

AGEOGRAPHIC MODEL

Plan to Make an Exact Reproduction of the United States.

Intended as an Educational Feature as Well as of the National Capital—Practical Possibilities of the Project.

An exact model of the United States on a scale of 2 1/2 inches to the mile is one of the possibilities of the future as an added attraction to the national capital.

It will be recalled that several years ago there was a project for an outdoor map of the United States on the Potomac flats, through which visitors could walk as through a park.

The present plan, however, contemplates a much more perfect reproduction than would be possible in an outdoor map. The country would be produced in exactly the same manner as the city of Washington has been in the models prepared by the park commission and now on exhibition in the congressional library.

A model of this character and on the same scale is now being made of Switzerland. This model will be the first production on a large scale of what is known as the new school of model making.

The new modeling is really "geographic sculpture," as some of its devotees call it. It aims at absolute accuracy and is made possible through the perfection in map-making and of dry-plate photography.

It would be necessary to house this model in a well-lighted building, which would have to be about 800 feet long and half as wide.

One of the possibilities of such a model, says the Washington Star, which would make it appeal to statesmen as a practical proposition would be that of having any section desired removed and replica productions made, as well as changed conditions in the model to suit changed conditions, which might occur at any time.

The canny Scots are up in arms over the title of the king and at a recent convention of the royal burghs two verbal protests were lodged against the assumption of the title of Edward VII. by the sovereign.

When the snow is frozen hard enough six dogs are hitched to a small car piled with things. Occasionally the dogs are tempted to pursue a hare, in which case the mail is slow and imperfect.

Edison has in his head an idea of the correct thing in the airship line, but he is so busy attending to more important matters that he cannot give it development any attention at present.

Nicholas of Russia has bounced his minister of war and foreign affairs. He gives no explanation. That's one nice thing about being a czar, says the Chicago Record-Herald.

There are a great many other families besides that of the late lamented Jack Spratt, says the Chicago Tribune, in which the husband is eating no fat and the wife is eating no lean.

WOMAN AND A GUN.

Hetty Green Given Permit to Carry Revolver for Protection.

Richest Woman in America Declares She Needs the Weapon to Defend Herself Against the Murdersome Plots of Lawless.

Mrs. Hetty Green, often called the richest woman in America, has just received a permit to carry a pistol signed by Police Commissioner Partridge on the recommendation of Police Capt. O'Brien, of New York city.

"I never carry much with me," she said. "I only carry enough for oab hire."

The real reason for wanting a pistol permit, she explained, was to protect herself against persons she thought might be induced by lawyers to attack her.

"The estate is short by \$1,500,000," she said, "and they hooked the books. I had my daughter appointed executrix of the estate. One of the lawyers threw her against a safe when she tried to get the papers.

"I had a pistol for years, and I can shoot. Didn't I beat Huntington, with his own judge, in Texas? I did, and the people of Texas gave me a revolver. I have it in my room now. I believe my father was put out of the way. They gave my husband an overdose of mercury, and he died when he was trying to get an accounting of the estate.

"Simple, the man who shot Wyckoff in the bank, threatened me six months before that. He told me that he wanted \$100,000. If he could knock that much out of me, he said, the lawyers would defend him."

Five St. Bernard's Which Are Employed by Bavarian Military in the Alps.

The military authorities in Bavaria are employing specially trained dogs to carry letters and provisions to the snowed-up garrisons among the Bavarian Alps.

The mountain garrisons are often snowed in three or four weeks at a time, cut off from communication with the outside world. A regular biweekly post has been established, ten dogs traveling together.

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Some of the English peeresses are already worrying because they will have to get up before seven o'clock on coronation morning, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

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IS EXCITING SPORT.

Wolf Drives Conducted in the Outskirts of Kansas City.

Hundreds of Men and Boys Turn Out with Shotguns and Cowbells and Run the Ravenous Beasts to Earth.

Kansas City is in a populous territory, but there still remains evidences of the pioneer days when wild animals roamed about the town site.

Two wolf drives have been held near Kansas City recently. The first was at Lathrop, Mo., a town of probably 6,000 people, 60 miles north of Kansas City.

The second drive was near Wolcott, Kan., 16 miles north of Kansas City, on the electric line running to Leavenworth. Two wolves met death, but several dozen got away.

"On the return of our party five months afterward on reaching Newfoundland the ship got mail, the first we had had for a long time. I was sure there would be letters for me from my home and there were several of them.

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SAW DAUGHTER'S SPECTER.

Strange Psychic Phenomenon Which Told a Man of His Distant Child's Death.

"In the matter of apparitions I had one experience which convinced me that there is something in psychical science even if everything claimed in connection with it is not true," exclaimed a well-known man.

"Some years ago circumstances made me a member of an arctic expedition. We were pretty far up toward the north and were tied up very snugly in a huge ice pack with cheerless surroundings, and had been there for some time.

"Of course I was considerably worked up over it, and on a suggestion of some one made a record of it on the ship's log, being careful to be accurate as regards the day, date, hour and even the minutes.

"That record is still in existence, with the other records of the expedition, and though it was my first and only experience in connection with apparitions it was enough to prove to me and the others of our party that apparitions are true sometimes, even if they are not always.

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MAKES NEW RULES.

Secretary Shaw Amends Regulations for Inspection of Baggage.

Incoming and Outgoing Passengers to Be Supplied with Needed Information—Ladies May Have Baggage Examined Privately.

Secretary Shaw has just issued amended regulations governing the inspection of baggage of incoming passengers at the ports of the United States.

The free admission of any article that was taken abroad as baggage, provided it is brought back as baggage and accompanied the owner.

Ladies desiring to have their baggage examined privately will be granted the privilege whenever the steamship company has provided a suitable place.

Prof. K. Bikeland, the Norwegian physicist, has been in Berlin recently for the purpose of demonstrating the powers of his electro-magnetic cannon before a number of experts in electrical artillery.

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SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Gold coffee is gradually displacing beer in German factories as a beverage during working hours.

The newest lighthouse on the French coast shows a beam visible at a distance of 39 nautical miles in clear weather.

The mean annual temperature, in the shade, of the City of Mexico for the period of 25 years past has been 59.79 degrees Fahrenheit.

It is said that the flint which forms the substratum of London is nothing but petrified sponges. An examination of the fossil sponge or flint shows its structure.

Birds rarely fly higher than 3,000 feet, and few are seen above 1,500 or 2,000 feet. The aeronaut Hergesally of Strassburg, however, saw an eagle at a height of 12,000 feet, and Humboldt once saw a condor floating over Mount Chimborazo at 22,000 feet elevation.

Mr. A. P. Trotter's recent paper in the London Lancet has greatly interested scientists. He declared that the dangers of electric shocks at 500 volts have been much exaggerated—this being the strength at which electrical railways are worked.

Pencils are very skillfully constructed. When the column of graphite has been prepared for use in the pencil, it is laid in a slit cut for it, covered with another piece of wood, which is glued on; then, by means of ingenious machinery, the wooden covers are reduced to the proper size for pencils and painted or varnished and set aside to dry.

NEGRO LOVES STEAMBOAT.

His Admiration for a Vessel of That Kind Exceeds Even His Regard for a Mule.

"The negro's relation to the steamboat is peculiar," said an old steamboat man, according to the New Orleans Times-Democrat, "and my experience of 25 years or more on the Mississippi has convinced me that the negro has a much deeper love for the steamboat than he has for anything else on earth, except something that will satisfy his physical craving. The negro's devotion to the steamboat is really pathetic. There is a popular but erroneous belief that there is a strong affinity existing between the negro and the mule. The negro likes the mule, of course, and he generally gets more out of the mule than the white man, and we sometimes believe that the mule looks upon the white man as being responsible for his place in nature and the many unhappy burdens he is forced to bear. But, getting back to the negro and the steamboat, the black man seems to have almost defied the boat.

"Go down on the levee, or go to any steamboat landing along the river of the south and watch the negro when the boat arrives. From the very time the whistle sounds until the bell clangs to pull in the lines he is an object of happy worship of the boat. The negro who has absolutely nothing to do with the boat, who has not even the remotest connection with the vessel, will delight in doing things to help the boat along and to see that she maintains her reputation for fleetness and reliability on the river. They do those things without any hope of reward. They do it just for the satisfaction of doing it. They do it out of pure love for the boat. If the boat happens to be a good speeder she becomes the idol of the negroes along the river and in the territory where she runs, and really the rousters take more pride in the fleetness of the boat than the owners, and would probably fight quicker if any man should be indiscreet enough to cast some slight aspersion upon the boat's good name.

"I have seen negroes at the way landings who actually took great pleasure in handling the ropes used in holding the boat to the landing, and they would work like Trojans when it came to hauling the line out, or hauling it in, as we say on the river. And there is another curious fact about the negro and the steamboat. The negro who works on a steamboat believes he is better socially than his less fortunate brothers who are forced to toil along other lines. There is a sort of black steamboat aristocracy, with the black man in the highest position in the service as a leader of the clan. Man, in his ingenuity, may go on devising steam engines and thunder across the land, and huge and wonderful electric motors, and all that sort of thing, but the steamboat that floats up and down the river is the thing for the black man."

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