

## COMBS OF WOOD

### Women of Ancient Egypt Used Boxwood Ornaments.

Prof. S. J. Record of Yale University Describes Various Kinds of Wood Used Centuries Ago.

The tresses of a pharaoh's daughter were dressed with combs of wood, says Prof. S. J. Record of Yale university, who recently made a study of the different kinds of woods used by the ancient Egyptians. These combs were made of boxwood, which was much used for carving by the early Egyptians, and they were not greatly dissimilar to some of the combs which adorn the women of the Twentieth century.

"As one wooden object after another from the tomb of Tut-Ankh-Amen has been described and pictured in the public press, many questions have arisen," writes Mr. Record. "What kinds of woods are these? Whence did they come? What preservatives have kept them sound for thousands of years? How can these woods be identified today?"

Professor Record's studies included the woods representative of the period from 2900 B. C. to 1200 B. C. Wood played an important part in the lives of these Egyptians and it had to be hauled very long distances. Cedar he found to be one of their most prized woods, the most famous species being the cedar of Lebanon, which is no myth, as some are inclined to believe.

The Egyptians used cedar extensively for coffins, boxes, large effigies and for such general purposes as we use white pine. They also used cypress, another wood of great durability. The gopher wood used in making the Ark of the Covenant was probably cypress, according to Professor Record.

The yew, a tree noted for its durability as the cedar and the cypress, was used by the Egyptians in the making of bows, carvings and small implements. Sycamore was used for mummy cases, but the sycamore of the ancients was a fig, an evergreen timber tree sometimes called a fig mulberry.

These species were employed where large sizes were demanded, while in the manufacture of smaller articles the Egyptians used such local growth as was available, which apparently was limited to tamarisk, alder and other minor species. The Egyptians were skilled woodworkers, cabinet makers and wood carvers.

Wood veneering is not an ultra-modern accomplishment, but it is in fact a practice of venerable antiquity. It was developed by the Egyptians several thousand years before the birth of Christ. Professor Record found an admirable example of this craftsmanship in the coffin of the monarch Nephthys from Meir, displayed in the Ninth Egyptian room of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

That these woods used by the Egyptians have endured the centuries, Professor Record attributes to the dry climate of Egypt and not to any preservatives employed. Professor Record identified the different woods by subjecting them to intensive study under the microscope and comparing their cell structure with that of the species as found growing today.—American Forestry Magazine.

### Across Empty Continent.

Two explorers, seventy-year-old twins, by the bye, have just crossed Australia from south coast to north coast and back, covering nearly 6,000 miles in 67 days with three motor cars. The explorers passed through vast stretches of country without sign of man or beast, an experience, Captain White considers, which most strikingly justifies the late Lord Northcliffe's lament over the folly and menace of the "Empty Continent." Mr. McCallum, one of the two brothers, says he was amazed at the abundance of fertile country through which they passed in the interior, and mentions one plain, 150 miles long and extending east and west as far as the eye can see, consisting of splendid alluvial soil. They passed through superb pastoral areas with many rivers available for huge irrigation schemes, but the development of these lands would be absolutely dependent upon the building of a direct north-south transcontinental line.

### Right to His Teeth.

After a row with his dentist, Huffy declared that he would have something to say to that gentleman. The boys at the club would not think Huffy would have the nerve. When he came in a week later they were not backward in putting the question direct: "So you told the dentist what you thought of him?" "Said it to his teeth," he answered firmly. "When?" they asked. "Yesterday afternoon." "He was out of town yesterday afternoon." Huffy was not disconcerted at this. "I told you I said it to his teeth."—Baltimore News.

## HELPING OUT THE FARM WIFE

Missouri Woman in Charge of Home Economics Work of Department of Agriculture.

A Missouri woman has set out to make the lot of the farmer's wife easier. Dr. Louise Stanley, formerly dean of home economics at the University of Missouri, who recently was called to Washington to take charge of the home economics work of the Department of Agriculture, will conduct a series of studies this winter into the intimate problems of the farm home.

The work of the government in nutrition studies and reports on preparation of foods is to be carried on, but the Missouri woman will go into phases of home management neglected in the past, says a Washington letter in the Kansas City Times.

For example, here are some of the questions her department will study this winter:

How much would the farm wife contribute to the farm income if her manifold services were put down in terms of actual wages?

What textiles wear best in children's clothing on the farm?

If the farmer is to build a new house how should the kitchen be arranged for maximum convenience?

What sort of washing machine is cheapest for the farmer's wife to buy?

Doctor Stanley has submitted her program to Secretary Wallace and it has received his approval. She will make the studies in order of their relative importance to the homemakers on the farm.

"Studies of the cost of housing are at present needed. The cost of housing has increased to a relatively greater extent than any other element in the household budget," said Doctor Stanley. Estimates must be readjusted, and more definite information as to the relation of this cost to running expenses obtained.

## IT REMINDED HIM OF BUNYAN

Story of Dr. Plumtree and Thackeray Apropos of Ignorance in High Places.

Apropos of ignorance in high places, the president of Magdalen college, Sir Herbert Warren, told an interesting story of Thackeray at the university extension inaugural meeting at Oxford.

"Thackeray," said Herbert, "appeared in Oxford in various capacities, once as a political candidate, and on another occasion as a lecturer on 'The Four Georges.' He applied to the vice chancellor, Dr. Plumtree, master of university, who figures in 'Verdant Green' as F. P., for permission to lecture, and the following conversation took place:

"Who are you?" asked Plumtree. "Thackeray replied: 'I am an author. I think I am fairly well known.' " "Will you tell me the names of some of your works?" said the vice chancellor.

"Well," said Thackeray, "I think on the whole the work of mine which is best known is 'Vanity Fair.' " "Oh," replied Dr. Plumtree, "I seem somehow to connect that with the name of Bunyan!"

However, the vice chancellor was sufficiently satisfied to allow Thackeray to deliver his lectures.—New York Evening Post.

## Orpheus and Eurydice.

Eurydice was the wife of Orpheus, killed by the bite of a serpent on her wedding night. According to classical mythology, Orpheus followed Eurydice to Hades, where, by the music of his lyre, he so charmed Pluto, the grim ruler of the infernal regions, that he won back his wife from this most inexorable of the deities. His wife, however, was restored to him only on condition that he should not look back at her until they arrived in the upper world. When they had almost reached the limit of their journey, Orpheus was so overcome by the anxiety of love that he looked around to see if Eurydice was following him, and beheld her being dragged back into the infernal regions.

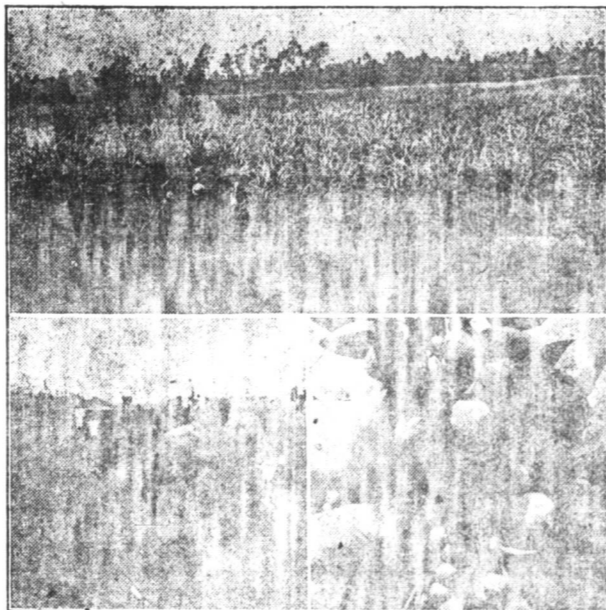
## Right-Handedness.

Of two pay telephones in a shop, the one on the right side took four times as much money as the one on the left. This curious influence of the dominant side of the body was lately demonstrated by evidence that speakers before a large audience have a tendency to address the right-hand side if the speaker happens to be left-handed. The same unconscious tendency may be seen in the schoolroom.

## Before the Stars and Stripes.

The flag which the colonies all used before the Stars and Stripes was adopted was variously known as the congress colors, the grand union flag, and the first navy ensign. It consisted of 13 stripes, alternately red and white, typifying the 13 colonies, with a union bearing the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew combined—the national flag of Great Britain—signifying the mother country.

## Make South's Idle Lands "Blossom Like The Rose"



Some of the crops produced on Southern cut-over lands. Top, field of sugar cane; below, high grade cattle and Satsuma Oranges.

One of the principal objects of the Forestry Reclamation and Home-Making Conference to be held in New Orleans, November 1922 is to devise ways and means for putting to some useful purpose the vast areas of cut-over, swamp and overflowed lands in the South. The conference will be held under auspices of the Southern Pine Association, Mississippi and Florida Development Boards and New Orleans Association of Commerce, and the people of every southern state and community are considered to be vitally interested in this movement.

Several million acres of idle land in the West have been made to "blossom like the rose" by reclamation through irrigation projects financed and constructed by the federal government. The South now is asking that she be allowed to share in this federal assistance so that those portions of her idle lands suitable for agriculture also may be made to "blossom like the rose."

Many prosperous localities in the South which have been built up on cut-over lands furnish convincing proof that large portions of the cut-over and "wet" tracts in the South can be made as desirable agricultural lands as can be found anywhere in America. The South today is the pioneer country as it is the only section where low-priced farm homes can be procured. The cost of reclaiming southern cut-over and "wet" lands is said to be about one-fourth the cost of putting western arid lands in suitable condition for agriculture.

At the Forestry, Reclamation and Home-Making Conference in New Orleans the problem of utilizing and settling the South's idle lands will be considered from all angles including reforestation, livestock raising, dairying, fruit growing and agriculture in all its branches. It is hoped the Conference will result in an effective movement that will secure expansion of the federal reclamation policy into national scope so that other sections than the West may benefit from such assistance. All persons interested in the constructive development of the South are invited to attend and participate in the New Orleans Conference and all southern congressmen are urged to support its purposes.

## USE FOR SULPHITE LIQUOR

Alcohol and Fuel to Be Derived From Paper Mill Waste by New Process.

Waste sulphite liquor that now pours from paper mills into rivers will be utilized in manufacturing alcohol and fuel by means of a new chemical process recently discovered and thoroughly tested by chemical engineers.

This announcement, considered one of the most important in years in the paper industry, will be made before the cellulose division of the American Chemical Society by Prof. R. H. McKee, head of the chemical department of Columbia university, who was associated with Dr. Max Kahn, New York, in the discovery and preparation of Intarvin, one of the two recently discovered substances that check diabetes.

"At present, for every cord of wood used in the paper mill the manufacturer obtains 1,000 pounds of pulp and 1,000 gallons of waste sulphite liquor, which flows into the rivers adjoining the plants, causing death of fish, disagreeable odors and other inconveniences so great that 'rinnet' laws have been passed in some states, and were they rigidly enforced, mills would have to close down," declared Doctor McKee.

"Under the new process this waste liquor will be fermented and a good grade of commercial alcohol obtained. Then after the alcohol has been distilled off, the residual material will be evaporated and may be used as fuel."—Milwaukee Journal.

## Again the Young Idea.

Two small boys were talking together on the beach. "I say, what's your father?" "He's an architect." "Hub; mine's not. He's a soldier." "My father was a soldier in the war, too."

"Hub, anybody can be a soldier when there's a war."—London Daily News.

## Tenshuni!

"You are not listening to me," complained Jane Muchmore at breakfast the other morning. "I didn't know you had said anything, dear," returned the meek Mr. Muchmore. "I haven't, but I expect to," said Jane.—Howard Courant.

## DON'T "IMPROVE" ON NATURE

Introduction of English Sparrow in United States an Example of Its Unwisdom.

There have been some disastrous experiments in the direction of "improving" on nature. For instance, when rats became such a nuisance in Jamaica the East Indian mongoose was introduced to rid the island of the pest. But today the mongoose is a greater nuisance than the rat, and being bigger and hungrier and quicker on its feet it is worse than the thing it was introduced to destroy.

A settler thought he would make home in a strange land more homelike by introducing the British sparrow, which hitherto had been unknown on the other side of the Atlantic, says London Tit-Bits. Mr. Sparrow liked his new quarters and quickly made himself at home, with disastrous results to crops and native birds.

And what shall be said of the colonialist who brought a pair of rabbits from English fields so that they might breed and supply him with his favorite rabbit pie? There are enough rabbits in Australia today to make rabbit pie for the entire population of the earth. The authorities have spent millions of pounds in efforts to exterminate them, but they still go on breeding and eating the grass the sheep should have.

## MUST CHANGE MAP OF ETNA

Recent Eruption of the Sicilian Volcano Probably Has Made Great Alterations.

Seventeen years ago when Vesuvius was angry all maps had to be rectified after the eruption. The extreme summit of the mountain had become considerably lower and the crater was much deeper. Now the Etna eruption was much more violent than that of Vesuvius, which means probably the sides of the Sicilian volcano will also have to be changed on the map.

In spite of its great activity the eruption of Vesuvius can be observed from one end to the other by an expert. Doctor Matteucci spent three days and three nights in a recess of the smoking crater. He was thought to be dead. When he returned he could not hide his joy, not at having escaped death by a miracle, but at being able to make observations on the spot of this tremendous phenomenon, of which he had been certainly a most indiffererent witness.

His successor, Professor Meladra, has been observing the different phases of the recent Etna convulsions. But he was not able to approach as near as Doctor Matteucci on Vesuvius.—L'Opinion.

## Diplomacy.

The Young Bride (looking in window of jewelry store)—George, I'd love to have that bracelet.

The Husband—I can't afford to buy it for you, dear.

The Bride—But if you could, you would, wouldn't you?

The Husband—I'm afraid not.

The Bride—Why?

The Husband—It isn't good enough, dear.

The Bride—Oh, you darling!—Life.

## Shortest of Sentences.

What is believed to be the record for short sentences pronounced in Fresno county, California, was imposed on George Leicht, charged with vagrancy. The judge ordered Leicht held in custody for fifteen minutes, after which he was to leave Fresno. The fifteen-minute sentence was pronounced to separate Leicht and his pal, who was arrested on the same charge.

## Gatty.

Well—Mr. Gatty is asked, He said I took a very good and very artistic picture.

Well—Indeed? And whose picture did you take, dear? Philadelphia Ledger.

## Appears Plausible.

Professor of Anthropology—It is said that the first man was found in India. Could he be found in a professor?

Prof. says: That is not stated. Doubtless some woman.

## Gents and Women.

According to the court records of York county, preserved in the courthouse at Alfred, Me., gents and women were not allowed on the Isles of Shoals. One fisherman brought his wife there, at the same time importing some goats. Lengthy legal battles were waged concerning the matter. Finally it was settled that the goats must go but the wife could stay.

## Mixed Situation.

Dashaway—"You say your sister will be down in a minute, Willie? That's good news. I thought perhaps she wanted to be excused, as she did the other day." Willie—"Not this time. I played a trick on her." Dashaway—"What did you do?" Willie—"I said you were another fellow!"—London Tit-Bits.

## The Spider.

We gave some perfunctory admiration to the landscape, which is indeed only beautiful to those who admire land, and to them perhaps the most beautiful in England. For here is the body of the great chalk spider who straddles over our island—whose legs are the south downs and the north downs and the Chilterns, and the tip of whose toes poke out at Cromer and Dover. He is a clean creature, who grows as few trees as he can, and thus few in tidy clumps, and he loves to be tickled by quickly flowing streams. If he is plucked all over with catwhisks for from the beginning of time he have fought for the privilege of standing on him, and the oldest of our temples is built upon his back.—E. M. Forster, in "The Celestial Omnibus."

## Deserts Not Without Water.

The vast stretches lying between the Sierra Nevada and California and the eastern Cordilleran ranges (Rocky mountains) in the United States, and between the Pacific ocean and the eastern Sierra Madre of Mexico, constitute the great American desert, a superficially waterless. Its plains are usually barren of surface water save for an exceptional saline lagoon. Notwithstanding the apparent scarcity of water, one of the most remarkable features of the great American desert is that water has been secured often in apparently impossible places and in quantities that have made possible the existence of cities and industries, says the Detroit News.

## Fish Has a Nasal Pocket.

Fishes possess a smelling faculty. An examination of the nostrils of a fish reveals the fact that they are not connected with the air tube system, as in most animals, but lead into blind pockets lined with delicate membranes well supplied with nerves. In fishes water is not drawn through the nostrils, but merely into the small pockets, and these may be emptied and refilled. The quantity of water brought into contact with the nerves of smell must be comparatively small. In some few fishes, as in the globe fishes and puffers, for example there is no nasal pocket, the nerves being directed into external processes.

## Diet Affects Bird Colors.

By varying the diet of birds, Professor Ehrenreich of Berlin has succeeded in changing the coloring of their feathers. Certain foods will cause red and green parrots to turn yellow. His experiments tend to show that a bird's plumage depends largely on the dyestuffs contained in food, says the Detroit News. Dyestuffs put in chicken feed affects the hue of egg yolks to a considerable degree. Caterpillars fed exclusively on walnut foliage become dark butterflies. Indians have long understood the art of changing the color of living birds through the diet method.

## Men's Souls Are Tricky Things.

As a matter of precaution I would advise women to leave the souls of men alone, especially their adolescent souls. They consist entirely of amorphous spiritual substances. They have as many rings of sentiment and vaporous eloquence around them as the planet Saturn. It is easy to guide one of the pulpy things into the church; but when you have done it you do not know whether you have committed a blessing or an act of salvation.—Cora Harris in the Saturday Evening Post.

## Haddon Hall.

Haddon Hall is a famous mansion in Derbyshire, England, 23 miles northwest of Derby, which has been occupied successfully by the Avenells, Verons, and Rutlands. The building is in an excellent state of preservation, and represents three different orders of architecture—the Pointed Gothic, the Tudor, and the Elizabethan. No additions to the structure have been made since the Sixteenth century. Reference to Haddon Hall is made in Sir Walter Scott's "Peveril of the Peak."

## Animals Frozen for Centuries.

The Smithsonian Institution says that caribou, or bodies, of the northern mastodon and the hairy rhinoceros have been found in the ice of Siberia. Wolves, dogs and bears are said to have eaten of the frozen flesh as it thawed out. Small portions of the muscular tissues, skin covered with hair, stomach contents, etc., of one of these frozen specimens of the mammoth are on exhibition in the United States National museum.

## One Way to Look at it.

Little Girl in Box (at the play)—I didn't think the lady was so bad, mummy. "Bad? Why, what do you mean?" "That they should make her do it over."—Life.

## Fading Affection.

"You don't love me any more; you don't even tell me that I make you sick."—Paris Journal Amusant. "We like the cockney version better. 'You dahn't knock me abaht.'"—Boston Transcript.

## BILL BOOSTER SAYS

BEING AS HOW I DON'T EXPECT TO LIVE MORE THAN A COUPLE OF HUNDRED YEARS LONGER, AND CONSIDERING ALL THE THINGS I WANT TO DO, I FIGGER I AINT GOT A MINUTE TO WASTE KNOCKING GRUMPING AND WOLFING ABOUT THINGS I DON'T LIKE!



## Breeding Snakes.

The breeding of snakes has become a recognized industry. The skin of the snake is used in making many leather novelties, while the fat of the snake's carcass yields an oil which is valued in the treatment of muscular rheumatism. Even for the snake's venom there is a market, since it has a recognized medicinal value and finds a ready sale among physicians and chemists.

## Business Before Sentiment.

"Darling," exclaimed the happy husband after the minister had pronounced the fatal words, "I am not worthy of you," "of course you are not," she replied; "but after a girl has celebrated her twenty-fifth birthday for five consecutive years she can't afford to be particular."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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