

IT has often been said of writers, as of ministers, that the motto: "Do as I say, and not as I do," would be quite applicable. This saying, however, will not apply to FRITZ BAHR of Highland Park, Ill., the gentleman who writes "The Week's Work" for "The Florists Exchange", as recently, in competition with noted growers at the Chicago show, he came out first and was presented a **SPECIAL SILVER MEDAL** awarded by the **Society of American Florists** for a display of specimen flowering plants, one or more varieties, size and quality of individual plants to be considered. This demonstrates that Fritz Bahr not only has the ability to write advice worth reading, but also that he can produce the goods.

The above is a copy of an editorial of "The Florists' Exchange" of May 3, 1913, the National Florists' Journal of America, published in New York for which the "Home Town" Florist has been contributing cultural notes every week for the last 6 years and while he gets well paid for this you will always find him ready to offer suggestions free of charge on any question pertaining to gardening. If you don't know just what to do, why not ask the man who knows? Yes, he likes to have you buy your flowers, seeds and shrubs from him, but whether you do or not you will find him always ready to help along with sound advice so that you may be successful. Two minutes spent over telephone 85 might save you disappointment, time and money.

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FALL OF THE INCAS.

Fate of the Great Race That Has Left Only Traces Behind.

What became of the people who built the Cuzeo ruins? Were they the ancestors of "those stolid and down-trodden Indians whom one sees today peddling their rude wares in the market place of Cuzeo?" Mr. Bryce discusses the question in his "South America." He says:

"The sudden fall of a whole race is an event so rare in history that one seeks for explanations. It may be that not only the royal Inca family, but nearly the whole ruling class, was destroyed in war, leaving only the peasants, who had already been serfs under their native sovereigns. But one is disposed to believe that the tremendous catastrophe which befell them in the destruction of one of their dynasties, their empire and their religion by fierce conquerors, incomparably superior in energy and knowledge, completely broke not only the spirit of the nation, but the self respect of the individuals who composed it.

"They were already a docile and submissive people, and now under a new tyranny, far harsher than that of rulers of their own blood, they sank into hopeless apathy and ceased to remember what their forefathers had been. The intensity of their devotion to their sovereign and their deity made them helpless when both were overthrown, leaving them nothing to turn to, nothing to strive for.

"The conquistadores were wise in their hateful way when they put forth the resources of cruelty to outrage the feelings of the people and stamp terror in their hearts."

VALUE OF GRASSES.

They Are in a Measure the Most Useful Plants in the World.

Probably the grasses are the most useful plants in the world. It may be that more than half the individual plants in the world are grasses. It is a great family of more than 3,500 species, embracing species that are so tiny that they hardly reach an inch in height and giant bamboos of the tropics that sometimes grow to be 100 feet or more.

Corn is a giant grass, and wheat, rye, oats, barley, rice and sugar cane are all grasses. There are also millets, sorghum, Kaffir corn, broom corn—all grasses.

The number of species of grasses is enormous, yet we have adapted into our system of agriculture but a few sorts. In part that is due to the ease or difficulty of seeding grasses. Timothy grass, for example, is so easily sown and the seed so easily gathered that it is soon set of any and has become the standard hay grass of northern climes.

in some regions or Kentucky one grass is the almost universal pasture grass because it comes in of itself. In other regions with different soil (poor and lacking in lime) red-top has possession. Naturally the farmer follows the line of least resistance, for it is by no means certain that he has adopted into his agriculture all the best grasses that nature has provided. Some day we shall do more toward using now neglected grasses. — Joseph E. Wing in "Meadows and Pastures."

The Glacial Epochs.

Several times in recent years it has been observed that great explosive volcanic eruptions (Kilauea, Pico, Katmai) by changing the upper atmosphere, in the isothermal region with fine dust have markedly diminished the amount of solar radiation received at the earth's surface. It seems evident, according to Professor W. J. Humphreys, that the effect of this process must be to reduce the temperature of the air near the earth, since the dust scatters a great amount of the solar radiation. Thus a period of excessive volcanic activity, if long continued, would produce the thermal conditions of an ice age. The geological record is said to furnish evidence that such a period actually began shortly before the last ice age and has continued with diminishing intensity to the present time.

Changing Tastes in Perfumes.

Perfumes were in common use in the ancient world, but it is curious to notice how views have changed as to the pleasantness or otherwise of various odors. The smell of aloes is now considered disagreeable by the majority of people, but in the old days aloes, both as solid extract and as wood, formed a staple perfume or aromatic. Saffron, too, was the most popular perfume of the Romans and was much in favor in England until about the sixteenth century. But who would tolerate the smell of saffron about house or person nowadays?—London Chronicle.

The Old Time Foundry.

An auctioneer at a late sale of antiquities put up a helmet with the following candid observation:

"This, ladies and gentlemen, is a helmet of Romulus, the Roman founder, but whether he was a brass or iron founder I cannot tell." — St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Fault of the Auto.

Hiram—The doctor says Ezra is suffering from auto-intoxication. Silas—Guess that's it, b'gosh! The feller acted just like any one else until he got that automobile. —Judge.

Be wise today. The madness to defer.—Young

COFFINS FOR DEAD PETS.

Funerals, Too, and Private Cemeteries and Crematoriums.

British society women are getting more and more eccentric in the attention that they bestow upon their dead pets. One titled lady keeps in a prominent position two dead dog sets embalmed in glass coffins in her drawing room.

Certain London undertakers reap a considerable part of their income by making coffins for pets. These are often satin lined, the animal's head rests on a satin cushion, and maybe its "face" is covered with a lace handkerchief. Wreaths and flowers are used, and where burial takes place in a cemetery a hearse is sometimes engaged. The monumental masons also benefit.

Many people prefer cremation for their pets, and there are many number of veterinary surgeons who have a crematorium fitted up. In some cases the ashes, canine or feline, as the case may be, are inclosed in a beautiful jeweled urn. A favorite bird is sometimes buried in a bed of cotton wool.

The well known 'pets' cemetery in Hyde Park is now full, but there are plenty of similar cemeteries throughout the country. There is one, for instance, at Huntington, and another at Haverhill, in Suffolk. In addition to this, there are hundreds of gardens in London where headstones marking the last resting place of some departed pet can be seen.—Brooklyn Eagle.

FEATS IN DIVING.

Combination Somersaults of the Expert Swedish Swimmers.

The Swedes delight in "combination diving," and two men will perform many clever feats together. One of the most grotesque of these is when one man stands upright on a springboard and tightly grasps another man's body around the waist, holding his head downward and putting his own head through the man's legs. When the upright man springs from the board he throws his legs into the air so that the two men, clasping each other tightly round the waist, turn a somersault, and when they reach the water the man who started upside down arrives feet foremost.

The headspring dive is a very effective specialty of Swedish swimmers. The performer takes off from the diving board with hands instead of feet, turning his body in order to descend feet foremost or somersaulting to arrive head downward.

Very graceful also is the back dive, in which the spring is made backward, the body turning toward the spring-board.

Double somersault divers are made from platforms thirty to fifty feet high, the diver making two turns in the air and entering the water feet foremost.

A Heavy Collar.

The heaviest burden which the French president has to bear during his tenure of office is the collar which he wears as grand master of the Legion of Honor, an office which is always filled by the ruler of France. The collar consists of medals, each the size of a franc, engraved with the arms of the principal French towns and joined together by a massive chain, the links of which are fashioned to represent bundles of fletors' rods. Attached to the chain is a cross close on two feet in length. As the decoration is made throughout of solid gold, its weight is enormous, and diminutive presidents, such as MM. Thiers and Louvet, found it almost unwearable. Fortunately the president is not often called upon to cumble himself with it. The only occasion when M. Louvet wore his grand master's collar appears to have been the day he was invested.—London Chronicle.

Dog Heroes.

At a recent dog show in London one department had a row of kennels in which was exhibited a line of "dog heroes," dogs that had served humanity in a noble way. These canine nobles proved to be the great feature of the show. Among these, all authenticated cases of noble conduct, were a Scotch collie that had saved a child from being run over in the street; an Irish terrier that had guarded the body of an old woman who had died from exposure; a collie that had saved a child from drowning and an Air-fale that had saved his master from being stabbed by a Norwegian sailor.

Slow Chap.

"Yes," laughed the girl with the pink parasol, "he is the slowest young man I ever saw."

"In what way, dear?" asked her chum.

"Why, he asked for a kiss, and I told him I wore one of those knotted veils that take so long to loosen."

"And what did he do?"

"Why, the goose took time to untie the knot."—Mack's Monthly.

Good Business.

Very Young Man You wouldn't think it, but I've just paid \$25,000 in cash for a house, and it was all made by my own pluck and perseverance. Young Lady—Really? What business are you in? Very Young Man—I'm a son-in-law.—London Tit-Bits.

Rolling in Wealth.

"Is he rich?"

"I didn't think so, but he must be."

"Why?"

"I heard him say the other night that he lets his wife have all the money she wants."—Detroit Free Press.

Hope and patience are sovereign remedies for all troubles.—Burton.

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