

At-Home Traveling

Seeming paradox is a delightful reality, because of a scientific advancement as wonderful in its way as the telephone

OUR OF THE WORLD IN YOUR EASY CHAIR

By ARTHUR BONSAI.

Have you dreamed of traveling? Have you longed to know what it would mean to stand in the places where the world's history has been made, to see for yourself the grandeur and beauty, the stupendous energy and the endlessly varied life not only in our own land but also in the distant countries of the world?

The progress of scientific invention now makes it possible for hundreds of thousands to realize this dream for themselves and for their children. Travel of the truest kind is within your reach, and yet without using either ship or railway or any of the ordinary bodily conveyances.

This statement is so extraordinary in its claims that probably no reader of these lines will believe it at first. Indeed no one could have been more skeptical about it than the writer was until he visited the New York establishment of Underwood & Underwood, the business organization which is responsible for this truly remarkable development of a great scientific invention—as wonderful in its way as the telephone.

The first few minutes of my visit were devoted to some interesting optical experiments. I was handed a neutral tinted card on which stereoscopic photographs of one scene were mounted in the manner in which many people are familiar. They looked like duplicate prints from a single well-made negative.

In the photographs I saw represented a field with a cluster of houses beyond, and breaking surf on a distant sea-beach; it was down in Martinique. A couple of men stood talking in the field close by, and I could see some of the village houses in the space between their standing figures.

I was asked to examine this also through the stereoscope. It seemed to me hardly necessary, after the inspection I had already given the twin photographs; however, I put the card in the rack and placed my head against the hood of the instrument.

Here I was astonished again. I was no longer looking at a photograph—I was getting out into actual space, into an actual place, and, moreover, this place was startlingly different from what I had supposed when I looked at the flat photograph without any instrument! Instead of looking from the side of a field, I found I was on a high bluff, dropping abruptly perhaps five hundred feet just beyond the two men. The houses that I had supposed to stand at the farther side of the field showed up as they really were, at least half a mile distant over at the other side of a ravine. I couldn't believe my eyes at first. Then I asked: "What causes this effect of being right there with open space all around?"

"In the few minutes we have, there would not be time to explain fully," was the answer, "but the possibility of these effects of reality depends first of all on the principle of two-eye seeing as distinguished from one-eye seeing. You must begin with this principle if you are to understand this travel system. Most people never stop to think why they have two eyes. If the question occurs to them at all, they probably fancy the second eye is merely a piece of reserve equipment—nature's provision against helplessness in case of accident to one organ of vision."

Then my informant went on to explain that a person with normal eyesight sees very differently from a person with only one eye. To demonstrate that statement, I was asked to make two or three personal experiments. First I held my right arm out straight in front of me, on a level with the shoulder, the hand open, the palm towards the left. Holding it in that position I looked at the hand with my right eye alone, keeping the left eye shut. I found I could see the edge of my hand and a part of the back of the hand. Next, keeping arm and hand in the same position, I closed the right eye and used only the left eye. That time I saw the edge of my hand and a bit of the palm, but I could not see around on the back of the hand as before. Last of all, I used both eyes together. Somewhat to my own surprise, I noticed that I could then see the edge of the hand, part of the palm, and also part of the back of the hand. Indeed, I found I actually saw part of the hand, part of the representative of the stereographic or stereoscopic camera differs from an ordinary camera as a two-eyed man differs from a cripple with only one eye. It has two lenses set side by side as far apart as a person's two eyes. One lens takes in exactly what would be seen by the right eye of a person standing in the camera's place. The other lens takes in what would be seen by the observer's left eye. Prints made from the two negatives are, of course, almost alike and yet never precisely alike. Their mounting on the stereograph card is a process requiring exact, expert workman-

ship. When the stereograph is set in place in the stereoscope, the right eye sees what it would see on the spot and the left eye sees what it would see on the spot. The result is analogous to that of looking with both eyes at your outstretched hand. You see part way around the near objects, and that makes them stand out real and solid just as they do in your ordinary, everyday experiences of seeing things in your accustomed surroundings. It gives to your eyes perfect depth, perfect solidity, perfect space.

"Thus you see," my informant continued, "the two small prints 3x3 inches in size and about six inches in front of the eyes in the stereoscope serve exactly as two windows through which we look and beyond which we see the object or place standing out as large as the original object or place would appear to the eyes of one standing where the camera stood. Remarkable as these statements may seem, when thoughtfully considered, still they are absolutely true, based on scientific facts which may be found explained in any reliable treatise on binocular vision."

I sat back and wondered. It seemed hard to realize that, in the stereoscope, I could see in their natural size parts of countries, cities and towns all over the earth.

"But," he went on, "we now come to a far more remarkable fact. Psychologists are saying that if we look at these life-size scenes in the right way, namely, if while looking we have some means of knowing definitely where on the earth's surface we are standing, in just what direction and over what territory we are looking, and if we take time to think of our surroundings there, then we can gain a distinct sense or experience of location in that place, or what they call genuine experiences of travel. Of course, you would not be likely to believe this at once, but reserve your judgment for a few minutes."

"To furnish the knowledge to make this possible a new map system has been devised and patented—an entirely new system."

"Then he proceeded to show me a most ingenious map system of which I had never heard. Like many another bright idea, it is essentially as simple as one would expect it had not been devised before. He showed me several of the patent maps. All were in the first place excellent, clear maps of the ordinary sort, but a clever device of conspicuous red lines showed just where a person was to stand, in whatever vicinity it might be, in what direction he was to face and just how much territory in a town, a house interior or a stretch of open country he was to include in his outlook from that particular point.

"But what are educators saying about this?" I asked. "Much," was the reply. "Here is what a professor of psychology in New York University, Professor Lough, says: 'The essential thing for us is not that we have the actual physical place or object before us, as a tourist does, rather than a picture, but that we have some at least of the same facts of consciousness, ideas and emotions, in the presence of the picture, that the tourist gains in the presence of the scene. This is entirely possible in the stereoscope.'"

"But," he added, "we do not claim that even these experiences can be gotten unless the stereographs are used with certain helps and in the right spirit. (Speaking in a general way this means we must treat the place seen in the stereoscope as we would treat the place itself in actual travel). 'To supply this need books are being prepared by people of wide travel and broad culture to accompany the stereographed scenes of a city or country.'"

Then I was shown guide books by such men as Jesse Lyman Hurlbut, D. D., on Palestine; Dr. D. J. Ellison and Professor James C. Egbert, Jr., of Columbia University, on Italy; Professor James H. Breasted, of Chicago University, on Egypt; Professor James H. Kennan, the famous journalist and lecturer on Martinique. In these books the authors or guides make their comments on the different places seen through the stereoscope in the same natural order that they would treat them during an actual journey. They point out the objects of interest in each place and give some of the history connected with it. Each strives to answer the very questions a newcomer would be likely to ask when on the ground. There are many ingenious and scientifically helpful methods worked out by these writers that I must leave unnoted here.

"You see," concluded my informant, "this is no slight of hand scheme or magical performance. This travel system is worked out in accordance with well established, though not generally known, laws of the mind. If the right methods are observed it is now being recognized that genuine experiences of travel may be gained in one's home."

APPOINTMENTS READ OUT

North Carolina Methodist Conference Adjourns—Several Changes in Presiding Elderships.

Wilson, Special.—The annual session of the North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, South, which has been in session here for several days adjourned Monday noon. The devotional exercises of the morning were conducted by Rev. A. C. Bundy. A number of committees, which failed to report Saturday, submitted their reports: Bishop Wilson made a brief talk before reading the appointments. RALEIGH DISTRICT—W. H. MOORE, Presiding Elder.

Edenton Street: R. F. Bumpas. J. O. Guthrie, Supernumerary. Central: C. W. Robinson. E. Pope, Supernumerary. Brooklyn and Garner: G. W. Starling.

Epworth: C. L. Read. Carr: G. B. Starling. Clayton: J. J. Rem. Smithfield: J. H. Shore. Selma: F. A. Bishop. Kenly: Supplied by R. H. Whitaker. Wakefield and Mission: Supplied by F. F. Eure. Millbrook: G. T. Simmons. Youngsboro: D. B. Parker. Franklinton: N. E. Coltrane. Louisville: L. S. Massey. Tar River: A. L. Ormond. Granville: J. D. Pegram. Oxford Station: F. M. Shamburger. Oxford Circuit: W. H. Pucket. Raleigh Christian Advocate: T. N. Ivey, editor. Methodist Orphanage: J. W. Jenkins, superintendent. Student in Vanderbilt University: G. R. Rood. DURHAM DISTRICT—J. T. Gibbs, Presiding Elder.

Durham—Trinity: R. C. Beaman. Main street: T. A. Smoot. (Carr Church: M. D. Giles. Bronson: Supplied by J. W. Antrey.

Mangum Street: E. M. Hoyle. West Durham: J. H. McCracken. Durham Circuit: G. W. Fisher. Chapel Hill: M. T. Plyler. Hillsboro: M. M. McFarland. Mount Tizrah: J. B. Thompson. Leasburg: M. D. Hix. Roxboro: K. D. Holmes. Milton: J. A. Dailey. Yanceyville: W. H. Kirton. Burlington: E. M. Snipes. Burlington Circuit: S. F. Nicks. East Burlington: Graham and Haw River: N. C. Yearby. Alamance: C. M. Lane. Trinity College: J. C. Kilgo, President. E. A. Yates, lectureship. FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT—B. Hurley, Presiding Elder.

Fayetteville—Hay Street: D. H. Tuttle. Fayetteville Circuit: V. A. Royall. Hope Mills: T. J. Dailey. Cokesbury: L. H. Joyner. Sampson: D. A. Watkins. Bladen: E. B. Craven. Btchhorn: J. H. Buffalo. Dunn: J. A. Lee. Duke: J. M. Daniel. Newton Grove: N. H. Guyton. Pittsboro: C. P. Jerome. Haw River: E. E. Rose. Goldston: C. O. Durant. Siler City: R. W. Bailey. Carthage: R. H. Broom. Elise: J. W. Hoyle. Sanford: J. H. Frizzelle. Jonesboro: J. C. Humble. Lillington: Supplied by L. B. Patisshall.

ROCKINGHAM DISTRICT—J. N. Cole, Presiding Elder. Rockingham Station: J. E. Underwood. Roberdel: A. J. Groves. Richmond: N. L. Seabolt. Mt. Gilead: S. T. Moyle. Pekin: W. A. Jenkins. Troy: W. R. Royall. Montgomery: Supplied by W. J. F. Stubbs.

Aberdeen: D. N. Caviness. Hamlet: Rufus Bradley. St. John and Gibson: F. B. McCall. Laurinburg Station: R. A. Willis. Maxton and Caledonia: E. McWhorter. Red Springs: S. E. Mercer. Rowland: J. W. Broadley. Lumberton: Z. Paris. Elizabeth: W. Y. Everett. Robeson: J. M. Ashby, R. W. Townsend, Supernumerary; W. H. Townsend, Supernumerary. WILMINGTON DISTRICT—M. Bravshaw, Presiding Elder.

Wilmington—Grace: N. M. Watson. Fifth Street: A. McCullen. Market and Bladen Streets: A. J. Parker. Scott's Hill: Y. E. Wright. Onslow: D. C. Geddie. Jacksonville and Richlands: R. R. Grant. Magnolia: W. E. Brown. Kenansville: J. W. Martin. Burgaw: W. F. Sanford. Clinton: A. S. Barnes. Whiteville and Chadburn: J. T. Draper.

Columbus: C. W. Smith. Carver's Creek: Supplied by J. M. Marlowe. Waccamaw: L. E. Sawyer. Shallotte: J. M. Wright. Town Creek: A. D. Betts. New River: To be supplied by J. C. Whedbee. Student at Vanderbilt: J. M. Calbreth.

NEW BERN DISTRICT—E. H. Davis, Presiding Elder. New Bern Centenary: G. T. Adams.

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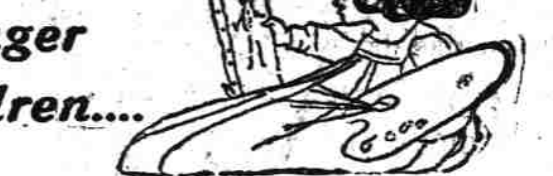
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For the Younger Children...



JEREMI' AND JOSEPHINE. As Jeremi' and Josephine were walky-talkin' on the green, They met a man who bore a dish Of—(anything you like to wish!)

They stared to see the man so bold; They really thought he must be gold. For he was clad, though chill the day, In—(anything you choose to say!)

The man returned their stare again; But now the story gives me pain. For he remarked in scornful tone—(I'll let you manage this alone!)

And there is even worse to come: The man, I've been informed by some, Inflicted on the blameless two—(I'll leave the punishment to you!)

This simple tale is thus, you see, Divided fair 'twixt you and me; And nothing more I've heard or seen Of Jeremi' or Josephine. —Laura E. Richards, in St. Nicholas.

THE UNSEEN FINGER. You can surprise people very much by laying your hand, with apparent carelessness, on a tumbler of glass nearly full of water and then lifting glass, water and all, by raising your hand, with the fingers outstretched in order to prove that you do not take hold of the glass in any way. Probably there will be some people whom you will not surprise. These will say, "Oh, that's easy," try to do the trick themselves—and fail.

The secret of success is this: Though your fingers are straight when you lift the glass, they must be bent down sharply when you place your palm upon it. You must press your hand down rather firmly in order to make an airtight joint between it and the rim of the glass, which should be wet to make the joint tighter. Now suddenly straighten your fingers and lift your hand. This motion of the fingers causes the flesh of the palm to move in such a way as to cause a partial vacuum, a suction, which you can feel distinctly.

The space between the water and your hand is made a little larger, and therefore the air in that space is rarefied or made thinner and exerts less pressure. Therefore the greater air



PROPER POSITION FOR HANDS.

pressure on the outside, acting on the bottom and sides of the glass forces it upward against your hand strongly enough to lift both glass and water when you raise your hand.

The trick requires some practice before it can be done with certainty and had better not be attempted with a very thin or valuable glass or in a place where spilled water will do harm.

Above all, do not use a very thin glass, for even if it does not drop you may break it by mere pressure and cut your hand. Besides, thin glasses are very apt to have little nicks in the edge which will both cut you and spoil the trick by letting in air.

The glass must be a small one, as it has to be well covered up by the palm of your hand. An egg cup on a wine glass with a stem is best. If you use a tumbler—which, being small in diameter, will probably not be very tall—you will have to hold it in the other hand or set it on an inverted tumbler or a block of wood in order to get room to bend your fingers down properly.

The trick seems especially difficult because the hand is flat and the glass nearly full of water, but these are the very things that make it possible. You cannot lift the glass with your fingers bent—unless, of course, you actually take hold of it—as it is the straightening of the fingers that causes the suction.

You cannot lift an empty glass unless it is a very small one. The longer the space under your hand is, the greater change in the air pressure you can make by the motion of your fingers.—Weekly Witness.

THE DISCONTENTED LEAVES. One lovely morning, a long time ago, the little leaves began to wake up after a lengthy nap. They were all very tiny, and some of them were hardly big enough to hold up their heads to see what was coming.

"That's the Wind, the telltale Wind," said one little leaf. "She is such a gossip, let's ask her who is coming this way."

So they asked the Wind, but she only answered softly, "You'll soon see! You'll soon see!" and went wandering by.

Then all the little sunbeams began to dance, and the leaves asked them why they were so merry, but they only danced faster and faster and threw their beams right in the faces of the leaves, so that they awakened more quickly.

Pretty soon they heard something like the whirl of a bird's wing, and

then they could see, floating right down on a sunbeam a beautiful fairy, who came into their midst with a smile and a bow, saying: "I am called Spring."

Now all the leaves were anxious to see what the Spring Fairy had brought them, so even the sleepest opened their eyes and raised up their heads at her call; and her aid, so the Spring Fairy flew about among them and poured over them from the tulip cup of her wand a beautiful bright green liquid.