

ARTIFICIAL CREATION.

CURIOUS CLAIMS OF AN INDIANA MAN, DR. LITTLEFIELD.

Strange Experiments About Which the East Has Had Only Imperfect Intimations—Idea Advanced That Nature Produced Life From Inanimate Materials.

In Harper's Weekly Dr. Charles W. Littlefield, of Anderson, Ind., described at much length some strange experiments about which the East has had only imperfect intimations before.

Dr. Littlefield is one of those men who believe in "spontaneous generation." That is, he thinks that nature produced life from inanimate materials, and he asserts that in his laboratory he has imitated the process.

Two or three centuries ago the suspicion was entertained that certain organisms were often produced spontaneously. An Italian naturalist, Redi, showed that if proper means were taken to exclude the presence of previously existing forms of life, animal and vegetable, nothing new could be developed.

A careful perusal of the story told by Dr. Littlefield shows that he has neglected one precaution taken by Redi, and thus makes it necessary to discredit his conclusions. The Anderson man takes nearly a dozen different minerals which are commonly found in plants and animals, and grinds, mixes and dissolves them in water.

Still, if there were any bacteria or other microscopic organisms on his plates, it would be easy to guess where they came from. Like Redi, Dr. Littlefield boils the water which he uses, but he neglects another precaution that the Italian invariably adopted.

THE OCEAN BREAKWATER.

Government Is Building One 3,500 Feet Long.

San Pedro, Cal., is about one hundred miles north of the Mexican boundary, and a few miles south of Los Angeles.

most anywhere. If enough money is expended—Congress appropriated \$2,900,000 for the San Pedro breakwater, extending 3,500 feet in length in the ocean, and for dredging behind it.

The breakwater is a sort of a continuation of Point Fermin, to the eastward. It was planned to comprise two straight arms, connected by a curve, 1,800 feet long of 1,910 feet radius, the westerly arm to be 3,000 feet long and the eastern arm 3,700 feet long.

The total amount of rock required, according to the government specifications, is 2,206,983 tons, of which it is estimated 770,000 are yet to be put in place.

Land Boom After War.

Ever since the Japanese-Chinese war prices in Manchuria have been advancing. In 1911 there has been a "boom." Small tracts that were purchased a few years ago for small sums are now being disposed of at small fortunes.

Following are some comparisons in land values in gold per square foot. These figures show a decline in values following the Boxer troubles and continuing until the Japanese got the upper hand 1902, \$1.15 1913, 75 cents; 1904, 60 cents, 1905 \$3.25.

One of the oldest foreign residents of Newchwang has been paying for years \$17 gold per month for a small one-story house. This summer an enterprising Japanese merchant offered \$300 for the premises.

Turning Our Deserts.

What to do with our deserts in the southwest has long been a puzzling problem, which the department of agriculture is trying to solve by importing plants of economic usefulness that thrive in extremely dry regions of the Old World.

Vaccination Stories.

Some of the objections raised by the parents of children attending board schools where examination was made by a public vaccinator as a precaution against smallpox are very amusing.

Scientists are still worrying about the change in the course of the Gulf stream. The Gulf stream is so named that it cannot change its spot.



WOMEN IN INDUSTRIAL LIFE.

When the convention of factory inspectors opened in Detroit it was treated to an immediate sensation in the paper of Mr. W. L. Bodine of Chicago. He is superintendent of compulsory education in that city and the title of his paper was "The Competitive Life."

The other matter may not be quite so bad as Mr. Bodine imagines. For instance, it may be better for a man to work in the fields or the shop than to gather figures to show how much he is injured by women who prove that they are able to do well some other things which men have been accustomed to do.

There are those who believe women should not take up anything that has been men's work, no matter how well they can do it. These rely on a belief that it is unworthy of women to work for wages, but admirable for them to work twice as hard and with half the independence in caring for a family and keeping house for a husband.

LEARN TO WALK WELL.

A contemporary has been waxing eloquent over the woman who walks well, and lamenting the rarity of grace and dignity in the average woman's gait.

An English woman walks worse than any other woman. The French woman steps out with lightness and ease; the American with a fine strength and an air as if the pavement belonged to her, and should be honored by the tread of her little feet.

An Englishwoman, if I may so express myself, is handicapped by her feet. Hers are far, very far, from the neatest known, and her mauve hose is showing them to a watchful world, how natural.

Poor thing, she is too often in a hurry. She does more in her day than any other woman, and it is not possible to be graceful while hurrying.

Walk slowly (says a master of deportment), with a easy swing, but with a swing, head back and your weight on each foot in turn. Take care not to rob yourself of inches by giving at the knees. Proceed with a back on your head at home, and be as graceful as possible in a public place.

Thinking About Furs. Just now the mind is busy to rove in thoughts of furs.

There is nothing like a fur to give a woman a sense of security. A fur is a woman's best friend, and she always with us. Furs must be enjoyed for a brief season, says the Philadelphia Record.

med with clusters of velvet fruit. A turban in prospect is to be made entirely of sable, with a cluster of tangerines at the left side.

Grapes will be in high favor, too. Delicate green grapes are to be placed on hats of ermine and of black broad cloth. So are grapes of other colors, and if, perchance, the fur doesn't fit the color scheme it will be dyed.

FOR THE GRAY-HAIRED. While there are many types of gray-haired women they all fall into two general classes: Those who are prematurely gray young women, and those whose white hair is quite legitimate and indicates an honorable old age.

Dark greens in both olive and varieties, dark silk blues and purples, as well as quite dark reds, are effective. There is a brown approaching a fawn color that may be worn, but as a rule browns are not becoming to those with gray hair.

WEARING SINGLE ROSE. New York belles have set the fashion of wearing a single rose instead of a nosegay. The blossom is, of course, the most perfect to be found, and is worn where it will produce the most artistic or startling effect.

THE STITCH IN TIME. If you spy a tiny hole in your glove mend it without delay that it may not increase in size. Mend it on the inside of the glove with fine cotton of the same color as the kid.

BE CAREFUL OF YOUR HAIR. Don't meddle with the color and the beauty of your hair. If the locks were defective there would be some reason for fixing up the color. You can lighten the color by washing the tresses with about a quart of water in which a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda has been dissolved.

HOUSEWIVES TO BLAME. Miss Anna Barrows, in a recent lecture at Chautauqua, gives another reason why girls should study domestic science. She says in the matter of pure food it is the ignorance of the consumer rather than the duplicity of the producer that is to blame.

NEW USE FOR LOVE LETTERS. As a reasonable wedding at Lynchburg, Va., a little boy and girl were called the bride and bridegroom by the aisle of the church, each carrying a silk pillow stuffed with the love letters of the bride pair.

THE GAME OF SNIP. Snip is a game that is played with dominoes if any be played with three, four, five or seven pieces, but the most interesting game is when four or five play. With four two may be partners. All the dominoes are put face down on the table.

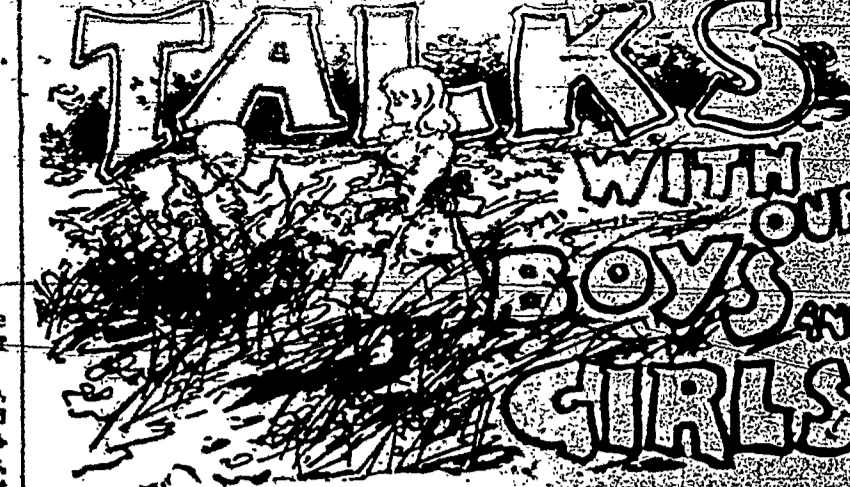
ALPHABET TRIPS. A game that requires no material and no preparation, but may be played off-hand, is sometimes just the thing to know, particularly at a party. Here is one that the older boys and girls would enjoy. Let us call it "Alphabet Trips."

PRIZE PROBLEM. The peace began simply enough. Nellie wanted to help Dorothy cut out a doll's dress, but they couldn't agree how it was to be done.

GAME OF BIRD SELLERS. The game of bird sellers is played as follows: The children stand in a row, leaving two outside. These two represent the bird dealers. Each child represents a bird—one being a crow, another a crane, another a canary, and so on.

AN ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY. There lived in Bologna, Italy, over 100 years ago, a learned student, Dr. Galvani by name. On one occasion he was making a scientific experiment with frogs. After they were dead, wishing to dry them, he pierced them with little brass rods and hung them on the iron railing of his balcony.

CHRISTNUTS A PAYING CROP. The boys may be interested to know that chestnuts prove a very profitable crop. Experts claim that an orchard of chestnuts will yield greater returns to the owner than an apple orchard of the same size, as the nuts are retained on the trees for more than a year.



TALKS WITH OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

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