

HELPS GOLDBRICK TRADE.

The Loss of a Bar of Pure Metal Is a Fine Thing for the Confidence Man.

The loss of a bar of gold recently by an employe of a firm of assayers prompted some pessimistic remarks by an officer of the United States assay office. He said the recovery of the bar was of no importance, so far as his theory was concerned, reports the New York Sun.

"Every time the loss of a gold bar is advertised," said this officer, "it means a harvest to the hustling gold brick man. He clips the notice and the news items bearing on it and sends them with a fetching letter to a carefully selected clientele.

"The letter is always a work of art. It tells how the writer, who is honest but unfortunate, found the bar, or 'brick,' as it is usually called, and feels that he is entitled to more than the reward ordinarily forthcoming from the loser. For this reason he offers it to the recipient of the letter, who is assured of a handsome profit if he will make the trip to town.

"One of the recipients will accept, and as the false bar bears something like the United States seal and the advertised number of the lost bar, the details of the scheme are easily carried through.

"The recovery of the bar within a day or two, as happened in the present case and almost every other, doesn't matter, as the clientele seldom read the metropolitan dailies.

"We expect to receive any number of letters from now on regarding this bar. Often the fake bars are brought in for our inspection, but nearly always too late. They have been paid for. In the case of letters, we advise the writers to go easy before buying; or, if the case is one where the bar has been recovered, we say so very emphatically."

VARYING SIZES OF FISH.

Surprising Fact Concerning Separate Species Learned at the New York Aquarium.

There are big fish and little adult fish of the same species, as there are big men and little men. Strange and unaccountable as it may seem, it is a demonstrated fact that there are fish of the same species and of the same age which differ greatly in size. In some cases it is possible to explain why there is a disparity in size. At the aquarium, for instance, there are fish which have not grown for several years, which would have increased in size had they been in their native habitat. In their cases it is known that their confinement has something to do with this failure to grow.

A visitor to the biological laboratory of the New York aquarium a few days ago was surprised to be told that a fish in one of the round glass jars, which was only an inch or thereabouts in length, was more than a year old. Such a fish in its native waters probably would have been four or five inches long, he was told.

That there is also an unaccountable reason for this difference in the size of fish was shown by Mr. Spencer, who has charge of the aquarium. "You would be surprised to know," said he, "that in fish hatcheries you will often find fish of the same kind and the same age which are not at all alike in size. Some will be only half as long as the others. Sometimes it is necessary to take out the smaller ones, because the larger ones swallow them."

RAVINIA.

Mr. Henry K. Coale, of Highland Park, entertained the pupils of Miss Bastine's school at Ravinia last Friday afternoon with a phonograph entertainment. The school building was well filled with an appreciative audience. Among the fifty selections was a part of our late president's last speech, which was very interesting. Mr. Coale was requested to give certain selections a second time, to which he good-naturedly responded. Judge Comstock was much pleased, judging from the merry twinkle in his eye, especially when the children sang several little songs, much to the credit of their teacher.

It is needless to say the entertainment was a success, and Mr. Coale has been requested to repeat the program this afternoon, at the Lincoln Avenue school, to Prof. McKenzie's and Miss Russell's pupils. Friends are cordially invited. The following program will be rendered:

PART 1.

Buffalo, Church Chimes, Circus Parades, Carlisle Indians Band Concert.

PART 2.

Temple of Music, McKinley Memorial, Ball at the Hotel Bellevue.

PART 3.

The Midway, Mexican Village, West Point, Review by General Miles.

PART 4.

West Point Military Band Concert, Georgia Minstrels and Miscellaneous.

A running talk on scenes at the Pan-American Exposition, illustrated with a specially chosen selection of fifty instrumental and other records on the Victor phonograph.

Spotted Dogs Out of Style.

The old black and white spotted Dalmatian dogs, better known as "coach dogs," that were so numerous and popular throughout the United States from 1869 to 1882, inclusive, appear to have become extinct in this country, having, like the Newfoundland, which has shared the same fate, gone out of style.

Improved Health for the Reader

No medicine. No surgery. Enclose 2-cent stamp for reply, or call at office in Hotel Meham, east from Highwood Depot, from 2 to 4 p. m. week days. None refused instruction, rich or poor. Consultation and one lesson free at office.

PROF. H. S. GAIL,

BOX 81

HIGHWOOD, LAKE CO., ILLINOIS

The following pupils cheerfully recommend Prof. Gail to all sufferers: A. W. Fletcher, P. M. at Highland Park, Ill.; W. E. Cummings, P. M. at Highwood, Ill.; Mr. John Beschke; Mrs. Mary Beschke; Mrs. A. C. Webster.

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