

School Teacher Tells of Interesting Experiences

By Prof. I. E. Allen

A teacher of more than 59 years' experience need not draw upon his imagination to write a Christmas story—actual experience is sufficient. Less than sixty years ago I was teaching a school in a neighborhood where the citizens were supposed to be very far above the ordinary in refinement and education. On a certain Friday evening I told my pupils I would start to teach them the sounds of the letters on the next Monday. Now, it was the custom of the citizens to hold meetings in order to discuss all matters of interest in regard to the peace and welfare of the community. A messenger was sent immediately, requesting everyone to meet at the schoolhouse on some very important business.



PROF. I. E. ALLEN.

The patrons of the school were all at the school-room at the appointed hour; and, after appointing a chairman and secretary, the meeting was called to order by the chairman, who announced in a most solemn manner that the teacher, Mr. Allen, was going to teach the children on next Monday that the letters had sounds! The school was a private one, and everyone had something to say in regard to the new idea in teaching. Everyone present said he had never heard of such a thing, and the general opinion prevailed that the letters had no sounds, as such a thing had never been heard of before.

Would Suspend School. Someone in the meeting proposed a resolution that the school be suspended, and that I should be notified that my services were no longer needed!

Again the Lord was on my side. There chanced to be a man in the neighborhood who was broader-minded than the rest, and who proposed that action be delayed a few days, as circuit court would be in session on the following Monday, and he would see Mr. ——— for whom Mr. Allen had closed a successful school lately. He said he would see Mr. ——— and ask him what he thought about teaching that letters have sounds. Accordingly the broad-minded patron approached Mr. ——— and said:

"You know Mr. Allen is teaching our school at the present time. We, the patrons, on last Saturday night held a meeting and put him on trial because he says the letters have

sounds, and we have postponed action, pending your decision in the matter."

Mr. ——— straightened up to his full height and in emphatic tones said: "Any man who don't know the letters have sounds should not teach one of my slaves, much less my children."

Another Experience.

On another occasion I was teaching ten miles from home, and, of course, I was compelled to go to my school on Sunday evening. One evening on my way I met a good friend, who was likewise a teacher. As we neared each other he said:

"Hello, Allen, I hear you have been talking about me. I heard you said I don't know the English alphabet." I surveyed him from head to foot, and, as he was a good deal smaller than I, I told him I didn't remember having said such a thing; but, running my hand into my pocket, I told him plainly I would bet him a five-dollar bill that he didn't know the alphabet correctly.

"What in the devil is that to you?"

he said in thundering tones. I told him I was a self-constituted guardian of education for the county.

"Well," said he, "you'd better attend to your own business and let mine alone."

I don't believe that man ever forgave me, but had it in for me unto his death. Nevertheless, he was a conscientious, good man.

Once I was going through the streets of a very nice little town, not more than a hundred miles from Pensacola, when I met a friend, who was a prominent lawyer.

"Allen," he said, "I have a problem for you to solve. Two men went out bird hunting on a bet. One killed 599 and the other killed 600 and won."

I very naturally supposed he meant 501, so I told him he must have beaten the other fellow two birds. He broke out in a loud laugh and said I had missed it, as he had killed 600 and won the bet. In vain I told him the difference between spoken language and written language. He laughed loud and long, and was joined by the spectators. I told him I would see him later. It was about a mile to where I lived, and before I arrived I had fixed up a problem, or rather, a question for him. Accordingly, the next day I went to town and placed myself in front of his office, and when he came down I told him I had something for him to answer and pulling out a five-dollar bill, I told him I would bet him that bill he didn't know the English alphabet. He appeared to be puzzled and said he didn't believe he could repeat the letters backwards. I told him I would bet the bill he didn't know the letters correctly. After reflecting a while he told him I would ask him one question and if he answered that correctly I would give him the bill. He told me he was out, and I told him we were even, as we had caught me on the bird problem and I had caught him on the alphabet problem.

Now, if any of the parties mentioned in the above article should happen to be living at the present time, I beseech them not to think hard of me for relating these stories, for I would not wound the feelings of one of my friends for all the "articles" in the world.

takes a long time to get it to start growing; while a smaller tree, with plenty of fibrous roots, will start to grow as soon as set out. Nursery-grown trees are much better than those dug out of the woods or fields, as they have been transplanted and cultivated and have plenty of fibrous roots, while trees which have grown in the woods have very few if any and take a much longer time to start to grow after being set out.

In light land and in this climate, the fall is the best time to set out trees.

Without a good soil properly prepared, one should expect to make newly-transplanted trees grow satisfactorily. In a naturally rich soil if the sub-soil is worked up and partly replaced by the surface soil and good rich soil worked in and around the roots, a good growth may be expected; but if the soil is poor and thin, some fine, well-sorted compost should be put around them. Information must be ascertained that the salts of potash or soda should never be placed in contact with the roots, but, if they have to be used, should be spread on the surface and worked in the soil.

More trees die from injury in digging than from any other cause, and the life of the tree depends a great deal upon how this is done. A good root system there can be but little growth.

In planting, the roots of all trees should have a fine, mellow bed of good soil, which should be spread around the roots, leaving no air spaces around any of them. A good way is to fill the hole about half full of earth and then flood it with water, should be spread out in a natural position and good soil put in contact with them, so as to get new fibrous roots as soon as possible. When trees are planted in a new place, the soil of the site of our work has come, or is made so by heavy manuring, trees will not continue to grow without some additional soil.

Many newly-planted trees start to grow in the early spring, and then for lack of moisture fail to live. When water is not available, a mulch of leaves, hay, pine straw, weeds, etc., should be spread around the roots, covering a larger area than the size of the hole in which the tree is set, as it will aid in keeping the ground around the tree moist. This should not be more than three inches in thickness, for if too thick it will keep the roots to grow near the surface and they are liable to injury in dry weather.

A great many cities have their own nurseries where the trees are planted and cared for and a good root system developed. Such a nursery would be a good paying investment for Pensacola, as in a few years duannan nasa have all the trees and of the kind wanted, to set out on the streets and to sell to private parties. Trees grown in nursery rows can be given extensive cultivation and be made to make rapid growth. This is a matter that should be looked into by the city fathers as a means to provide trees in the near future.

FOR YOUR XMAS? A box of fine Apples or a box of Oranges?—Stratton Ice Works.

Get a Buick for Xmas. Thomas J. Lynch Chosen President National League

WAR IS Averted. The election of Mr. Lynch, who now lives in New Britain, Conn., means that there will be no war between the major league organization. His election was brought about by John T. Brush, owner of the New York National League club. Mr. Dreyfus and Mr. Herrmann had declared that it was evident that there could be no agreement on either Heydler or Ward and that they proposed to leave the city this afternoon. Mr. Brush said that it was very foolish to continue the present deadlock and as a solution of the difficulty he proposed the name of Mr. Lynch. Mr. Herrmann seconded the nomination and the election was made unanimous.

Charles Ebbetts, of Brooklyn, who has bitterly fought the election of Mr. Heydler, arose and nominated Mr. Heydler for secretary and treasurer, and his nomination and election was made unanimous.

The managers, after shaking hands all around, adjourned. Mr. Lynch has been interested in a theatrical enterprise. He has not been active in baseball since 1896.

Charcoal in paper bags.—Stratton Ice Works.

Get a Buick for Xmas. Acton Coal, Phone 59.

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REMARKABLE ONE HUNDRED PER CENT. RECORD ESTABLISHED BY CRACK TARGET SMASHERS ON LOCAL SHOOTING RANGES

Making every shot hit, and establishing an enviable record of a true 100 per cent. average was the accomplishment attained by the 22nd Company, Coast Artillery, which used the big eight-inch guns at Barrancas army post yesterday. One shot exploded after leaving the gun, and pieces of the projectile were picked up at many points along the beach. This shot, however, did not count. Just what caused the projectile to explode is not known, but it was thought that there was some fault in its construction, or else it was just a trifling hic for the gun and its sudden release caused expansion which was rather disastrous in its effects. Windows were smashed, and a dynamo in the power house at the fort was stopped.

The prize battery was in charge of Capt. C. B. Larsen, assisted by Lieuts. Patterson and Fulton.

The primary range station was in charge of Sergeant L. M. Hammond, chief plottor; Sergeant N. B. Hill-dreth, observer, first class. Secondary station, Corporal E. G. Fisher, observer second class.

The gun command men were: Gun No. 1, Sergeant Frank Sanders; No. 2 gun, Gen. P. Sieber; Gun Pointers, No. 1, gun, Corporal John E. McNamee; No. 2, gun, Corporal N. A. Vickery.

Time, four record shots, 2 minutes, 16 1/2 seconds.

No one was hurt when the projectile, weighing three hundred pounds, exploded, but glasses in the power plant at McRee were blown in, and the concussion and noise was felt heavily in the city.

Acton Coal, Phone 59. Box Apples, Extra nice lot, \$2.00 up.—Stratton Ice Works.

Despite Bad Weather the Shoppers Were Numerous

THE PAY TRAIN. The monthly pay train arrived last evening and paid off the hundreds of employees at the local points. Shop employees were paid at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, while last night on the union depot platform railroad men gathered and mingled in happy groups. The train will go east at 7 o'clock Monday morning to replenish the Santa Claus providers in that part of the state.

DOCK PAYROLL HEAVY. The payroll of workmen on the docks for the week was again heavy last evening, many thousands of dollars being distributed. The dock conditions will be manifest again this week. It was learned from unofficial sources last evening that the Gulf Transit company's employees would be paid for all time made this week on Friday at 5 p. m. This will also be the case with many stevedores. All work will suspend on Saturday.

MARKET REPORT. LIVERPOOL MARKET. December-January 7.79 7.89 January-February 7.89 7.99 February-March 7.99 8.09 March-April 7.99 8.09

NEW YORK MARKET. January 14.89 14.99 15.09 15.19 March 15.27 15.37 15.47 15.57

NAVAL STORES MARKET. Savings banks for the month of December closed as follows: Open, last sale at 54 to 54 1/4 Close 53 1/4 to 53 3/4 Sale, 54 1/4 to 54 3/4 Receipts, cash 510 Shipments, cash 224 Stocks, cash 252

PENSACOLA COTTON MARKET. The weekly market for cotton closed for The Journal by Marks & Gasp. F. O. Cotton, Santa Fe, Pensacola, Fla. Good middling 11 1/2 to 11 3/4 Strict middling 11 to 11 1/2 Standard 10 1/2 to 10 3/4 Strict low middling 10 to 10 1/2

BANK STATEMENT. New York, Dec. 18.—The statement of leading banks for the week shows that the banks hold \$10,447,700 more than the requirements of the 2 per cent. reserve law. The total amount of \$10,447,700 in the proportionate cash reserve as compared with the requirements of the law. The statement follows: Loans, \$1,121,041,000; increase, \$9,046,000. Reserve required, \$1,121,041,000; increase, \$9,046,000. Deposits, \$10,447,700; increase, \$181,500. Excess of deposits, \$10,447,700; increase, \$181,500. The percentage of actual reserve of the clearing house banks to-day was 25.62. The statement of banks and trust com-



We Can't Put The Store in The Paper

The attempt to completely, or even fairly mirror the merchandise and price attractions of MEYERS, is quite useless. IT CAN'T BE DONE. Newspapers and type have their limitations, and doing adequate justice to this great shopping center is one of them. The best we can hope to do is to give you moderately suggestive inklings of the CHRISTMAS economics collected here by holding up an item, here and there, as it is sifted from the great multitude. It's rather unsatisfactory to stop with such meagre news, when the possibilities for variety and interest are so great.

Here Are Christmas Suggestions that Will Make the Recipients Happy:

- 50c PAIR Men's Embroidered Slippers.
- 75c PAIR Men's Imitation Alligator Slippers.
- \$1.50 PAIR Men's Kid Slippers, Brown and Black.
- \$1.00 PAIR Men's Shoe Trees, Ladies and Men's.
- \$2.00 PAIR Ladies' Suede Mules, Green and Blue.
- \$1.00 TO \$1.50 Children's Juliets, Fur Tops, All Colors.
- \$1.25 PAIR Ladies' Kid Strap House Slippers.
- 50c PAIR Infant Soft Soles, Shoes and Moccasins, all Colors.
- \$2.50 PAIR Misses' Patent Pumps, Sizes 1 1/2 to 5 1/2.
- \$2.50 PAIR Boys' Patent Boots, with Red Tops.
- \$1.50 PAIR Ladies' Silk Hose. Pink, White, Black, Red, Gold, Raisin, Lavender, Grey, Old Rose, Blue, Prunell, Brown, Tan.
- \$2.50 TO \$7.00 Men's Dress Shoes, All Styles.
- \$1.00 PAIR Ladies' Felt Slippers.
- \$1.00 PAIR Ladies' Boudoirs, Pink, Blue, Red, Black.
- \$1.50 PAIR Slippers With F'astic for Those Who Want Comfort.
- \$1.00 PAIR Children's Patent Button Cloth Top Shoes, 5 to 8.
- \$2.50 TO \$4.00 Big Misses' Shoes in Suedes, Patent and Buckskins.
- \$1.15 PAIR Boys' Shoes, Sizes 1 to 5 1/2.
- 25c PAIR Children's Hose, Red, Black, White, Pink, Blue.
- \$1.50 TO \$2.50 Men's Work Shoes, All Kinds.
- \$1.00 TO \$1.50 Children's Fur Tops.
- \$1.25 TO \$2.50 Children's Shoes, All Styles.
- \$1.25 PAIR Children's Kid Shoes, Patent Tip, all Solid Leather, 8 1/2 to 2.
- 50c PAIR Children's Shoes, Solid Leather, Sizes 2 to 8.
- 25c PAIR Men's Sox, the Interwoven, 4 Pair to a Fancy Box.
- \$1.50 TO \$5.00 Ladies' Shoes, All Leather, All Styles.



Our Store

will be open every night until Christmas. Ample extra sales force to wait upon you. All purchases made now can be exchanged after Christmas. We pay express charges on mail orders amounting to ten dollars or more. So Let Your CHRISTMAS GIFTS this time be SHOES and HOSIERY from MEYER'S.

MEYER SHOE COMPANY

FEET FURNISHERS FOR FOLKS 102 South Palafox

Reserve, \$302,622,000; increase, \$3,852,000. Reserve required, \$293,175,000; increase, \$2,400,000. Surplus, \$10,447,700; increase, \$181,500. Excess of deposits, \$10,447,700; increase, \$181,500. The percentage of actual reserve of the clearing house banks to-day was 25.62. The statement of banks and trust com-

TREES: THEIR PLANTING AND CARE.

By E. A. Kemble, Landscape Gardener of the Plaza.

No country can boast of so many beautiful trees as this southland of the United States. Some shade about the houses and streets is an absolute necessity for comfort during the hot days of the summer months. Some of our trees produce beautiful flowers, others, beautiful colored leaves. Some grow spreading as graceful habits, while others as close and massive as their build. And the true lover of nature will find much pleasure in arranging them, so as to obtain the most real beauty possible. Before any planting is done, however, a plan of arrangement must be decided upon, as with plans for dwellings. Much good work can be and is done by amateurs, but unless one has made a study of, and has investigated all of the points as to special requirements of the soil, planting, training, etc., the advice of an expert should be sought. For, in making plans for the arrangement and planting of trees, etc., the money paid to a skillful landscape gardener for a detailed plan often saves many times this amount. I think far the more general the knowledge on this beautifying the city, the best for the people as a whole. The details of the plan and what trees to use and how many in a given space, must largely be settled by the conditions of the ground, etc. While the large numbers of parks, arboreta and extensive planting on large estates and especially the experiment station in all states, anyone can learn what are desirable trees for any given locality.

A Message of Love
affection, good-will or friendship is conveyed best in a book. Why not give books for Christmas?
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More Nearly Exact. "Don't hesitate to put your coin on me," said the boastful prizefighter, "I'll win in a walk." "You mean," said the knowing friend, "that you'll win in a talk, don't you?"

Get a Buick for Xmas.