HOME ECONOMIC EXPERTS TO DISCUSS PROBLEM

Problems of scientific home making, ranging from "the use of fat in the human body" to "the home maker and the delinquent" will be discussed at the annual meeting of the American Home Economics Association, to be held in San Francisco August 1 to 6. One general session will be given over to the relation of home economics to changing social ideals and practices. More than 1,000 persons are expected to attend.

AMERICAN CHILDREN CLAIMED MORE INTELLIGENT THAN CHINESE

Intelligence tests recently conducted in San Francisco public schools show American children to be superior to Chinese children in the matter of intelligence, says Virginia T. Graham in her report of the tests to appear in The Journal of Comparative Psychology.

The Chinese childrenused as subjects for the tests were all pupils of the Oriental School of San Francisco, a public school exclusively for Chinese. Only about one fifth of the children tested were born in China, but all were of Chinese parentage and came from Chinese speaking homes. The majority were Cantonese.

The subjects were all twelve years old and as practically all of the twelve year old children in the school were tested, the group was reasonably representative.

Several different types of standard mental tests were used, and in so far as possible tests were selected which would not likely be affected by the difference in language. These same tests had been given previously to a group of American children and the results recorded.

WHAT THE HEAVENS OFFER IN AUGUST

"NORTHERN CROSS" NOW PROMINENT IN EVENING

by James Stokley,
(Science Service Staff Writer)

About nine o'clock in the evening, when it is clear, look at the eastern sky, near the zenith, and you will see the constellation of Cygnus, the Swan, better known, perhaps, as the "Northern Cross". Residents of the southern hemisphere are justly proud of their famous "Southern Cross", and greatly resent any aspersions cast on it, but of the two, the Northern Cross is the more perfect. The southern consists of brighter stars, but unlike ours, has no star at the intersection of the upright and the arms. The northern one, as we see it this month, is on its side. The upright consists of three bright stars and a fainter one, which are in a row running almost north and south. At the northern end is Deneb, while the southern one is Albireo; but astronomers scorn these ancient though picturesque names, and call them alpha and beta Cygni, after the usual system, by which the stars of a constellation are called by Greek letters in order of their brightness. The cross-piece runs from east to west, and just

below it is another star which belongs to the constellation proper, but not to the cross. The longer part of the upright forms the Swan's neck, the shorter, its tail, and the cross-piece its wings.

But the bright stars are not only in Cygnus. Almost overhead is Vega, in the constellation of Lyra, the Lyre, which contains no other very bright stars. Southwest of this is Altair, in the Eagle, or Aquila. The three stars, Altair, Vega and Deneb form a huge triangle which has no name, but is helpful as a "landmark", possibly I should say "skymark", in identifying other stars of the summer sky.

Imagine a straight line passed through Altair and Vega, and extending to the west to a distance about equal tothat between the stars, and you will be able to find the constellation of Bootes, the Bear Driver. This appears in the shape of a kite, at the lower, or western, end of which is the bright star Arcturus. A continuation of the line from Deneb to Vega and about three times the distance between them passes to the west of a bright reddish star. Antares, in Scorpio, or the Scorpion. Eastward from Antares, and parallel to the horizon, is the Scorpion's tail, with a very natural curve on the end of it. This is one of the few constellations that show any considerable resemblance to the objects which they are supposed to represent.

The Big Dipper, probably the best known group of stars in the sky, is now in the northwest, the dipper being in the positionit would occupy if hung by the handle, the pointers, which point to the north star, being at the end of the bowl farthest from the handle. On the eastern side of the pole star is Cassiopeia, in the shape of a great W, and supposed to represent a lady seated on a chair.

Several of the most interesting planets are now in fine position for viewing, the most conspicuous being Jupiter, which blazes in the southeast. There is nodoubt in recognizing it, as it is the brightest object in the sky at nine o'clock, although just after sunset Venus appears brilliant, low in the west.

The most interesting feature of Jupiter is the system of moons, or satellites that it sports. Instead of one, like the earth, or two, like Mars, Jupiter has nine. These are not visible to the unaided eye, and some of them are only perceived with the most powerful telescopes, but the four brightest ones, which Galileo discovered in 1610, can be detected with a good pair of binoculars.

It is a matter of surprise tomany people when they learn what can be seen with even slight optical aid. Galileo's telescope was not as good as most modern opera glasses, yet he made discoveries with it that rank among the greatest in the history of astronomy. While there is not much hope of making any startling discoveries with them, a good pair of binoculars will reveal many interesting sights in the heavens, including the craters on the moon. The important thing to remember is to provide some steady support for the glasses, as the slight vibration when they are held in even the steadiest hands prevents seeing fine details.

Saturn is in the west, southwest of Arcturus, and appears as a bright star, though not as bright as Jupiter, as it is much farther away from us. The system of rings, which make Saturn unique, are now in a good position for seeing, but a telescope magnifying at least thirty diameters is needed to reveal them.

An interesting spectacle, although not of any scientific value, will occur on August 29, about seven o'clock in the evening, Eastern Standard Time, when the moon and Jupiter are in conjunction. The moon will be in a gibbous phase, a few days after first quarter, and in the southeastern sky. A short distance below it, and equal to about four times its diameter will be the planet Jupiter. With a pair of binoculars these can both be seen in the same field, and to see the lunar mountains and Jupiter's moons at the same time will be a novel experience.

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

A MANUAL OF STYLE, WITH SPECIMENS OF TYPE. By the University of Chicago Press. Chicago, 1925. 391 pages, $3.00

Including the nine introductory pages of title, table of contents, and so on, this book contains an even four hundred pages. At three dollars, that makes it exactly three-quarters of a cent a page. And for the person who writes, whether for profit or for pleasure (with more or less hope of eventual profit), no better bargain can be found. The careful and long-experienced editors of the University of Chicago Press, with aid from veteran copy and proof readers too, no doubt, have thought of every possible mistake an author can make, from the first rough-draft to the kind of type in the "blurb" on the cover-jacket, and have diligently prepared antidotes. If taken in time and according to directions, immunity against headaches, heartaches and loss of money is guaranteed. This is the eighth edition of the book since 1906, which should be recommendation enough in itself.

THE PLEISTOCENE OF THE MIDDLE REGION OF NORTH AMERICA AND ITS VERTEBRATED ANIMALS. By Oliver P. Hay, Washington: The Carnegie Institution of Washington. Publication 322 A. 385 pages, 1924.

This volume needs no more recommendation than the simple statement that it is in existence. It is, of course, limited in its usefulness to geologists and paleontologists interested in recent history; but to these it is simply indispensable.

On his silver wedding anniversary, May 10, the Emperor of Japan presented lacquered drinking bowls to nearly 20,000 persons who were over 90 years of age.

The amount of clay dug up and sold in the United States last year was 3,676,720 short tons, of which two thirds was fire clay and less than one tenth kaolin.

The number of first admissions to hospitals for mental disease in the United States annually is practically equal to the number of persons graduated from colleges and universities in a year.

Among the famous men who have lived to a good old age are: Michael Angelo, 89 years; Voltaire, 84; Tennyson, 83; Gladstone, 89; Victor Hugo, 83; Goethe, 83; Titian, 99; Herbert Spencer, 83.
