

AN OSTRICH THAT TROTS.

A Trotting Ostrich That Entered Against Past Horses on Eastern Race Tracks.

A trotting ostrich, known as Black Diamond and valued at \$5,000, has been trotting race track...

A trotting horse was entered against the ostrich at Smyrna, but when the time for the race arrived the horse did not appear.

When Mr. Ford took his feathered steed to the Delaware capital they created a sensation.

Baseball fans were at a low ebb in Dover when Mr. Ford and Black Diamond arrived.

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FACTS CONCERNING SLEEP

The scholar and professional man, like the anxious housewife, is apt to carry his cares to bed, and insomnia becomes a curse.

Normal sleep should be purely a physiological repose similar to the rest of animals who go to sleep with the darkness and awake with the light.

Of course it goes without saying that sleep is not the only time for sleep. Men and women who are busy could sleep just a few minutes before or after the noonday luncheon.

Washing by Bicycle. A bicycle is used to do the family washing for the family of a resident of Richmond, Va.

French Millionaires. In France last year 457 millionaires died. But they were millionaires in France only and 1,000,000 francs is only \$300,000.

Great Water Drinkers. It has been estimated that an oak of average size during the five months it is in leaf every year sucks up from the earth about 125 tons of water.

STRENUOUS CALLING.

PROFESSIONAL DUN HAS WORST BUSINESS ON EARTH.

So Says an Expert, Who Relates One of His Encounters with a Bellicose Woman.

"This is the worst business on earth," said the manager of the bad debt collection agency, reports the New York Sun.

"But you seem to be making money; what more do you want?" asked his visitor.

"Well, yes there's money in it. But let the people once get the idea that you are smart, and they'll say you're tricky, and from that they get to saying worse things, and eventually you're looked upon as a rascal and sharper."

"That's why so many men fall in this line. I've been at it since 1885, and I'm the only one that has kept going right along in this section of the east for the same number of years.

"Have you a bill to collect?" was his response. "If you have, you'd better keep your eye peeled for the woman there is a tart—a assaULTU two or three collectors a day."

"I got off the stage at the hotel and made further inquiries, as I was disposed to think that the driver was exaggerating matters. I learned from the hotel man that the driver had told the truth and that I had a tough job before me.

"Across the room was a door to the floor leading into the cellar. I reached this and she followed raining blows upon my shoulder and back.

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Workmen's Wages. The worker in a Massachusetts factory gets 27 per cent of what he produces, while the laborer in South Carolina gets only 19 per cent.

Not Boarders. First Boarding House Mistress—Have seen it figured out that people can live on 12 cents a day.

Second Boarding House Mistress—Ah! but you can't get them to do it.—Brooklyn Life.

Brassy. Bacon—Well, I see you've been investing in an electric fan.

YOUNG TRAINED TO GAMBLE

Children Held Up to the Tables to Play at the "Feria" in Mexico.

The most enthusiastic and successful gambling tournament or Mexican feria, ever held at Zapala, came to a close the other day.

The plan followed is for some person, usually a successful gambler, to obtain from the proper authorities permission to use the public square or plaza for a feria.

The restaurant and gaming tables are arranged around the outer edge of the plaza, and a bandstand, or seats with a light, is placed in the center for musicians, leaving a wide promenade, where the people pass the time dancing and listening to the music when not playing some of the games.

The most popular of the games for women and children is called "loteria." It is much like the American game of keno, and is about as fair a game as anyone could gamble at.

The professional gambler does not take much to this game as he has no chance to get in his sleight-of-hand work. He is, however, at no loss for games where his nimble fingers can bring him much honor and goodly sum of the hard-earned money of the fool who tries to live by honest work.

Homework and rock fighting create more enthusiasm than anything else, and every impetuous boy arranges to have a continuous performance of this sport during the day to keep the excitement at its proper pitch to make the victims as easy mark as a sight.

Whether an empty bottle is "returned" or comes out of the parking straw new from the bottle manufacturer, it is carefully washed, rinsed and dried by men employed to do this work and nothing else.

Happy Located. Rascal—Am you lot near in pleasant places amongst your new neighbors, Deacon Snowball?

Deacon Snowball—Deed yes, sah, Brudder Rascal. The family nair me so de le' hab got a watermill patch, and de family on de right done got fo' hundred chickens. Mah neighbor on de right am deaf, and de brudder on mah le'f' goes to church six nights out ob de week an lose so much sleep he sleep like a log de seventh night.

Cost Enough. Laura is the name of a Reading (Pa.) maid whose love of finery is very pronounced, and who had her heart set on obtaining a ring.

Right Back. First Leap of Delight—My husband is so jealous. Second Leap of Delight—How absurd!

SODA WATER CLERKS

WHEN SEASON IS OVER THEY DISAPPEAR FROM VIEW.

Like Bricklayers or Any Other Class of Laborers They Are Discharged When Winter Comes.

It was all right enough now during the summer days to look at the soda water clerk and think he has a good thing of it. But wait till the winter, and see what you think.

After the season is over the soda clerks vanish from the army of wage earners, to reappear for work again a few months later, looking scarcely less seedy than when they quit.

While a certain portion of skilled labor is required, the majority of hands employed in soda water establishments come, as a general rule, from the bottom strata of the laboring classes.

Nevertheless, there is a large element of danger in the employment, and to a green hand not a little bodily pain. Despite the multiplicity of "mountain" in drug stores, refreshment shops and department stores, a vast amount of soda water consumed every day is sent from the factories in bottles, and it is surprising to learn through how many different hands a bottle must pass before it is ready for the consumer.

After the bottles are dried they are stacked in crates and carried off to the "fillers." If intended for lemonade, lemon soda, or any special flavor, they go first to another squad of men, who dip in the required amount of sirup pumped into the bottles just as it comes from the generators, with a pressure of 50 pounds or more to the square inch.

After the bottles are filled and wired they are labeled and polished, and put away in cases ready to be sent off to the delivery wagons as fast as ordered. The process of filling siphons and patent bottles of numerous make is much simpler, more easily done, and with less risk.

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IN AN AWKWARD POSITION.

Stage Villain in Wild Western Town Headed Off by Unappreciative Audience.

"We were playing in a small town in the far west of America some years ago," said an actor, "when our leading man had rather a rough experience.

"At last," he said, "I have you in my power, and nothing on earth can save you. I, who was the slave, am now the master!"

"Go back to the stage, sir, and wait for your exit!" "I think not."

"That was serious. To be stranded in the forsaken town was calculated to make the villain hesitate."

"Ladies and gentlemen—there were no ladies there, but that didn't matter—with your kind permission, I will resume the scene. Before doing so, however, I want to call your attention to the fact that the young lady and myself are merely acting parts."

NOT PRACTICAL FARMERS.

Good Profits Made in Small Fruit-Growing by Men Who Go by Theory.

"Farming, young man, is a trade—not a profession. It doesn't depend on theories. It depends on practice. And you can get it down as gospel that these theories in the magazines about men who make independent fortunes out of one crop of strawberries, or melons, or sparrow grass, or anything else, are so many fairy tales."

With that the commission merchant looked complacently around his stand, measured the crates of berries with his eye in a cigar, and waited for a reply to come, but not from the reporter, says the Chicago Tribune.

"There is such a place down state always. Nobody could do anything with it." "Well, a young fellow with glasses came sailing along and he bought the place. Everybody laughed, of course."

That the profits in growing small fruits depend almost entirely on the care with which they are packed for shipment.

Russia's Horses. The Russian edict forbidding the exportation of horses on account of the war with Japan has very disadvantageously affected several sections of Germany, particularly those of northern Germany, which portion of the country has been accustomed to depend for its general supply upon importation of horses from Russia.

Wit of a Scotch Beadle. At an auction sale in a Scottish village the auctioneer was trying to sell a number of domestic animals, including a porridge pot.

MUST BE SPARRERS.

ACTORS TAKE LESSONS FROM EXPERTS IN MANLY ART.

Modern Melodrama Calls for Knowledge of "Mitt" Work, in Which Many Stars Are Adept.

A retired actor started a gymnasium on the West side of town about six months ago. It was his idea to cater exclusively to members of his profession.

The chief exercises taught are boxing, wrestling and fencing. Expert instructors are employed and they receive good salaries.

At the initial rehearsal the first thing the puglist did was to throw a pair of gloves at the feet of the actor and invite him to a bout.

"That's all right," said the bruiser. "I won't hit you very hard, but you know we've got to mix it up or else it's good enough to set the gallery go agog and get the applause. See?"

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