

For Long Nights

MIRROR DRAWING

When you are entertaining friends and there is time for a simple diversion, set them to draw a square by looking through a mirror. Stand a little mirror on the table, with a sheet of paper in front, and ask various members to draw a square on the paper. They should look only at the reflection of the pencil through the mirror, and probably they will be greatly surprised at the difficulty of so apparently easy a task of making the square accurately.

HIDDEN COUNTRIES

In the following sentences there are number of countries hidden. See if you can find them.

1. His words we denied, for they were untrue.
2. Do not call it a lyre, it is a lute.
3. He saw his pa in the train.
4. Can Ada come out to play?
5. I agree, cement is stronger than plaster.

Here are the answers in order: 1. Sweden. 2. Italy. 3. Spain. 4. Canada. 5. Greece.

SO EASY, TRY IT

Place two objects, such as an apple and orange, sweets, cotton reels, etc., on the table about 2 feet apart and 1 foot from the edge, and ask any member of the party if he or she can change their positions without allowing them to pass or touch each other. At first glance the problem will probably appear insoluble, and one after another the players will confess themselves beaten. And yet how easy is the task. Stand with your back to the table, pick up an object in each hand, turn round, and put them in opposite positions. See!

DART RACES

This little game is ever so exciting, both for boys and for girls. First you must draw a long chalk line on the playground, marking it at intervals with numbers from 10 to 50.

Now the game is for each player to make his own dart out of paper and try to make it fly farther than any of the others along the chalk line. Of course, he takes the number nearest the spot where his dart falls for his score.

The player who is cleverest at making darts is usually the winner.

A SKEIN-HOLDER

The boy readers can easily make a little wool skein-holder for mummy if they have a box of tools and a good stout piece of wood about one inch thick and about eight by five inches in size.

Now there will be two large cotton-reels needed and two long screws. The cotton-reels must be fastened to each end of the board, with the screws resting on two large beads so that they will rotate freely. Now when a skein of wool is placed over the reels, it can be wound off quite easily by one person.

A GOOD CATCH

To catch your friend with this little trick, you must first of all find a meat skewer and sharpen it at both ends. Now present it to a friend, together with a cent, and then say to him:

"Can you put this coin on either end of this stick and then rest the stick on a table?"

Of course, your friend will find it much too difficult to balance the coin on the stick, and will be sure to give it up and challenge you to do it.

Then all you need do is to place the cent on the table and press one end of the stick on to it.

"You see, I said put the penny on either end of the stick!" you laugh.—Sent by Elsie Lane.

SINGING PROVERBS

In case you have a nasty wet day while you are on holiday from school, I want to tell you of a jolly game you can play indoors. Though I hope very much that you don't need to stay indoors at all.

One player must go out of the room and the rest stay inside. While he or she is away you think of some proverb, say 'A stitch in time saves nine.' One of the players must go round to the others and give them each one of the words in the proverb. One, you see, will have "A," another "stitch," another "in," and so on.

Call the player into the room and then all start singing your own particular word to some tune arranged, such as "Rule, Britannia." You don't sing only "Rule, Britannia," of course, but your own word to that tune. Supposing you are "stitch," you sing "Stitch, stich," all to the tune.

The player who has come into the room has to walk round and listen and try and guess what the proverb is. He has three guesses, and when he guesses right the player who gave him the clue is sent out of the room, and you choose another proverb and start all over again.

JESTER!

This is ever such a jolly game for

the fields or the playground. Any number of players may take part in the game, and first of all one of them is chosen to be the Jester. Now this player must have a short stick to which is tied a small balloon.

Now, before the game begins all the other players must form in a ring round the Jester, and then he runs forward and tries to hit any player on the head with the balloon. Of course, the others run off and dodge about; but if any of them happens to be hit, then they must give up their handkerchiefs to the Jester, who slips them into his pocket with just the ends sticking out. Now if the players are clever enough to dodge round the Jester while he is changing the others and slip their handkerchiefs from his pocket without being hit, they may join in the game again. The game finishes when the Jester has taken the handkerchiefs of all the players.

A BALLOON GAME

I know you are all very fond of balloons. All children are. It would be rather fun to have a game with your balloon one morning on the beach, wouldn't it, chicks? Just a simple little game, where you could all join in.

Just stick your spades in the sand about twelve feet apart, with the handles uppermost. Then tie a piece of string from one handle to the other. Two players begin, one at either side of the string. One pats the balloon over to the other. The first one to allow it to fall to the ground falls out of the game, and another player takes his place. As each player falls out another one comes in, so you keep on playing until you have all had your turn, when you start all over again.

And you will find it a task getting the balloon over the string. You see, being so light, it will not always do just what you want it to. Which, of course, adds to the fun of the game.

Ships' Oil Kills Birds in England

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds of Great Britain has begun a campaign to protect the birds that fly about the coastal waters from the menace of oil discharged by passing ships. A recent discovery of eighty birds dead from the exhaustion of carrying a weight of the oil has caused a wave of complaint. The Board of Trade has made several attempts to remedy the situation, private individuals have spread propaganda, and many public protests have been registered. The fisheries also have complained.

The British Admiralty, it is pointed out, uses an oil separator which sends overboard not more than one pint of oil to 200,000 parts of water. Many persons are demanding that all oil-driven steamers be compelled to use such a device. It is pointed out, incidentally, that its use would in two years save in oil the cost of installing the device.

The Royal Society makes it plain that sentimentality is not the only reason for wishing to save the birds, as the present condition brings an unpleasant clutter on the shores. One of the typical letters of protest reads:

"A gentleman called at my house last week with a young Guillemot which could not fly because its wings were clogged with oil. My wife washed it with soap and water and my little boy took it down to the sea; it went off quite happily. A few hours later the same gentleman brought another helpless bird, but this, though treated in the same manner, died."

Royal Families Can Trace Ancestors to Eleventh Century

Research Shows That Aristocracy Continues Line in Health and Wealth

Royalty and old families do not die out because of their age, neither do they become degenerate and sterile because of their wealth and power. Facts taken from the history of the British peerage furnish proof of this, in contradiction to popular notions about inherited wealth and position.

Since families and family names continue only in the male line, many old families have become extinct only because all the children of one generation were girls. It is not fair to say that old families are dying out because certain names are no longer found in the peerage. On the other side of the picture, it was found that over half of the British peers of 1921 trace a continuously aristocratic descent in the direct male line to as early as the year 1450.

Every instinct and desire of powerful and wealthy families would tend, biologically, toward their growth in strength and numbers. Dr. Woods points out, mentioning the desire for children, particularly sons, and the selective mating of aristocratic families, a matter designed to strengthen the family.

While nine out of a certain ten old families may have died out, due to a preponderance of girl children, the remaining one will have branched out and ramified until fully ten important families of to-day can trace their descent from it in the male line. An example of this is the great number of aristocratic families, including twelve peers, descended from the old Stewart family of Scotland, the originator of the family line being the first steward of the King of Scotland. Thus in actual numbers, a balance is kept, and aristocracy as a whole, as well as royalty, does not die out because of any degeneracy or weakness due to its rank or wealth.

Of the royal families of to-day, both reigning and non-reigning, nearly every one, through the male line, "shows a continuous position of nobility or royalty traceable as early as the eleventh century." Three or four thousand members of various royalties are living in Europe to-day and they are all having large families.—Kansas City Star's Science Service.

Better to Rest

"If a certain day on the road has been a particular hard one with detours, slow travel, etc., says Robert Page Lincoln in the December issue of "Forest and Stream," then lay over the succeeding day and rest up. You will find that your outlook on the world will then be the rosier and you will re-enter upon your adventure with the same zest as when you set out. The road is no place for frayed or tired nerves."

To-day

Build a little fence of trust
Around to-day,
Fill the space with loving work,
And therein stay.

Look not through the sheltering bars
Upon to-morrow;
God will help thee bear what comes
Of Joy and Sorrow.

—M. S. Butts.

Add to animal rarities: Ocean greyhounds that bark and green bay horses.

Spanish King's Son May be Educated in English School

Owing to Ill Health of Older Brothers, Don Juan Carlos May Succeed Father

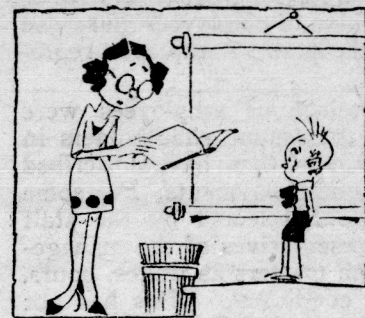
London.—Queen Victoria of Spain is in England investigating the possibilities of educating her third son, Don Carlos, in one of the famous British schools. Whether or not the youngest boy will be educated as the future king of Spain or merely as one of the sons of the present monarch is an open question.

The Spanish dictator, General Primo de Rivera, has picked Don Juan to support his father on the throne when the proper time comes, but King Alfonso has not yet agreed to the plan. The tragedy of hereditary ill health in the Spanish royal family, which is responsible for the delicate condition of the two elder sons, has made the question of succession to the crown one of great political importance in Spain.

The first boy, the Prince of the Asturias, who is now twenty-one years old, has been ill for the greater part of his life. He suffers from haemophilia. The slightest cut on the skin may cause a person so afflicted to bleed to death, as the blood, lacking a necessary element, refuses to congeal and close the wound. The prince, therefore, has to be particularly careful with knives and forks. The king's second son, Don Jaime, is afflicted with a disorder of the ear, and he was taught with difficulty to speak.

The third son, however, is a healthy boy. Don Juan is fifteen years old and has been able to take part in every form of sport. The King of Spain and the nobility of Spain oppose the dictator's idea of declaring Don Juan the Crown Prince. His majesty says that Don Juan is too young to be made the formal heir yet. The Spanish nobles feel that delicate health should not bar the two elder sons to succession. They also argue that no decision need be made at the moment, as the King of Spain is comparatively young.

Another stumbling block to settlement of the question is the ancient loyalty of the royal house to the Parliament. His majesty would prefer the Spanish Cortes, which occupies much the same position these days as the Italian Chamber of Deputies a s regards actual power, to debate the matter and thus give the new heir, when chosen, the support of its approval.



TO STOP HER, OF COURSE

Teacher: Why should we put a full stop after the sentence. "The woman said she was going after him with a stick?"

Pupil: Why—er—to keep her from going too far.

Thanks

Thanks are justly due for things got without purchase.—Ovid.

Hungary's Man of Iron, a British Admiral



INDULGED IN A SMILE AT POLO MATCH IN BUDAPEST

An unusual glimpse of Admiral Horthy, regent of Hungary, who is seldom seen smiling or laughing. He is conversing with a society lady during a polo match, a new sport for Hungary, but one which is becoming extremely popular.

Plan to Convert Lewis Island Bog Into Fertile Land

Reclamation of 250 Square Miles in Hebrides Proposed by Visitor From Canada

London.—Two hundred and fifty square miles of barren peat-bog in the island of Lewis, one of the Hebrides off the coast of Scotland, are promised conversion into fertile agricultural land by a scheme disclosed by T. B. Macaulay, president of the Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada.

Mr. Macaulay's parents went from Stornoway, Lewis Island, to Canada, and he has made several gifts to their native town. In an interview in London, where he has been on a visit, Mr. Macaulay said he had about 20 acres of peat land growing fine crops on his Canadian farm. Sir Robert Greig, chairman of the Scottish Board of Agriculture, had visited the farm, and asked if it was the same peat as existed in Stornoway.

"I told him it was, but more fibrous and therefore less useful for agriculture," said Mr. Macaulay. "I was able to add that, nevertheless, by draining and removing the top surface the peat land had been made into the most productive on my farm. The French Canadians have thousands of acres of land like it. They call it 'black-land.'"

"Sir Robert saw the importance of this discovery, and has since been conducting experiments at Locharmoss, near Dumfries.

"He now believes that with draining, the Lewis Island peat soil can be made as productive as mine.

"There are about 1,000 square miles of land in Lewis, of which 950 are worthless at present. Suppose we could out of that save 250 square miles—I believe we could reclaim at least 400 square miles—then you have a bit of agricultural land 25 miles by 10.

"All kinds of root and leaf crops flourish on the soil. Vegetables of every kind grow on it, and the hay crop is splendid."

Good Advice

Protect Your Heart Through Proper Exercise

When that heart of yours enters the field meet for the running hop, skip and jump don't be greatly alarmed says Walter E. Colby in the current issue of "Physical Culture." It's probably not heart palpitation but intestinal trouble all of which is your own fault, he says.

Most everybody who gives exercise the go-go has intestinal stasis in some form. He suggests a remedy that is homemade, economical and guaranteed to cure.

"Comes the morning. A couple of glasses of water, not too cold, taken slowly," advises Colby. "You will find that your torsal gyrations will urge this water through your troublesome big intestine and be almost as good as a physic. Stand with your feet about eighteen inches apart, hands on hips, rotate your torso seven times in one direction and seven times in the other. In the same standing position, stretch your arms straight above your head, clasp your fingers and rotate your torso or upper part of your body in the same way.

"In the same standing position, with hands on hips, bend from the hips backward and forward as far as you can, seven times in each direction. In all these exercises, remember to tense and relax your muscles alternately as you proceed. Keep your mind on the pit of your stomach continually. Rest a moment or two between each exercise, relaxing completely and taking a few deep breaths, slowly.

"Then, inevitably, comes the time-worn trick of bending over and trying to touch the floor with the tips of your fingers. This in itself has always been accepted as a good exercise, but as an integral part of our system for the cure of intestinal stasis, it is particularly effective." This all applies to the farmer as well as the city man.

Advice for the Ignorant

When a physician orders you to keep away from cigarettes, he is not suggesting that you purchase a long cigarette holder.

The initial cost of an automobile has nothing whatever to do with the engraved initials placed upon doors.

Many who are thinking about a trip abroad have little intention of leaving home this year. The world always has had its great thinkers.

Gushing Lady Visitor—"How sweet to see the tender green of the young snowdrops pushing up through the brown earth." Cottager—"Yes'm, but what you're a-looking at is the autumn spring onions."