

The World's Oldest and Smallest Books

THESE two books—one said to be the oldest, the other the smallest in the world—are on display at the University Library in Philadelphia, Pa. The oldest book—about an inch and a half square—is a record of commerce and barter inscribed on stone during the Ur dynasty of

the Babylonian kings, more than 5000 years ago. It is shown between the fingers of the hand above.

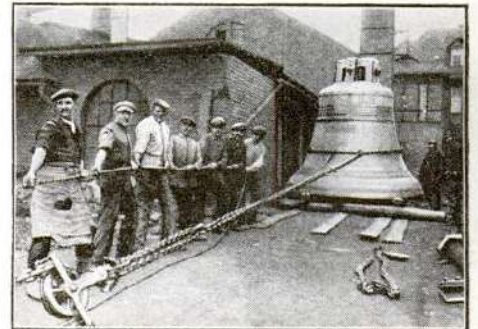
The smallest volume, made only a few years ago and containing several hundred pages, rests in the hollow of the hand as pictured above.

World's Largest Bell for Cologne Cathedral

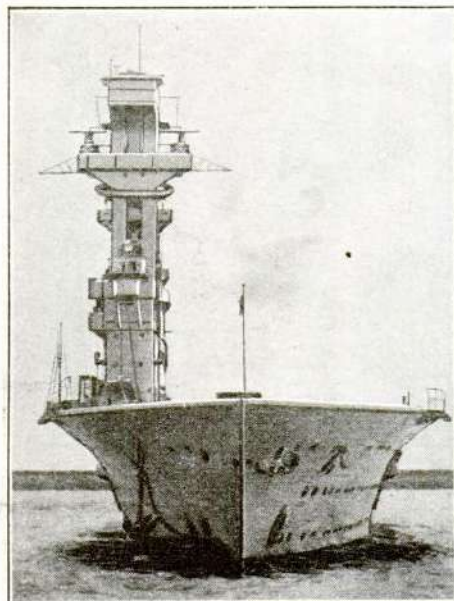
THE largest bell in the world, a magnificent modern example of the bell-maker's exacting and historic craft, was completed recently for the tower of the famous Cologne cathedral, in Cologne, Germany. The ornamentation of the great bell, although simple, is said to have been wrought with rare artistry.

Its ancient predecessor in the old steeple was removed during the Great War and melted for use as metal for munitions.

In the photograph below workmen are shown moving the bell on rollers by means of block and tackle.



Moving the huge bell on rollers



One-Sided Ship a Landing Field for Aircraft

THE something that seems to be missing from this ship never was there. The vessel is the British naval aircraft carrier, *Hermes*, and the flat, open space is a landing-deck for the seaplanes she mothers.

The superstructure has been compacted into a five-story starboard tower. The craft is ballasted heavily to port to compensate for the weight of the tower. Exhaust from her engines escapes through horizontal funnels at the stern.

The *Hermes* is said to be the finest craft of her type in the world.

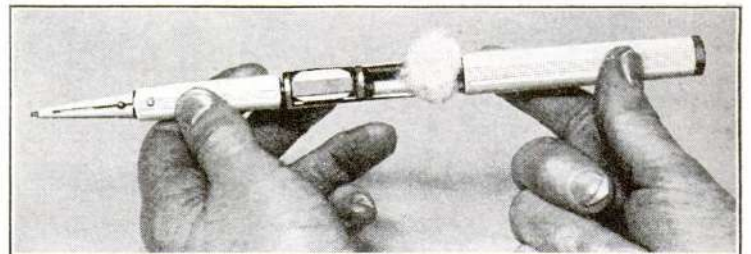
MOLES may be controlled by placing teaspoonful quantities of concentrated lye in their runways at 25- and 50-foot intervals, recent experiments indicate.

Shopper's Pencil and Vanity Case Combined

DESIGNED especially for the woman shopper, an unusual combination of pencil, powder puff, and rouge stick is handy either for jotting down shopping notes or for renewing the complexion.

While the pencil is small enough to be carried in a compartment of a small hand-bag, the upper part of the holder serves as the vanity case. Powder puff and rouge are made available

by removing a cap, which contains a day's supply of powder. In the lower part of the holder is another compartment with an extra supply of leads for the pencil.



The pencil with cap removed, showing powder puff and rouge

"Auto Grasshopper" Survives Hard Bumps

AN EMBANKMENT at a dangerous turn in the road probably would hold no terrors for a newly invented automotive "grasshopper" shown below in mid-air during a six-foot jump.

The car, the ingenious creation of a French engineer, has extraordinarily powerful springs, so that even a hard fall cannot smash it if it lands upright, the maker

claims. Also, it is said to be fire-proof, so that a bad crash could not set it ablaze.

Although the car seems to lack an engine, it has one, just in front of the rear wheels.

It is the inventor himself who is shown in the picture below handling his acrobatic car.

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Making a six-foot jump from an embankment in the new shock-proof automobile

