

NOW IT'S "PING POODLE."

New Game with Which Suburbanites Amaze Themselves on the Train Going Home.

Have you ever played "ping poodle?" If you are a commuter and don't know anything about the game you are behind the times. Most of the suburbanites are now indulging in "ping poodle" with as much enthusiasm as they formerly displayed over their games of whist or pitch, reports a Chicago exchange.

"Ping poodle" is simply an elaboration of that venerable child's game, known as "spots." A square is made with any given number of spots in it. Then these spots are made into smaller squares by means of pencil marks. The man who has to fill out the last square loses the game.

On the suburban trains each spot usually counts for five cents, and the lower must pay the winner the sum of the spots. If there are 64 spots in a square, the man who makes the last pencil mark must produce \$3.20. The other day a number of railroad men were playing "ping poodle" when a suburbanite who lives at the farthest station on the line division appeared. When the game had been explained to him he insisted upon playing 128 instead of 64 spots. It was an hour before the game was finished, and then the new-comer found that he owed his opponent just \$3.40. But the veteran "ping poodler" had passed his own station during the excitement of the game, and as he was unable to catch an incoming train, he was obliged to spend the night with his victim, who after much persuasion finally agreed not to pay his loss.

WOMEN AT POTTERS' WHEEL.

Classes Being Formed All Over the Country for the Purpose of Learning the Art.

The newest outlet for women's energy is pottery making. The famous Rockwood works were started by a woman, and many women are now turning their attention to the possibilities of the wheel, combined with deft fingers and delicate fancy, in the manipulation and designing of clay, reports the Brooklyn Eagle.

All over the country women are becoming interested in pottery making. Classes are being formed and find enthusiastic students ready to cin them. Several classes are already in operation in Brooklyn, and are giving time to the acquisition of this practical art. A local artist, who is a member of one of these pottery classes, says:

"The work is and will be for some time to come crude and imperfect, but there is so much enthusiasm manifested and promise of good work to come, that the outlook is very promising. It is proposed to have courses in pottery connected with china painting societies. This will be a great step in the right direction for them, china painters will not be dependent on conventional shapes in pottery, and the necessity of the same design being used over and over again, but each woman can design and model her own pieces, and thus give opportunity for the introduction of original types."

CREAM DOWN HIS BACK.

But the Duke of Fife Was Not Discouraged by Awkwardness of the Server.

M. Bortsch, the enterer for the Carlton club, the fashionable London organization much patronized by royalty, had an amusing experience with the Duke of Fife, son-in-law of King Edward, while the latter was at Ebury, says a London paper. "I was waiting on the Duke of Fife one evening," said M. Bortsch, "when his grace was giving a small private dinner party in the parlour-room. There was hardly room to pass behind each guest. The soup was Bortsch—a costly Russian potage made from boiled duck and served with sorrel, vegetables and cream—and just as I was serving it round an accident happened. In one hand I had a plate of soup and in the other my cream. The duke was talking earnestly to me and so I tentatively did I listen to him that I did not know I was dropping all the cream in a hideous thick stream down his back. What did I do? I made no fuss and gave no alarm. The duke went on talking and laughing with his guests with the back of his exquisitely-fitting dress coat one mass of thick cream. I got two or three soft serviettes and as I served his grace with each course I gave him a rub. By the time we had come to the fee there was nothing left of the cream except certain faint traces, for which I fear, his grace's valet was unjustly blamed."

The Army Baked Bean.

"Beans are the soldiers' mainstay," says Thomas P. Dillon, a retired United States cavalry officer. "The American soldier, at a pinch, can equal the performance of an Arab on a handful of dried dates—he can ride and fight all day on a mere handful of beans, properly prepared. There is nothing to equal the army baked bean."

Little Iron In Japan.

The Kobe Chronicle, speaking of the imperial iron foundry in Japan, says that it has proved a failure because of the limited supply of ore in that country, and that the government hopes to secure the privilege of working the rich Hangang iron mines in China.

Atmospheric Elements.

Besides oxygen, nitrogen and carbonic acid, there are present in the atmosphere five other elements—argon, neon, helium, krypton and xenon.

TITLES WERE UP FOR SALE.

French Nobleman Conferred Knighthood and Decorations on All Who Would Buy.

Prince de Vitanval is a man of courage and imagination. He is a young Frenchman, whose real name is Laforge, who has just returned to Paris after serving a six months' sentence for unlawfully selling orders of nobility. His history, says the New York Commercial Advertiser, is interesting as showing what a young man of imagination and courage can do. A year or so ago he began to negotiate with the Vatican for a title. Had he a penniless youth, asked for a simple knighthood of St. Gregory he might have had some trouble in getting it, but his aim was higher than that. He asked for the title of prince. The papal nuncio said it would cost him \$10,000, and he requested the nuncio to get the patent. The Vatican made him prince and he forgot to pay for the honor, which minor fact, however, has not invalidated his title.

As soon as he got his title he organized an order of knighthood, which he called the "Order of St. Leon," and began to sell titles for this at a good price to any one who wanted to buy. A decoration is very dear to a certain class of Frenchmen, and the prince prospered so much that he contemplated buying an estate on the Riviera which would place his principedom on a secure foundation. About this time the law stepped in and decided that he had no right to sell the decoration. He was prosecuted and sentenced to serve six months in jail and pay a fine of 1,000 francs. He paid the fine and served his sentence.

ITALY'S FADING GLORY.

One More of Her Historic Buildings Said to Be on the Verge of Collapsing.

Alarming accounts come from Aquila as to the condition of the campanile of San Bernardino. A large crack has appeared in the southwest corner of the tower, which is described as in imminent danger of collapse, says a report from Rome.

It is possible that the imagination of the local correspondents is still under the enervating influence of the Venice catastrophe, but the commanding officer of the garrison at Aquila considered the danger grave enough to necessitate the evacuation of part of the barracks adjoining the tower, and a special engineer has been sent to ascertain the measures necessary for its preservation.

The campanile of San Bernardino was built in 1472. It was struck by lightning, which knocked down several feet of the upper part, in 1667, but the earthquake of 1703, which destroyed many buildings in the neighborhood, left it untouched.

At a recent congress of engineers at Cagliari a motion framed by the architect, Luca Beltrami, was read, which met with loud applause. The motion proposed in defense of Italy's historical buildings a radical reorganization of the whole bureau which is charged with their care.

The most important suggestion is that traveling inspectors should not hold their appointments for life, but their appointment should be renewable according to the merit of their work.

FIGURES FOR FLY-TIME.

Twelve or Thirteen Generations Produced in a Summer and Millions from One Fly.

An exchange quotes a distinguished entomologist as saying that a single female fly will lay 120 eggs during her life of 10 to 15 days, and that of these 90 or 100 will produce other flies, says The Louisville Courier-Journal. During a summer 12 or 13 generations of these flies will be produced, so that millions in one season may be the descendants of a single fly. "Millions" is a feeble word to express the number that would be produced under this estimate. Putting the first generation at 100, and allowing that half of them are females, the second generation would number 5,000, with 2,500 females. The third generation would number 250,000, the fourth 1,250,000, and the fifth 62,500,000. Continuing the calculation on the same system to the twelfth generation, we should get a grand total of 4,882,812,500,000,000, or expressed in words, four quintillions eight hundred and eighty-two quadrillions, eight hundred and twelve trillions, five hundred billions, a number quite inconceivable. Estimating the population of the earth at a billion and a half, this would give 3,255,208,333 1/3 flies to every man, woman, and child on earth, all the descendants of one fly in a single summer.

DeWet's Military Stance.

Gen. DeWet, the sturdy Boer leader, carried his independence with him to London and showed it in marked fashion during his interview with Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. The latter addressed him as "Mr. DeWet," whereupon the warrior from South Africa corrected him by saying "Gen. DeWet." Almost immediately afterward Mr. Chamberlain repeated the "Mr.," and DeWet said, sternly: "General or nothing." Then the suave Chamberlain followed Lord Kitchener's example and recognized the military status of his visitor.

Ought to Be Meadville.

A curious political situation is presented in Greenwich, Conn., where three rich men, each named Mead, have been nominated on separate tickets for members of the state assembly. There are 2,700 voters in the town, and of these almost ten per cent. are of the same name, including the wealthiest and most influential citizens.

A SHOWER OF RATS.

Thousands of the Rodents Hove a Tornado Over a Town in Algeria.

The town of Bougie, in Algeria, was lately visited by a shower of rats. For many years thousands of rats, in company with many hundreds of monkeys, inhabited the Casagaya, a high mountain towering over Bougie. The great storm which swept them from the mountain arose early in the afternoon, and soon developed into a furious hurricane. A huge funnel-shaped cloud of dust and bones hurried itself over the mountain, destroying everything in its path. Oddly enough, most of the monkeys managed to hold on to the pine trees, although the larger portion of them were killed; but literally thousands of rats were carried high into the air and strewn in vast numbers over the Grand Mare and the suburbs of Bougie.

The Kabyle tribes of the neighborhood, who are extremely superstitious, were terribly frightened and fled in all directions, spreading terror over the district. They believed that the rats were sent down from the skies to punish them, and that the end of the world had come. In the town the more intelligent Arabs were less superstitious and promptly set to work to kill those rats which were not already dead. But there were so many of them still alive and they found such convenient hiding places that the hunt is still going on.

The prefect of Bougie went out into the country on his motor car to reassure the Kabylek, and finally succeeded in pacifying the chiefs so that the people returned to their homes.

REVEALS INCONSISTENCIES.

Absurdities in Dress Are Highlighted in Noticeable Way by the Camera.

"If women would but remember," remarked the photographic artist, "that the gown when composed of more than one material should look like one garment worn over the other, they would save themselves from some grievous artistic errors in dress. Take the case of the double sleeve now so popular. The idea is that of a comparatively heavy outer sleeve, cut away to show the lighter and generally prettier arm covering, and a woman with any artistic feeling always preserves that effect, even though she may not act on any definite principle.

"But artistic feeling is a rare thing; therefore, the double sleeve is the occasion of many artistic atrocities. One actually sees such sleeves cut in two at the elbow in order that the puff of silk may be inserted, thus leaving the lower half without any apparent connection with the shoulder, and nothing to prevent it, so far as the eye can see, from sliding off the arm. The sleeve may with perfect propriety be slashed at the elbow to show a silk lining, but to cut it in two for the purpose of inserting another material is merely making patchwork of it. Another custom is to put the material with which the sleeve terminates over, instead of under, the predominating material, thus destroying the idea of an undersleeve entirely, and leaving the construction without any show of reason for its existence.

QUEER USE FOR HUMAN SKIN.

Mummies Ground by Machinery and Converted into Paint for Artists' Colors.

Not many persons are aware of the fact that the best brown paint used by artists is made from human bodies. The bones and skin, which are ground up by artists' colormen and sold in tiny tubes, are those of mummies taken out of the Egyptian mausoleum.

When a person died in Egypt a century or two B. C. he was preserved in the finest bitumen. The remains of a body treated thus in those times on being unwrapped to-day present an appearance similar to light-colored leather. The bitumen and the leather-like remains are ground down by machinery, and turned into a beautiful brown liquid paint which is the delight of all artists.

In the manufacture of artists' colors, animal, vegetable and mineral substances are largely used, states the Detroit News-Tribune. Crimson and purple lakes and carmine are all obtained from the cochineal insect. Espia is the dark fluid discharged by the cuttlefish to render the water opaque for its own concealment when attacked by a larger fish. Prussian blue is made by fusing the hoofs of horses with impure potassium carbonate, and ultramarine is obtained from the precious mineral known as lapis lazuli.

Buddhist Center of America.

It is stated that San Diego, in southern California, is fast becoming the Buddhist center of America. In one house there has been erected a shrine to Buddha, and the owner, a woman of means, has brought a Buddhist priest from India, who gathers a large congregation together every week.

Red Worth a Fortune.

Countess Anna de Castellane, once Anna Good, sleeps in the great bed of Mme. de Sevigne, than which there is no finer in all the world. It is made of gilded cedar wood inlaid with precious stones, and has painted panels by the greatest masters of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Germany's Coffee Farms.

German farms occupy nearly 1,000,000 acres in Central America, on which over 20,000,000 coffee trees are planted.

Scilly Island Flowers.

The Scilly islands produce yearly 700 tons of flowers for perfume making.

BOND IN A PICTURE.

Valuable Paper Found by German Woman in an Old Daguerreotype Frame.

The treasury department lately received from United States Consul General Guenther, at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Germany, a United States bond for \$500, which he forwarded for redemption for the benefit of Mrs. Martha Schnell, an old woman living at Bornheim, reports the Washington Star.

He writes that Mrs. Schnell has a fond for collecting daguerreotypes, and recently in cleaning one she had had about ten years, she accidentally broke the glass covering the portrait, disclosing the bond, which had been neatly folded and placed in its hiding place many years before.

Mrs. Schnell was about to throw it away, but was persuaded to take it to the United States consul to ascertain if it had any value.

The portrait is faded beyond possible recognition, but the old case shows that it was made in Worcester, Mass.

The bond is of the issue of July 1, 1867, serial C, and has 28 coupons attached, showing that the last one was removed for interest due January 1, 1873. Interest on the bond, however, ceased on April 6, 1875.

United States Treasurer Roberts forwarded to Mr. Guenther for Mrs. Schnell a government warrant for \$687.81, covering the principal and interest to 1875.—Washington Post.

THE LOST SIXTEENTH.

That Much of a Second Missing and Scientists Cannot Tell Where It Has Gone.

If one grain of sand on the shore of the ocean were lost, and scientists were to spend years in trying to find it, they would be attempting a task resembling that to which leading astronomers of England and France are now devoting themselves, says the Toronto (Ont.) Mail and Empire. One-sixteenth of a second is missing, and no one can tell where it has gone. Between the sun's time, as recorded at Greenwich, and as understood at Paris, there is that brief and seemingly unimportant discrepancy. No expense is being spared to trace the missing fraction. A special building has been erected at Paris, costly instruments installed, a corps of mathematicians engaged, and a process that may take years to complete has been commenced. The inaccuracy is more important than will appear to the lay mind. Longitude is calculated on the basis of Greenwich time. It determines the boundaries of many countries. A slight variation of time may change the nationality of thousands of people. The pursuit of the missing fraction of a second is therefore of world-wide importance. We shall all be much relieved when it has been found, for then not a grain of the sands of time will be missing.

GRAY ANTS OF SIAM.

Small Insects That Travel in Troops and Seem to Have a Larger Leader.

Charles Meissen, French explorer, in traveling through Siam, observed a species of small gray ants which were new to him, says the Kobe (Japan) Herald. These ants were much engaged in traveling. They lived in damp places and went in troops. To his surprise he noticed among them from time to time an occasional ant which was much larger than the others and moved at a much swifter pace, and each of these larger ants, M. Meissen saw, always carried one of the gray ants on its back. While the main body of gray ants were always on foot they were accompanied by at least one of their own sort mounted on one of these larger ants. It mounted and detached itself now and then from the line, rode rapidly to the rear, and seemed to be the commander of the expedition.

The explorer was satisfied that this species of ant employs a larger ant—possibly a drone of the same species—just as we employ horses to ride upon, though scarcely more than one ant in each colony seems to be provided with a mount.

THIEVES IN A WHIP DUEL.

Agree to Lash Each Other Rather Than Go to Jail for Their Theft.

In Anderson county, S. C., two negroes were recently caught in the act of robbing a farmer, and rather than go to jail, they offered to accept any punishment the farmer might inflict. The farmer decided that they should whip each other. The negroes were taken into a field and stripped to the waist. There is no whipping-post law in South Carolina, but this did not interfere with the plans for the lashing. Each was given a buggy trace, and they fought each other until the blood began to flow.

A big crowd gathered to watch the duel of whipping. A neighbor of the man who had been robbed acted as referee, and made the negroes break clean when they lashed.

Under the rules the contest had to continue, until one negro had given the other 100 lashes. Four tips were not counted. Finally, after a desperate fight, the referee lifted his hand as a signal to stop. The man who suggested the whipping had given his enemy 100 lashes. He got 75. They were in bad shape when the fight ceased, and went to bed.

WRAPS FOR AUTUMN.

Comfortable and Graceful Cloaks That Are Capital for Country Wear.

There is a delightfully graceful autumn wrap in a plaid material, gray and fawn, with a streak of yellow, to be made something like a man's evening cape without a collar, says the New York Evening Post's fashion authority. The cloak will hang from the shoulders in a multitude of natural plaits, formed by the ingenious cut and not by the aid of stitching or folds in the cloth. This cloak was launched at the end of the Paris season at a well-known dinner party given in the Bois, and its success was so great a surprise in the white cloth that it is no surprising matter that it is to be repeated in darker colorings.

Long, military looking overcoats of checks, plaids and rough, hairy Oxford mixtures are shown by the tailors among their autumn novelties. The more checked and plaided the more fashionable, as these coats are a purely British institution intended for wear in Scotland at this season of the year. If they are worn at Westbury and at Lenox, they are just as comfortable, cozy and warm as if worn in the Highlands, and they come in very handy for automobile driving.

A rather showy and distinctly big check consisting of an introduction of green, brown or blue on a rough ground splashed with white, or on one of heather mixture, seems most popular of all. Big, smooth, round silver or gold military buttons are advancing steadily into favor. As to the collar, it may be anything, always provided it is in a genre militaire, which is a fine question. Some of them are the "stand-up" persuasion, lined with velvet of a harmonious or contrasting shade, and others are rolled over in beggie fashion. One of the smartest things shown lately was an all-wool plaid rough black and white check coat fastened sharply across to one shoulder carrying out the idea of the double-breasted Prussian military coat to perfection. There is a turn-over collar, with, of course, no revers; in coats of this kind of revers seem to be just about the out of fashion very possibly for the reason that when unbuttoning the one idea is to keep the enemy, "out" at bay and one which fastens securely to the throat is far better calculated to achieve this object than one which opens out. Dark blue serge is also employed for these coats; a touch of scarlet or red with silver or gilt buttons are happy additions, and just now plain white tweed coats are considered very smart indeed by the riding and driving women. The collar and the shoulder cape of the new gowns are their most conspicuous feature.

LOOK FOR THE BEAUTIFUL.

There is Grace and Charm in Many Characters That Seem to Be Degraded.

There are superb personalities that go through life extracting sunshine from what to others seems but darkness, seeing charm in apparent ugliness, discerning grace and exquisite proportions where the unseeing see but forbidding angles and distortion, and glimpsing the image of divinity where less beautiful souls see but a lost and degraded human being, says Success.

Yet it is a heritage possible to all who will take the trouble to begin early in life to cultivate the finer qualities of the soul, the eye and the heart. It is said that the most degrading object if put under a magnifying glass of sufficient power would reveal beauties undreamed of, so even in the most cruel conditions there is something of the beautiful and hopeful, when viewed through the eyes of a trained and disciplined mind.

A beautiful character will make poetry out of the prosiest life, bring sunshine into the darkest home and develop beauty and grace amid the toughest surroundings.

Turkey Sealtop.

Take the remains of cold turkey and pick from it all the meat and dressing. Put the bones, skin, fat, etc., into a saucepan, cover with cold water and stew slowly. Chop the meat, cover the bottom of a battered tin with fine crumbs, then a layer of the turkey and stuffing, then one of crumbs, and so on till the dish is full, reserving enough crumbs for a crust. Strain the gravy from the bones, thicken it with a little browned flour, wet with milk, and turn nearly all of it over the sealtop. Wet the crumbs you reserved with the gravy and spread evenly on the top, cover, put in the oven, bake half an hour, remove the cover and brown. Serve hot. This is nice for lunch of supper.—Detroit Free Press.

Danish Pudding.

One cup tapioca, three pints water, one-half teaspoon salt, one-half cup sugar, one tumbler strawberry or raspberry jam. Soak the tapioca in water over night. In the morning cook in double boiler one hour, stirring often; add salt, sugar and jam; mix well, and set away to cool. Serve with cream and sugar.—Boston Globe.

Misunderstood.

Miss Oldham—Our "Dorcas" ladies are getting up a raffle for a poor old man.

Miss Rud—Then I can't join in, for I wouldn't know what to do with a poor old man if I won him. Now, you raffle a nice, rich young man, and I'll take a dozen tickets right off!—Detroit Journal.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

The number of Englishists in India, increased from 7,500,000 in 1901 to 9,476,750 in 1901.

Berkeley, near San Francisco, a town of 20,000 inhabitants, which is the seat of the University of California, contains no public house and no policeman.

Mrs. Loebel, wife of the French president, believes in education. At a recent meeting of a society of French mothers she brought down upon her head severe criticism in advocating American methods in training girls.

The request of Prof. Jacobus of Berlin, in the interest of education, is said to be the first of its kind ever made by a man. He has requested 10,000 marks to the University of Berlin with the proviso that the university shall not come in possession of the money until at least two departments are open to women as regular students.

Rev. David I. Cheney, of Gloucester, N. J., is known as the "hard-working minister." He works during the week as a carpenter and on Sunday preaches the gospel. He went to Gloucester several years ago while president of the Methodist congregational conference and established a church. Later he left the conference and started an independent church. A year ago he transferred his church to Camden, where he now conducts services.

Jean Jusserin, a French exile writing in the Paris Revue, expresses grave doubts of the efficiency of American schools and universities. He avers that the latter are governed by narrow education-seekers, men of "staid address and of high social position, who can confidently and successfully approach millionaires with requests for additions to the grant funds, accumulating under university control. These vast sums, M. Jusserin avers, are wasted in the construction of great buildings, and the cause of education is not proportionately advanced.

There has been a remarkable development in England of No. 257, 7th St. during the past hundred years compared with the relative proportional growth of England. In a hundred years ago the sitting accommodation in the Free churches was 540,000, today it is 2,000,000. For every hundred adherents then they have now a thousand. In the same period the sittings in the Established Church have increased from 4,000,000 to 7,000,000. For every 100 adherents they have now 175. In other words, the Free churches have grown tenfold while the state church has not doubled.

MEDICINE FOR 400,000,000.

Ginseng Is the Panacea for Many of the Ills of the Chinese Nation.

Physicians in the western world have not a high opinion of the medicinal qualities of ginseng. The Chinese, on the other hand, believe that this root is a heaven-sent blessing specially designed as a panacea for many of the physical ills that afflict mankind. The Koreans share the same belief, but most of the rest of the world has little use for ginseng, except to sell it to the Chinese, says the New York Sun.

Ginseng, after all, is a home-grown far as its medicinal virtues are concerned. At least one Chinese has said so. Dr. Chang Kingan, of the Imperial Medical college, of Peking, who is versed in western medicine, asserted four years ago that in all his experience he had failed to observe any definite results that could properly be ascribed directly to the influence of ginseng. He said that its use among his fellow-countrymen was entirely empirical, and its efficacy depended upon the imagination.

There may be two sides to this question. Ginseng has progressed its reputation for centuries among many millions of people as a tonic, and otherwise, as among the greatest of medicines. Could it keep this reputation for ages among fully one-fourth of the people of the world if it did not possess at least some of the virtues attributed to it? If so, the use of ginseng is the greatest illustration of the efficacy of faith-ours on record.

At any rate, there is a great demand for the root in China. The market for a good article is practically unlimited. Consul Johnson wrote from Amoy awhile ago that he believed \$20,000,000 of the roots might be sold annually in China. Perhaps this is an exaggeration. Minister Allen, writing from Seoul, in May, on the ginseng crop of Korea last year, said that about a fifth of the crop had been burned by the exporters after they had bought it, because the supply exceeded the demand and they did not propose to break prices by sending more of the commodity to the Chinese than they wanted.

Tips Discouraged in China.

The tipping system is not encouraged in China. An execution recently took place outside the gates of Tai-Yuan-Fu. The decapitated corpse belonged in life to a telegraph messenger. On the occasion of a great festival he asked for tips from some leading merchants who habitually used the telegraph office. The governor of the province heard of it and took prompt steps to suppress the nuisance.—N. Y. Sun.

She Had Hopes of Him.

(Husband) (wittipatively)—I was an idiot when I married you, Mary. (Wife) (quietly)—Yes, Tom; I know you were. But what could I do? You seemed my only chance, and I thought then that you might improve a little with time.—Washington Times.

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