

GEOLOGY

Quake in Pacific

A point on the edge of the continental shelf, in the Pacific Ocean, and about 125 miles off the coast at Los Angeles, was the center of the earthquake felt on Friday morning, November 4. From the study of seismograph records gathered by Science Service, earthquake experts of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey have determined the epicenter as being at 33 degrees north latitude and 121 degrees west longitude. The quake took place at 8:50 a. m. Eastern Standard Time.

Records of the earthquake were reported from the seismograph station of the Survey at Tucson, Arizona; from those of the Jesuit Seismological Association at Georgetown University, Washington; Fordham University, New York; Regis College, Denver, Colorado; and St. Louis University, St. Louis; and from stations at the University of California, Berkeley; the Weather Bureau, Chicago, Ill.; the Dominion Observatory, Ottawa, Canada, and the Meteorological Observatory, Victoria, B. C.

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SOCIOLOGY

Attacks High Hospital Fees

"Hospitalization for the patient of moderate means," was the slogan of the address by Dr. R. G. Brodrick, president of the American Hospital Association, opening its annual convention at Minneapolis on October 11.

"It seems to me that the chief aim of this Association," declared Dr. Brodrick, "should be to foster any movement that offers a reasonable solution of the problem of providing hospitalization for the great bulk of people of moderate means with whom illness today is a terrible calamity, not so much because of the gravity of the illness, but rather because of their inability to meet the extraordinary expenses.

"For the care of the poor, society through public and private agencies has provided the medical, surgical and nursing attention, quite equal to that procurable by the wealthy, but the people whose normal economic expectancy is neither want nor wealth, are those upon whom illness falls most heavily."

Compulsory sickness insurance was suggested by Dr. Brodrick as a possible means of meeting the problem of hospital service for the patient of moderate means who constitutes 80 per cent. of the whole population.

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PHILOSOPHY

Quietude: A Prayer

God of all flesh, when these my days
are sped
Let me but hear the music of the
spheres
Or see, far off, the progress of the
years
And I shall be greatwhile content
though dead;
For to their heavenly music I am
wed
And thrill with subtle thrills, nor
yield to fears.
Thy great To-morrow wipes away
all tears
And there, as here, Thy law shall be
our bread.
Then let me dwell in some great
quiet place
Where I may brood in peace on
time's deep things
And all the mystery that round man
clings;
Far off, mayhap, have glimpse of
one sweet face;
And catch the tones of twanging
golden strings
Whereto Thy myriad million stars
keep pace.

—The late Erwin F. Smith, in *Science*.

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Our New World

By C. E. AYRES

On the surface modern life is very different from what the human race has ever known before. These tremendous cities and thundering machines, these specialized occupations and standardized enjoyments, give an appearance to life very different from any it has ever had before. Nineveh and Tyre, Athens, Carthage, Rome, Byzantium, Paris of the time of Abelard, Florence of the time of Leonardo, London of the time of Shakespeare, were all very much of a piece compared with New York of the time of Edison. The differences among them are great; but they are not so great as the difference between each one and New York. Not even the differences between any of these and the aboriginal cities of Egyptian, Minoan, or, for that matter, Mayan civilization compares with the difference between Shakespeare's London and New York. The industrial revolution represents a major cleavage in the history of civilization, a fault line not between two hillocks but between two mountain ranges. What lies beyond is somehow separated from all that lies before.—Quotation from *Science: the False Messiah*—Bobbs-Merrill.

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ZOOLOGY

Goldfish Are Hardy

Goldfish are hardy creatures and stand the discomforts of travel better than most varieties of fish which the express companies are called upon to transport, according to the U. S. Fisheries Service. Government experts on the ways of fishes were recently requested by one of the large express concerns to look into the means at present employed in the shipping of goldfish. They found that in the rather crowded cans commonly used, the fish soon exhausted the supply of oxygen dissolved in the water, and thereafter kept alive by staying at the surface almost all the time and gulping air. Very small losses were occasioned by lack of oxygen, but more serious difficulties arose if waste products and slime were allowed to accumulate at the bottom of the cans. This was not ordinarily removed when the water was changed by being poured off, but when the water was drained by siphoning from the bottom the trouble was eliminated. The Fisheries Service recommends the use of wide, flat cans for shipping goldfish, and frequent changes of water with complete removal of bottom refuse.

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HYGIENE

Eat When Happy

"Never eat when you are tired," is one of the primary rules of health laid down by Dr. Robert E. Humphreys of the New Jersey Orthopedic Hospital at Orange, New Jersey.

"We do everything in a rush, and then brag about it," declares Dr. Humphreys in a discussion of the psychology of eating, which will appear in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Public Health*. "This undoubtedly leads to many serious mistakes and much ill-health.

"In order to keep a child healthy he must be kept happy; he must not be forced to eat when he does not want to eat; and he must not be allowed to eat unless he is rested. Children worry much more than people are aware. As most children live in crowded communities, they must be constantly on their guard against all kinds of things, street cars, automobiles, trains and the like. They are constantly in fear of something, which disturbs their digestion and their metabolism. Many of them congregate and play together; this leads to fights which also upset their digestion."

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