

**Thinking Out Loud**

9,000 girls in Ireland have joined a modest crusade and promise not to wear short skirts. We may prepare ourselves to these shores.

Fred Elmenberger of Berlin talked for 120 hours in succession, sleeping only eight hours in between, and wasn't even hoarse at the finish. This seems remarkable to those who have never heard an American Senator.

An Iowan has chucked up his business in disgust because he has been robbed six times since 1914. Chicagoans have it all over him in endurance!

Every tramp seeking shelter at the poorhouse at Chelmsford, Eng., must submit to a cold shower bath. This automatically, we presume, solves the problem of overcrowding.

Quantities of soap have been discovered in Moscow bearing portraits of the Czar, and the Russians are greatly shocked. What we wonder at is how they came to notice it.

Rumor has it that Lindberg is about to marry. We always felt he had courage.

Delegates to the Carnegie Institute convention at Pittsburgh envisioned houses built entirely of coal. If it's the kind of coal some of us have been getting, we may be sure these houses won't burn down.

Definition: A politician is a man who blames it on the weather when the crops are bad and then takes the credit himself when they are good.

An 85-year-old Chicago woman has just obtained a divorce. Probably started proceedings when she was 25.

Einstein, discoverer of the Relativity of Space and Time, says he is on the eve of making a new announcement that will shock the world. But no one who can understand Einstein could be shocked!

**USE PEPPER PLANT PRODUCTS VARIOUSLY**

**STRANGE CUSTOMS TOLD**

**Interesting Facts Related in Regard to Exhibit of These Plants in Field Museum; Many Species**

A highly intoxicating drink, a poison for killing rats, a narcotic to be placed in water to drug fish thus making them easy to catch, a local anaesthetic used in the crude surgery practiced by primitive peoples, a wrapper for the betel nut pulp which is the chewing tobacco of many tribes in tropical countries, ointments, cubeb, and other medicinal materials—these are all products of pepper plants, known mainly as the source only of a seasoning for foods.

An exhibit showing a pepper vine as it appears in life, and a collection of some important pepper products, constitute one of the features of the hall of plant life at Field Museum of Natural History. The exhibit is made up largely of material secured by the Captain Marshall Field Brazilian expedition.

**Many Species**  
There are approximately 1,300 species of peppers in the world, according to Dr. B. E. Dahlgren, acting curator of botany. About one-half of these are indigenous to South America; the rest to the old world, particularly the Oriental tropics. The American green and red peppers, so-called, are not members of the true pepper family at all, but belong to the potato family. Dr. Dahlgren points out. The common black and white peppers in general table use are products of the same plant, the white pepper being made from the same berries as the black, but with the husks removed before grinding.

The favorite intoxicating beverage of the natives of Polynesia is a pungent sort of grog made from the

root of the kava, a variety of pepper. This they often drink until they fall unconscious. Another variety of pepper, called "cuba," is used by aboriginal people in Peru to poison rats, and to stupefy fish. The Javanese and other betel nut chewing peoples wrap the nut in the green leaves of a pepper vine. Cubeb, used in cigarettes made for people with respiratory ailments, is a pepper plant product from the East Indies. Indies of

the western coast of America have found a similar pepper plant useful in their native medicines.

Ben Johnson invited a chorus-girl out after the show. "Ah," he said soulfully, "Drink to me only with thine eyes." Next day the coryphees' union boycotted Ben and resolved that he was a tightwad.

You may have noticed, though not giving the matter much thought, there are more full-length photographs since the dawn of the short skirt.—Toledo Blade.

An Ann Arbor, Mich., court has ruled that golf is educational. Without it some men would have practically no knowledge of profanity.—Springfield Ohio, Sun.

A man who detected a piece of bark in a sausage visited the butcher shop to find what had become of the rest of the dog.

The butcher was so affected that he could only give a part of the tale.

Now that we are having so many dancing contests and beauty contests why wouldn't it be a good idea to start a biscuit baking or dish washing contest?

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