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OSMIRIDIUM ONE OF HARDEST

Metal Is Employed in Tipping of Fountain Pens and for Delicate Machinery Bearings.

An interesting history attaches to a small packet about two and a half inches square which recently arrived in London. It weighed two and a half pounds and was eagerly bought by an American firm for about \$6,000. The packet contained osmiridium (osmium and its alloy, iridium), used for the tipping of fountain pen points and for delicate bearings of fine machinery.

The discovery of osmiridium, which is a member of the platinum group of metals, constitutes an interesting romance, the Detroit News states. Toward the end of the last year a small group of prospectors were washing for gold in one of the river beds in Papua, British New Guinea. In their eagerness to find the precious metal they threw away from their pans a bluish-gray, flaky substance as worthless.

This was osmiridium, and it is eight times more valuable than gold and worth at the present time about \$200 an ounce.

When the men got back to the settlement they mentioned the occurrence to a mining engineer, who immediately asked them what they did with the substance. They replied that they left it on the river bank, and the engineer exclaimed, "It must be osmiridium."

The next morning the whole party started for the spot only to find on their arrival that the tropical rains and the swollen river had washed away most of the precious stuff. What remained was carefully raked together, refined and dispatched to London, where it arrived safely a short while ago, having been heavily insured for the voyage.

Osmiridium is one of the hardest metals known and prospectors are eagerly searching for it in Papua.

SEE STARS IN GREAT FLOCK

Latest Group Discovered Believed to Contain Equivalent of Quarter Million of Our Suns.

Every new invention of the astronomer's observatory enlarges the distance he can peer into space and measure its receding boundaries, so that one can never say which is the farthest star.

But we can say which is at the farthest distance measured. This honor it at present holds by a tiny blur of light which has no name and a few years ago was not noticed, but which is now identified in the new general catalogue of stars as No. 7006—or, more precisely, N. H. C. 7006.

It is not really one star, but a great flock of stars, probably containing more than the equivalent of a quarter of a million of our suns, and it is so far away that if some unknown astronomer could flash a light signal at us from one of the suns or planets there it would be nearly a quarter of a million years before that message could reach us.

There is good reason to believe that this flock of stars is moving toward us. It is hardly necessary to say, that it will take a long time coming.

An Elastic Metal.

The most remarkable thing about vanadium steels is their almost miraculous elasticity. Today the metal vanadium is comparatively cheap. Yet only 30 years ago it sold at \$450 a pound, and was hardly more than a curiosity of the chemical laboratory.

When a use is found for a rare metal, sources from which it may be obtained in quantity are sure to be discovered. Thus, when the value of vanadium for steel alloys was ascertained, the fact was soon disclosed that vast ore beds containing it existed in Colorado. It is from these beds that the demand is now supplied. The ores are sandstone, impregnated with vanadium, and are dug out in enormous quantities. A by-product of vanadium mining is uranium, from which radium is obtained.

Mythology.

Hebe was the goddess of youth, who poured out the nectar with which the gods pledged each other. One day, upon a solemn occasion, she tripped and fell, and was forced to resign her office. Her father, Jupiter, secured as her successor the beautiful youth Ganymede. Hebe retained the power of restoring the bloom of youth and beauty to the aged and, according to some accounts, it was only after she became the wife of Hercules that she gave up her office of cupbearer. She even succeeded in reconciling her mother, Juno, to Hercules, who suffered all his life from the hatred of the queen of the gods.

Hercules was deified as a reward for his achievements.

Coal Powder.

"Atomized" coal—different from merely "powdered" coal because very minutely divided—is a new product that is finding important uses.

It is used for making a high-grade paint and also as a substitute for lampblack in the manufacture of ink. Another valuable employment for it is in "facing" foundry molds, to give the surfaces a smooth finish in preparation for castings.

GOT EVIDENCE FROM GRAVE

Chinese Tomb Two Hundred Years Old Opened to Prove Contentions as to Ownership.

As a means of adjusting a difference between Chinese litigants who appeared in the mixed court at Shanghai recently, the court directed that a grave mound 200 years old should be opened.

The dispute concerned the ownership of a small tract of ground. In the action, Sung Chul-Dong alleged that Yih Woo-Zong invaded the premises under controversy and erected a bamboo fence around certain graves thereon, asserting that the place was his ancestral burying ground.

The plaintiff claimed the property as his own by ancestral grant.

When the grave mounds were opened, there were brought to light the tablets of a Chinese and his wife who had lived and died under the reign of the Emperor Kang Hsi.

When the tablets were brought to court it was found that the characters on them were of peculiar form and the writing read from left to right instead of from top to bottom, but the inkling was clear and the plaques were well preserved.

After the reading of the tablets, the court announced the graves as those of the defendant's family and Sung's petition was dismissed.

Improved Sewing Machine.

A sewing machine that will do the family darning has now been patented, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. Its essential feature is a steel arm which carries the intricate mechanism controlling the shuttle and feed. This is increased in a ball at the end of the arm. In this way about twenty parts have been eliminated, making maintenance less expensive, and because of its simplicity, requiring less power to run. In darning, the bedplate covers over the ball and arm are removed, and the sock is drawn over the ball and along the arm. This construction also permits the sewing and mending of various other articles that require circular seaming.

Height of Aurora Borealis.

A Norwegian scientist, M. Stormer, was able to have photographed at several points in his country, the aurora borealis seen last May, which upset telegraph lines and cables and provided a gorgeous display in many parts of the world.

Comparing these photographs in relation to known stars photographed at the same time, he has calculated the height at which this aurora borealis was spread forth—namely, 312½ miles.

Thus, since the aurora borealis is by proof an electrical illumination of the rarified air gases, the earth's atmosphere extends at least that distance above the earth's surface.—Detroit News.

Is This Cruel and Unusual?

Chinese "safety first" sponsors have hit upon a drastic method of punishment in the effort to minimize deaths and accidents, due to reckless operation of motor cars, in the suggestion of imprisonment for offenders in a room with a wax figure of the victim. The Chinese Society for the Protection of Life has asked the Shanghai municipal council to adopt an ordinance prescribing the punishment, with the term of imprisonment left to the discretion of the court.

New Zealand Offers Air Prize.

A substantial prize has been offered for the first flight from Auckland to Wellington in a New Zealand built airplane by a New Zealander.

Phone Conduits for Montevideo.

Uruguay has authorized experts from the United States to make studies for and underground telephone system in Montevideo.

HAS HAD ADVENTUROUS LIFE

United States Senator Cameron of Arizona Can Recall Wild Days of the Woolly West.

Senator Ralph Cameron of Arizona has had enough adventures in real life to make Bill Hart or Tom Mix look like second-raters. If anyone could get the senator into competition as a story teller with the two leading Wild West movie heroes, Mr. Cameron was once an Arizona sheriff and that was in the days when there were still two-gun men floating around the outskirts of civilization and perforating their enemies now and then with perfectly good bullets made of real lead.

So the present senator's life was far from an easy one. He once captured a bandit wanted pretty badly for murder and bluffed 200 Mexicans and later another crowd of Americans out of their plans to take the bandit away and try him before that well-known American jurist, Judge Lynch. He got the bandit in jail, kept him there and he finally was tried and sent up for a little matter of 90 years.

Good Word for the Boll Weevil.

Mainly to the boll-weevil, and to a less extent to the exigencies of the war, we owe the fact that a cotton equal if not superior to that grown anywhere in the world is being produced in Arizona, where, in the Salt River valley, 28,000 acres of cream-colored bolls now bloom with cotton fiber that averages one and eleven-sixteenths inches in length.

Cotton production in the Salt River valley plantation has increased from 15,000 bales in 1917 to 37,000 bales last year. It is expected that the output in 1920 will be 50,000 bales, which will be about one-eighth of the total production to be used in the manufacture of automobile tires.

This effort would probably not have been made for many years if it had not been for the fact that the cotton crop of the South sea islands had been destroyed by the boll-weevil. The success of the domestic efforts in this direction was largely due to private enterprise.

Tunnel Ventilation Tried.

The test of the ventilation system in a model vehicular tunnel, a replica of the proposed Hudson River tunnel from New York to Jersey City, conducted at the experimental mine of the United States bureau of mines at Bruceton, near Pittsburgh, was considered a success by the bureau's officials and members of the New Jersey Bridge and Tunnel commission who attended.

Experiments were made to determine the effects of motor exhaust gases, the heat and the smoke, and the best methods of eliminating all such effects on motorists in tunnels.

Discovered at Last.

A change in the function of the pituitary body, one of the smallest of the ductless glands, which is about the size of a pea and is hidden on the underside of the brain, is responsible for the increase of divorce, according to Dr. Ernest E. Tucker, of New York.

This statement was made at the annual convention of the American Osteopathic Association of America. The growing wealth of the country and the increased standard of living is partly responsible for the change of function in the gland and also contributed to the divorce epidemic.

Bacteria Thrive on Ice.

It has long been known that no degree of cold yet attained will kill bacteria. Yet it might be supposed that they must at least be dormant when embedded in eternal ice. Yet Dr. A. L. McLane found them alive and active in the ice many feet below the surface in the Antarctic expedition conducted by Sir Douglas Mawson in 1911-1914.—Detroit Free Press

A Reminder

Don't forget that promise you made the good wife and daughter to buy a piano or Victrola. Come and look at stock of Musical goods. We have what you want at the right price.

Pianos, Player-Pianos and Victrolas

You can take the easy payment plan if you do not care to pay cash.

Yours for 59 years of Musical Service.

ROGERS & WILSON

South Main St. Established 1871 Goshen, Indiana

PROGRAM

Crystal Theatre

Thursday and Friday, Jan. 5 and 6—Special Attraction

"A TRIP TO PARADISE" with Bert Lytell a extra fine production also a 2 reel comedy drama. Adm. 15 20 and 25c.

Saturday, January 7

"THE TESTING BLOCK" with William S. Hart, and a Sunshine comedy.

Sunday and Monday, January 8 and 9

"THE LOVE SPECIAL" with Wallace Reid a special production and a 2 reel comedy.

Public Sale

I will offer for sale at public auction beginning at one o'clock Saturday, January 7, 1922 at the Platt residence near the Catholic church, Ligonier the following property: A State Hot Storm heating stove, a three-burner oil stove, an 8-ft. round oak dining table, library table, small kitchen cabinet, Auburn roadster automobile, organ in good condition, two rocking chairs, six dining room chairs, three kitchen chairs, Verice Morton bedstead, springs and mattress, one full sized iron bed, one half size iron bed with springs and mattress for both, two commodore sofa iron spring cot, wash tubs and boilers, 15-gal jar, fruit jars, two cider barrels, cooking utensils, dishes, few bed clothes, 18 head chicken and other articles not mentioned.

Terms—All sums under \$5 cash all over that amount a credit of 9 months will be given with 7 per cent interest from date.

J. S. Musser
E. R. Kurtz, Auctioneer
Joe W. Smith, clerk.

This Means You, Mr. Merchant!

DID you know that you and this paper have an interest in common? Your success helps the community as a whole which in turn is of benefit to us.

When a merchant advertises with us, he is investing his money, which is returned with interest.

Show Your Goods in the Windows and Advertise Them in This Paper

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Hard and Soft Coal

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We Invite You to Join One or More
Of The Following Classes of Our 1922

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB

CLASS 1. Members paying 1 cent the first week, 2 cents the second week, and increasing 1 cent each week for fifty weeks will get \$12.75

CLASS 1A. Members paying 50 cents the first week, 49 cents the second week, and decreasing 1 cent each week for fifty weeks will get \$12.75

CLASS 2. Members paying 2 cents the first week, 4 cents the second week, and increasing 2 cents each week for fifty weeks, will get \$25.50

CLASS 2A. Members paying \$1.00 the first week, 98 cents the second week, and decreasing 2 cents each week for fifty weeks, will get \$25.50

CLASS 5. Members paying 5 cents the first week, 10 cents the second week, and increasing 5 cents each week for fifty weeks will get \$63.75

CLASS 5A. Members paying \$2.50 the first week \$2.45 the second week, and decreasing 5 cents each week for fifty weeks, will get \$63.75

CLASS 10. Members paying 10 cents the first week, 20 cents the second week, and increasing 10 cents each week for fifty weeks, will get \$127.50

CLASS 10A. Members paying \$5.00 the first week, \$4.90 the second week and decreasing 10 cents each week for fifty weeks, will get \$127.50

CLASS 10 Fixed. Members paying 10 cents a week for fifty weeks, will get \$5.00

CLASS 25 Fixed. Members paying 25 cents a week for fifty weeks will get \$12.50

CLASS 50 Fixed. Members paying 50 cents a week for fifty weeks, will get \$25.00

CLASS 100 Fixed. Members paying \$1.00 a week for fifty weeks, will get \$50.00

CLASS 200 Fixed. Members paying \$2.00 a week for fifty weeks will get \$100.00

CLASS 500 Fixed. Members paying \$5.00 a week for fifty weeks will get \$250.00

CLASS 1000. Members paying \$10.00 a week for fifty weeks will get \$500.00

Just before Christmas you will receive all the money you have saved with four per cent interest added if all payments are made regularly or in advance

CITIZENS BANK
Ligonier, Indiana