforced concrete construction, is four stories high, 192 feet wide and 538 feet long, with an interior bay open to the roof. This bay is covered with a glass skylight, and is equipped with crane service and landing balconies on all floors for quick and economical handling of materials. The bay also has a depressed unloading track with accommodations for ten freight cars. In this sub-assembly building will be located the store rooms, tool departments, machinery maintenance and repair departments, together with factory administration offices and employee's restaurant.

SQUIRREL BUILDS NESTS.

In the south, instead of living in the hollow trees, the fox squirrels build big nests in the tops of the pine and other trees—usually of Spanish moss, says the American Forestry Magazine of Washington. In these they sleep, also carrying to them the pine cones just mentioned. In the hardwood forests of the north, dry leaves take the place of the Spanish moss, and a conspicuous nest is built with an entrance hole at the side.

MAKE PALESTINE ELECTRICAL LAND NEWEST PROPOSAL

Possible To Secure Country's Light And Heat From Harnessed Waterfalls.

New York, April 17.—The development of Palestine into a "white coal" country obtaining its energy, light and heat from harnessed water-falls is a plan proposed by Isaac Herbst, consulting engineer of Chicago and member of the executive board of the Zionist Society of engineers.

Mr. Herbst proposes that Palestine shall be made an electrical land by the erection of two hydro-electric plants near the Upper Jordan and Lake Tiberias, receiving their water power by two canals with a total length of 38 miles. These two plants would produce 100,000 horsepower or 80,000 kilowatts an hour, which for the same amount of energy would require 1,750,000 tons of coal a year at four times the cost, according to his report.

"Some claim that no industries can be developed in Palestine because of the lack of coal, but we can have electricity, which far exceeds coal in quality and utility," declared Mr. Herbst. "And water is endless and perpetual at one-fourth the cost of coal."

Mr. Herbst in his report to the Zionist engineers claims that of all the vast reconstruction projects planned for Palestine, it is of primary importance to begin first the work of converting the Holy Land into a nation of electricity through the utilization of its tremendous water power.

"In addition to providing employment to a large army of workmen, this gigantic construction enterprise, through the building of these two canals, will divert the Jordan from the Ballah swamps, reclaiming eight square miles of useless land in a very short period, converting it into flourishing fields and eliminating the source of malaria and other fevers now common in that neighborhood," he declared.

With adequate electrical power Mr. Herbst predicts that industrial development will advance rapidly, naming the following as likely immediate commercial possibilities: Metal working industries, furniture factories, textile and leather works, food industries, including canning and distilling, technical schools, paper-making and printing establishments, including the production of books and wall paper.

Electricity will also help in solving the transportation problem of the Holy Land, according to Mr. Herbst. "With electricity available, many electric tramways for light traffic can be laid out soon," he explained. "Taking into account the low moderate cost of such railways, suburban lines might be operated at a trifling cost per mile, compared with the much more expensive steam railroads."

SOLDIERS FAVOR REPEAL OF 'DRY' AMENDMENT

The Home Sector is holding a straw vote on the leading national questions. Latest returns show that the ex-serviceman is in favor of the repeal of the prohibition amendment; does not desire a military man for President in 1920; seeks federal help to put soldiers on farms; is against the prohibition of tobacco; and believes in compulsory military training. Figures show that there seems to be a 10 to 1 trend in favor of a further federal cash bonus.

The votes of the veterans on the prohibition amendment seemed to follow generally recognized sectional influences. Practically all southern posts voted solidly against the repeal of the prohibition amendment. The total vote on this question was 3,390 in favor of the repeal and 1,351 against. Of posts voting 'yes' or 'no,' 29 voted for the repeal and 14 against. A New Jersey post which voted for the repeal added this ironic comment: "We favor prohibiting everything that can be prohibited. The quicker we fall in line and insist on prohibiting tobacco, French high heels, low neck dresses, chewing gum, goo-goo eyes, etc., the sooner we will get a reaction."

"A sectional division was also observed in the vote on the question of compulsory military training, the south lining up very strongly against the proposal. The vote of all posts was 3,300 in favor of compulsory training, and 3,279 against. Of posts voting 'yes' or 'no,' 26 favored compulsory training, and 17 opposed the proposal."

Happiness is almost a matter of temperament. And the happy temperament cannot have anything to do with pleasures.—E. F. Benson.

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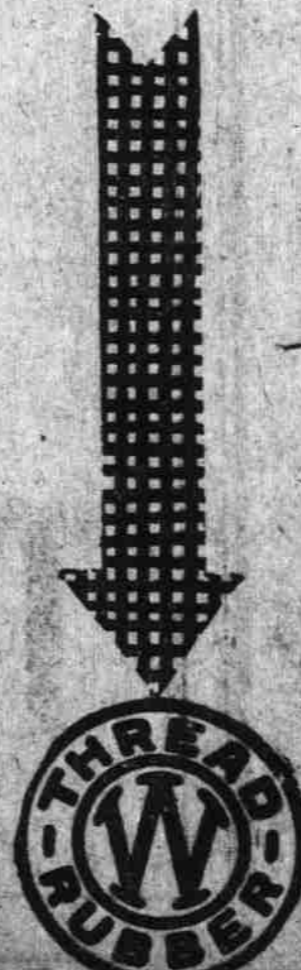
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