

POWERS SAY DRUM MUST GO

Will Be Cut Out as Necessary Article of Military Equipment by European Nations.

It was some time ago that, acting upon the recommendations embodied in a report by a military commission, the French government reached the conclusion that the drum was no longer a necessary article of military equipment.

Since the decision of the French government other European powers have followed its example in decreeing that the "drum must go."

BIRD THAT KEEPS A SLAVE

Frigate-Bird Forces the Booby-Bird to Supply Fish for His Dinner.

The booby-bird never leaves the broad seas, where his harsh cry is heard from the Hebrides to the Faroes and from the cliffs of Scotland to the coast of Norway.

It happens occasionally that the booby attacked by the frigate has nothing in its mouth. When the frigate pecks in vain, he belabors his slave with his beak and drives him, bruised and terrified, into the sea to catch fish.

Life Without Microbes.

The oft-debated question as to whether there can be life without microbes is held to have been solved by M. Michel Cohendy of the Pasteur Institute of Paris, who has reared live chickens in an enclosed space which was quite free from microbes.

Machine to Write Music.

A German musician has invented a machine which, he states, automatically registers the notes emitted by the piano. The new machine has the same object as one invented by an Italian and used by Mascagni in writing his operas.

Heron Most Affectionate Birds.

Of all the birds he had studied, said W. Farren in a lecture at the Royal Photographic society's exhibition, (London, England,) none showed conjugal affection in quite the same way as the brown backed herons of Andalusia in Spain.

St. Petersburg's Growth.

That St. Petersburg is rapidly growing in population is evidenced by the census taken in December, 1910, which showed the population, including certain suburban villages formerly not covered, to be 1,907,708.

LINGERS ALWAYS IN MEMORY

Fortunate is the Man That Can Recall the Love Showered on Him by Grandmother.

The Women's Home Companion contains an impressive article on grandmothers, in which the author gives the following description of her own grandmother:

"A bride at fifteen; a widow with four little children at thirty; flung from wealth to poverty by the Civil war; confronted with the necessity to earn her own and her children's living in a day when women had indeed cause to cry out for better opportunities, and through it all strong, patient, serene, the unconquerable soul."

"What could be braver, what could be richer, than her life? "What could there be in all human experience to surpass that young love of hers?—the love that one hears, with aching throat and blurred eyes, in the single voice of some throbbing violin when the lights are low and every coarser instrument is hushed?"

"And then—motherhood. The woman of today, with a large and lovely charity, would mother the whole world. But she—she mothered her own. And will any woman say that to mother one's own is the lesser joy, the inferior vocation?"

"Then death—the death of her husband. And I think there can be no sharper test of courage, no deeper call for heroism, than the requirement to smile into one's children's faces, to make life a happy thing for them, when their father lies dead. That is a task to shake the heart of the staunchest; yet she did it."

Wishing for Longer Days.

Most women at home would be surprised to learn that there are quicker ways of doing ordinary things than they are used to. But efficiency experts who work wonders in cutting out waste motions in factories, so that hard-headed business men are willing to pay them big money for their services, throw up their hands in horror when they observe how women at home let the precious time slip through their fingers, and wonder where the day has gone.

Now don't talk it over with some negative-minded person who muddles your good intentions with whining objections, but just go ahead and do it. If it works, then tell your neighbor. Perhaps she would like to have some spare time too.—Delineator.

Effect of Paint on Corrosion of Iron.

According to the rather surprising results obtained by two German chemists, M. Liebreich and L. Spitzer, who were experimenting with paint as a preventive of the corrosion of iron, it seems that one coat of good paint or varnish is much superior to two or more coats. In their experiments a second coat proved absolutely detrimental.

Caught Seagull on Salmon Rod.

I have sometimes read accounts of birds taking the fly of a fisherman, but I do not remember having heard before of any one catching a seagull when salmon fishing.

The lady was harling for salmon in the Tay just below Dunkeld bridge.

When the seagull swooped under the water and flew off with the minnow. The gull made very good play, and it was only owing to skillful handling that it was eventually netted. It was of course taken off the hook and flew away none the worse.—The Field.

RISKED LIFE FOR SEEDS

Man Responsible for Starting Rubber Industry in India Now Living on Pension.

Living on a pension in London is W. H. Wickham, the man responsible for the introduction of rubber trees in India at the risk of his life. He is said to have received from the promoters of the enterprise \$5,500 in cash, the remainder being put out at interest to furnish him with a life income.

TAXICAB SERVICE IN PANAMA

Will Run on Regular Schedule Between Colon and Panama and Carry Mail.

Consul General Snyder of Panama learns from the local press that a concession has been granted to Francisco Arias, Sr., for establishing a taxicab automobile service on a regular schedule in the cities of Panama and Colon and neighborhood where the condition of the highways permits.

Europe's Largest Grapevine.

What is said to be the largest grapevine in Europe is to be seen in the great conservatory of Lord Breadalbane, at Killin, Loch Tay, Scotland. Planted in 1832 in a modest conservatory measuring only fifteen feet, its glass house has now grown to large proportions, the outer branches being some eighty feet of the main stem, and both vine and its little crystal palace are still adding to their inches.

Hit by His Own Law.

There are worse perils than with animals in Central Africa, says one who has just returned. Among the natives there are terrible diseases. Some of them are lepers; and sleeping sickness has laid a hold on many of the villages. In one village the local chief had given orders that all suffering from the sickness were to be taken out into the bush and left there, but the people had carried out so many of their relations that they refused to take any more.

Balkan Ballads Are Long.

In the Balkan countries the ballad makers have certainly been at least as important as the makers of laws. Servia's national ballads, commemorating the glories of the Serbian Emperor Dushan, the fatal battle of Kosovo, and the legendary exploits of the hero Marko Kraljevic and his horse Sharatz, are of Homeric proportions, and sung to the accompaniment of a guitar with cords of horsehair tails, have kept national feeling warm for centuries.

Troubles With Sun Dials.

Sun dials are picturesque objects, but when exactitude is required, that is, scientific exactitude, they are difficult things to adjust. Columbia University is having trouble with a sun dial consisting of a great brass plate on which rests a granite ball seven feet in diameter. When the ball was completed it was found to be a little too small, and now the brass plate on which it rests has to be engraved all over again to fit the ball's dimensions.

Princeton's Wonder.

In Princeton they have a sun dial that is a reproduction of an ancient one of an English university whose trustees presented the Gothic column to Old Nassau. It is so fearfully and wonderfully marked with figures that Dean Fine once explained to a visitor there were only three professors in Princeton who could tell the time by it, and that they could do so only three days in the year, and then the dial would be wrong.

FIND QUEER HOARD

Interesting Discovery in an Old Texas House.

Dagger, Crimson With Blood Rust of Centuries, and Ancient Spanish Pieces of Eight Found in Old Pot.

San Antonio, Texas.—Still crimson with the blood rust of centuries, a dagger was found in the walls of an adobe building in San Antonio, and in another part of the house was found a copper pot containing pieces of eight. It is regarded as the most historical production which Texas has yielded in many years and the coins have been sent to Tiffany in New York for valuation.

Charles Arnould and Gus Loeloff, his brother-in-law, were tearing down an ancient structure, used in bygone days as a fandango hall, when their picks came in contact with something that rang differently from the flint rock which composed part of the walls.

Extracting this vessel from its coating, they dug a flint rock from its opening, where the lid should have been. At first spider webs obscured their view, but after wiping these away they could see dimly that there was something at the bottom of the pot. It proved to be eight Spanish coins, covered with dust.

Local scientists will tackle the problem of how the spiders entered the pot—whether they were in it before the wall was closed, or whether they crept through some infinitesimal crack and thence into the spout of the pot.

The dagger has a pearl handle, carved by hand, carrying a feathery design on one side and on the other a shield and leaves. At one end it has a guard almost as large as those of the swords used by the crusaders, bearing a bas relief of a wolf's head. At the other end it has a similar ornament, the head of some animal which has not yet been identified.

The blade is seven inches long, sharp on one side and thick on the other. Its point is yet in fine shape and could do deadly work. It has peculiar red stains, believed to have been caused by blood. This weapon was found near the top of the wall, hidden by mortar, and it is thought it was tossed there for the purpose of concealment.

GAYNOR DEFENDS THE HATPIN

Writes Advocate of Ordinance Against Unprotected Points That He Never Saw Anyone So Wounded.

New York.—Mayor Gaynor is not in sympathy with the crusade to suppress the wearing of hatpins with unprotected ends. Several attempts to pass an anti-hatpin ordinance in the board of aldermen have been made recently, and the mayor expresses his opinion on the subject in a letter to one of the advocates of the ordinance.

THOUGHT HE WAS PLAYING

Child Runs Scolding to Tell Mother About Boy With Broken Neck.

Greenlawn, L. I.—When Mrs. Axel F. Anderson returned to her home after a short walk Sigma, her five-year-old daughter, ran to meet her, her face all smiles.

"Oh, come and look at Alfred; he's playing dead and he's so funny," laughed the little girl.

"He climbed up for chestnuts," said the little girl, "and I guess he must have fallen out when I wasn't looking, 'cause when I turned around there he was under the tree. I thought he was my pretendant."

MULES DEVASTATE ARMY POST

Eat All the Flowers in Garden and Kick Down Fences at San Francisco.

San Francisco.—One hundred and thirty-eight head of "Missouri's finest," just detained upon their arrival from St. Louis, for use at the Presidio, the local United States army post, broke from their corral, devastated flower gardens, struck panic to the hearts of civilians and police, who attempted to round them up, and otherwise enjoyed the freedom of the city for nearly twenty-four hours.

A detachment of cavalry finally rounded up 137 of the mules, but one is still missing, along with several hundred dollars' worth of flowers, vegetables and garden fences.

WHY THE TRAIN WAS LATE

Didn't Have the Nerve to Interfere—He Gulped, So Did Everybody Else.

If the railway guard who held his train half a minute beyond schedule time should be reprimanded at headquarters a hundred passengers who know why he did it will sign a petition for his pardon.

But this case was different. It was easy to see how it was. A mother was giving her child away. The little fellow was in good hands. The couple who had adopted him were wholesome, kindly people; the mother was wretchedly poor. No doubt it was best all around to give him away.

Before the guard could close the door or give the signal she had reached through the crowd and had snatched him from the man's arms.

Nearly everybody believes that Benjamin Franklin was the inventor and constructor of the first lightning-rod. In this particular they are mistaken, as the first lightning catcher was invented by a poor monk of Bohemia, who put the first lightning-rod on the palace of the curator of Freiditz, Moravia, June 15, 1754.

The apparatus was composed of a pole surmounted by an iron rod, supporting twelve curved branches and forming a pyramid with iron ore. The entire system of wires was united to the earth by a large chain.

Those who know any thing of the icy region around Cape Horn in winter can imagine the sufferings of the unfortunate people who were for seven days in an open boat, which, moreover, was leaking badly as the result of striking the ship's side while it was being lowered.

Serbs Are a Peasant People.

The inhabitants of the Balkan provinces are not the warlike, ferocious people that popular imagination in this country is apt to picture them. The Servians, for example, are a genuine simple peasant folk, whose home life might be copied with advantage by the populations living under the rule of the great powers of Europe.

Founded Sect in Japan.

A forerunner of Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy has been discovered. She was a Japanese woman who, long before Christian Science was heard of, founded in the Island Empire a very similar cult. According to a writer in the London Chronicle, about 4,000,000 inhabitants of Japan are believers in this system, which they call "Tenrikyo" and the "medical religion."

Starting a Missouri Train.

A drummer and a friend climbed aboard a ramshackle train in a feeble Missouri town. The train was a feeble, asthmatic piece of mechanism and the humane society should have prosecuted its owners for allowing it to run at all.

It finally came to a dead stop just on the edge of the town and after a long interval of trying to make it go the engineer struck his head in the door and bawled:

"Say, you two gents'll have to git out till I git it started!"—Kansas City Star.

Working for the Boss Easy.

A man complains of being worked to death since he went into business for himself. Now all he can think about is getting down early and keeping on the job until everybody else goes, not even taking time out for luncheon. He had it easy when working for the boss, because he had regular hours for starting in and leaving off, and at luncheon took an hour and a half or two hours out in the fresh air looking around, shopping or calling on friends.

Don't Sleep in Outways.

A fat man got aboard the cars and squeezed into an empty seat next to a sleepy man wearing a long-tailed cutaway. Then in a few minutes the drowsy man opened his eyes, looked out of the window and saw the cars were stopping at his station, so he up with a jump and just about tore off the half of the skirt of his cutaway on which the fat man was sitting.

TELLS OF HORRORS

Terrible Experience of Wrecked Party Is Revealed.

Woman and Child in Open Boat With Crew in Ice Off Cape Horn—Seventeen Men Lose Their Lives in the Disaster.

London.—The terrible experience of a party of shipwrecked sailors who spent a week in an open boat in the icy neighborhood of Cape Horn are described in a letter which has just been received from Port Stanley, Falkland Islands. The men were accompanied by the captain's wife and child, and no fewer than six of the original occupants of the boat succumbed to cold and exposure before the exhausted survivors reached the Falkland Islands.

At the same time comes the news that Captain Thomas, his wife and child and three sailors reached Liverpool on the Pacific liner Orpesa.

During a storm which broke suddenly the large sailing ship Cricleth Castle, belonging to Carnarvon, met with disaster off Cape Horn. The rudder post gave way and the rudder damaged the sternpost so much that the vessel was filling with water.

Those who know any thing of the icy region around Cape Horn in winter can imagine the sufferings of the unfortunate people who were for seven days in an open boat, which, moreover, was leaking badly as the result of striking the ship's side while it was being lowered.

On the second day a Finn, a French cook and a Japanese died; on the third day a German and an Englishman died, and on the morning of the fourth day those who remained were horrified to find that during the night another man, a Welshman, had died.

All hope of rescue seemed to vanish, but on the seventh day an outlying island in the Falklands was sighted. Fire was lighted as soon as they landed and the survivors were able to enjoy a drink of melted snow. But the relief afforded by the islet was only short lived, and the party put out to sea again in the hope of finding an inhabited island.

This quest was attended by misfortunes, and the boat was blown out to sea and beyond sight of land. Ultimately Port Stanley was reached. Altogether 17 men perished.

IS LITTLEST BABY OF ALL

Champion Lightweight Babe of Medical History Is Born in New York.

New York.—The champion lightweight baby of the entire history of medical practice, according to New York physicians, is being carefully guarded in an incubator at the Lying-in hospital, Second avenue and Seventeenth street, for fear the faint spark of life it possesses may expire at any moment. Nevertheless, its chance for existence seems favorable. It weighs only twenty ounces.

It owes its present hold on life to Dr. Charles H. Goldsmith of 1910 Lexington avenue, who, first believing the little girl, born prematurely, had come into the world dead, later noticed a slight twitch of one of the eyelids. He then revived the infant by breathing into its mouth.

After Dr. Goldsmith had been hurriedly summoned to the O'Connor home he told the parents, after careful examination, that the baby was dead. The physician was astonished at the diminutive size of the infant.

An eight-pound baby is not considered a large one, yet this little newcomer was only one-sixth the weight of an eight-pound baby.

As it lay on soft material arranged on a table, the father, hearing the doctor's verdict, started out to find an undertaker. A few minutes afterwards the physician noticed a slight movement of an eyelid. The father returned a few minutes later, having arranged for the burial to find the physician working to revive the child, though the appliances usually used in such cases were lacking and there was no time to send for them.

Lightweight Triplets.

New York.—Triplets whose aggregate weight is less than six pounds, have been born to Mrs. Dorothy Mosch, of this city.