BEAUTIFYING ARMY POSTS.

Plan Adopted in the Philippines—Nurseries for Supplying Plants.

Not to be behind Manila in its plan to beautify the city by straightening its lines, planting shade trees and other tropical foliage and converting its waste spaces into well ordered and beautifying parks, the military authorities now propose to direct their efforts to improving and beautifying the various posts and garrisons throughout the islands, so that visitors to the Philippines will be impressed with the beauty and wealth of tropical foliage that satisfies the eye and pleases the senses, not only at Manila but in other parts of the islands as well.

Some steps have been taken in this direction already, many shade trees and other foliage having been planted at the various posts, particularly at Fort McKinley, Jossman and Zambanga, and arrangements have been made for a study of horticulture by a non-commissioned officer of the army at the Manila nurseries, which knowledge thus gained will be disseminated in an effort to make the various garrisons throughout the islands as attractive as possible.

The city nurseries are doing their part toward the work of beautifying the islands and are constantly growing those palms, ferns and other tropical plants which form an important part in the work. Many plants have been sent to the different military posts and many more are being grown with all the care and skill known to the science of horticulture. To this institution the military authorities through the courtesy of the Municipal Board will send a non-commissioned officer from the garrison of the Coast Artillery at Corregidor whose duty it shall be to study horticulture and the methods employed at the city nurseries.

The city nurseries are raising thousands of plants which are destined at some future time to adorn the city parks and military posts throughout the islands. The different hothouses are now filled with Philippine plants of all hues and degrees of beauty and age which are taken out as occasion requires and transplanted in uninviting spots all over the city, making them restful to the eye and a welcome addition to those little oases whih tend to make the city attractive.—Manila Times.

LONGEST TELEGRAPH CIRCUIT.

It is 4,000 Miles Long, Extending From London to Teheran, in Persia.

Persia and its capital, Teheran, have been very much before the public lately, but probably few people are aware that the news which has come through to London has passed over the longest telegraphic circuit in the world.

The distance between London and Teheran by wire is 4,000 miles and the operator in Teheran communicates direct with the operator at the London end, automatic repeaters taking the place of operators at ten places along the circuit.

The first repeating station from London is at Lowestoft where the wires enter the North Sea, beneath which they run for 200 miles to Emden, Hanover, where the second automatic repeater continues the message.

Thence it is flashed to Berlin, Warsaw, Rouno, Odessa, Kertch, Sukhum Kaleh, Tiflis and Tauris, from each of which stations it is instantaneously forwarded without human intervention, the telegraphist at Teheran, who receive the message from Tauris, being the first operator to handle it since it left London. From Teheran the line then extends to India, but nowhere else is there a circuit so long as that between Teheran and London.—London Daily News.

As soon as a man permits a woman to carry the key to the closet in which the skeleton is located the bones begin to rattle.

Joys of Houseboat Life.

Of all the ways to take in ozone with the least expenditure of energy, that by means of a houseboat is the easiest. The houseboat is a camp on water. I know of one built to order that was so big that it could not be floated through a lock; it was doomed forever to float in the open water with a supplying auxiliary force of motor boats. Some of the houseboats are made foolish with screwed-down chairs, like those in the smoking room of a liner. I know of another one in which a piano takes up all of the cabin; another I visited had art squares, crossed fans, fret-work furniture, and other offenses against good taste. A Pittsburg millionaire fitted out his floating house as the Turkish room of the Waldorf is fitted out—with heavy-piled rugs, draped upholstered walls of red, cozy-corners with spear-headed canopies, beaten-brass lamps, incense, and with an ebony card table and carved teakwood furniture. And he exhibited this salon with great pride! The table was furnished with cut glass, the silverware was heavy and monogrammed; linen embroidered with the name of the boat. His houseboat attracted much attention, but it is well that he did not know just what kind. —Delineator.

The Bus Eighty Years Old.

The London omnibus is now eighty years old. It was on July 4, 1829, that George Shillibeer, after being successively a midshipman in the British navy and a coach builder in Paris, placed on the London streets the first two omnibuses ever seen in England. A large crowd assembled to witness the start and general admiration was expressed at the smart appearance of the vehicles, which were built to carry twenty-two passengers, all inside, and were drawn by three beautiful bays, harnessed abreast. The word "Omnibus" was painted in large letters on both sides of the vehicles. The fare from the Yorkshire Stingo to the bank was 1 shilling; half way, 6 pence. Newspapers and magazines were provided free of charge.—English Homes.

At the Automobile Race.

"Have you opened the doors of the temporary hospital?"

"Yes."

"Is the ambulance corps scattered along the course?"

"Yes."

"Are the stretcher men in line?"

"Yes."

"And the 'first aid' men waiting?"

"Yes."

"And the special wire to the coroner's office working?"

"Yes."

"Then let the races begin!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Growing Love.

Mr. and Mrs. Married Bliss were both growing very plump, and every effort to reduce weight had proved fruitless, and their discontent with their failure was pathetic.

"It is too bad," said a mutual friend to a sympathetic physician. "The Blisses are so fond of each other and used to be so graceful and slender when they were first married."

"Ah, well! replied the physician. "Think how much more they are to each other now."—Life.

A Change for the Milder.

Anna B. Dam and Charles I. Gosh were married in Dubuque recently, and those who heard the minister go through the marriage service said it sounded like a steamboat mate talking to the deckhands.—Savannah (Ill.) Journal.

Why the Play Stopped.

During the performance at the National theatre, Marienbad, Bohemia, recently the curtain suddenly went down on the middle of an act. The manager presently explained that the curtain-raiser had received a telegram announcing that he had won $8,000 in a lottery, and had dropped the curtain in his excitement.

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