

Unless homes are put into good order and kept that way, such accidents will increase during blackout conditions. Even if your home is so well blacked out that you can leave all the lights on, you or someone in the family may, because of nervousness or haste, move with less care than usual and fail to see the toy Junior has left lying on the floor in time to keep yourself from stumbling over it and injuring yourself in falling.

If you are preparing a single refuge room for your family to use during blackouts while the rest of the home is darkened by turning off the lights, be sure there are no mops or pails on the stairs or in the halls leading to it. These or the bulge of the family laundry bag on the stairway or in a narrow hall may trip or shove someone into a dangerous misstep or fatal fall.

Check up on the extension cords from lamps or other electrical equipment to see that they are not in a place where someone might trip over them. They should run along the sides of a room, not across any space where people walk, and should be firmly fastened to floor or baseboard.

Be sure to put the bridge tables away after using them and to move coffee tables, smokers' stands and the like back to their usual places before dusk or at the end of the evening. You might want to rearrange some of the furniture so as to leave plenty of clear space for walking safely through rooms in darkness.

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PALEONTOLOGY

Fossil Footprints of Extinct Beasts Found

FOOTPRINTS of animals more than a million years dead have been found in great numbers in a chalky rock deposit in Graham County, Kans., and are reported in *Science* (Jan. 23) by Dr. George F. Sternberg and Dr. George M. Robertson of Fort Hays Kansas State College. The tracks include those of camel, rhinoceros, mastodon, an unidentified carnivore, and smaller animals.

The tracks were found in rock exposed in the spillway of a pasture pond. In the pre-Ice Age days when they were formed, the same spot seems to have been a water-hole visited by thirsty animals. Deeper in the rock, and belonging to a still earlier geologic period, were found remains of fish and turtles.

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GENERAL SCIENCE

World Community Expected To Result From War

Geologist Predicts the Planned Coordination of Human Activities of All Sorts When Peace Comes

THE collective organization of all human beings into some form of world community, with a planned coordination of human activities of all sorts, was predicted as a result of the war by Dr. Kirtley F. Mather, Harvard professor of geology, speaking at the Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

"Regardless of the outcome of the present World War, the old order will inevitably be replaced by a new order that is even now being forged on the ringing anvil of history," Dr. Mather said.

"This organization of individuals into a world society is the inevitable consequence of the extensive use of natural resources that are unevenly distributed over the face of the earth. The ceaseless flow of things from mine and quarry, field and forest, to processing plants, mills and refineries and thence to consumers is a fundamental necessity in an age of science and technology."

Dr. Mather said that it is quite likely that the historian of the future will rate this middle third of the twentieth century as equal in significance to the closing third of the fifteenth century. Today, just as in that ancient time, human civilization is moving from an era that is closing into a new era that is opening.

There is actually an abundance of the needed raw materials, Dr. Mather said. A careful appraisal of the world stores of non-renewable resources, including known substitutes for such resources as petroleum that are known to be present in insufficient amounts, reveals the fact that there is enough and to spare of all the necessary raw materials to provide the physical basis for the efficient, comfortable existence of every human being who is likely to be born anywhere on the earth during the next two thousand years at least.

"Science and technology are even now inaugurating a new relationship between man and the things he needs or thinks he needs," he said. "For a century or more the tendency has been to use more and more of the non-renewable resources, nature's stored capital, and

relatively less of the renewable resources, man's annual income. For example, between 1900 and 1925 we used up more of the world's resources of the various metals and mineral fuels than had been used by man throughout his entire history prior to the year 1900.

"But within the last decade, scientific research has reversed the trend. The expanding chemical industries with their plastics and synthetic resins depend largely upon things that grow, and these are a product of the potentially inexhaustible resources of the soil. Long before the capital stored by nature throughout geologic time has been exhausted, man may well have learned how to live within his annual income. Thanks to discovery and invention, it may be truly practical literally to beat our swords into ploughshares, our spears into pruning hooks.

"Mother Earth is rich enough to nourish every man in freedom. It is man, not nature, that enslaves. The question whether it is better to starve as a free man or grow fat as a slave has often been a difficult one to answer, but that question need never arise if men use intelligence and good will in determining the relation between the individual and society."

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PHYSICS

V Symphony Has Good Tones For Air Raid Siren

THE first four notes of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony which signal Morse code "V" for "Victory" could be used as the tone range for air raid sirens.

National Bureau of Standards tests of various siren tones show that a semi-musical note anywhere within the musical scale from A below middle C to C above middle C is best heard against city noises. Physicists will recognize this range as between 200 and 500 cycles.

The first four notes of Beethoven's Fifth are three G's and E flat, well within the recommended range.

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