

rollers. Spring jack pins, operating vertically, actuate a series of switches, one for each lamp, and turn the lamps on and off, one at a time. Two rollers, set one slightly in advance of the other and pressing against the upper and lower surface of the double switchboard, operate the spring jack pins. As the pointer moves to the right, the roller underneath, which is in the rear of the upper one, as referred to the direction of travel, presses up the spring jack pins, closes the contacts, and lights the lamps one by one. The pins are so placed with relation to the mechanism that as the pointer points to a lamp, it is lighted or extinguished. When the end of the letter O is reached, the belt-shifting mechanism comes into play, the rotation of the feed screw is reversed, and the carriage begins to come back. As it does this, it will be seen that the upper roller becomes the rear one. It presses down, one by one, the spring jack pins, opens the contacts, and extinguishes the lamps, each lamp being extinguished as the pointer points to it. The effect of this is that the pointer seems to write and obliterate the name in its

THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION—THE COURT OF HONOR.

Within the last few months the Court of Honor has become a household word in millions of American homes. The glory of this unique creation is almost beyond description, and whether it be viewed in broad sunlight or at night under the glare of the electrical search lamps it never ceases to charm. The unity and harmoniousness of design exhibited by the buildings which fringe the Grand Basin testify to the rare skill of the architects, while the exquisite proportion of the various buildings makes the Court of Honor at once a triumph of elegance, symmetry and dignity.

The lower or lake end of the Court of Honor, illustrated herewith, which is terminated by Mr. C. B. Atwood's highly effective peristyle, probably affords the finest single view on the grounds. At the extreme right will be seen the end pavilion of the Agricultural building crowned by one of the horoscope groups. Beyond is the Casino, which is at right angles to the peristyle. Although the Casino fell into financial

ings. At the left in our engraving, one corner of the Manufactures and Liberal Arts building will be noticed. Directly in front is one of the six Roman rostral pillars, whose tapered shafts are decorated with the representations of prows of captured galleys, and which are surmounted by statues of Neptune. It is a pity that this great dream of beauty could not be made permanent, but it will live for years in the minds of the millions of visitors who gazed upon its unparalleled magnificence, and in the photographs and engravings of illustrated histories.

Reptiles and Insects in the Philippine Islands.

The British consul at Manila, in his report on the Philippine Islands for last year, says: The reptiles and insects are various and abundant. Crocodiles are found in most of the deep rivers and uncultivated tracts. Enormous lizards, frogs, snakes, crabs, centipedes, huge spiders, ants, cockroaches, mosquitoes,



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travel, and as the pointer is visible to the audience, many wise conjectures are made as to its operation, induction and all sorts of mysterious powers being invoked to account for the mystery.

The larger figure of the cut shows the general disposition of the apparatus, while the arrangement of the spring jack pins pushed up and down by one or the other roller, throwing the lamps in and out of action, is shown in section in the smaller figure. The pins are arranged diagonally, so as to secure the pushing up or down of them in systematic progression.

New Coal Vein in Mexico.

An extensive vein of coal has been discovered 13 leagues from Pachuca—the present terminus of the Mexican Central's Tula-Pachuca branch line. The coal is said to be of good quality, as shown by all the tests. The lack of cheap coal has always been one of the difficulties with which this company has had to contend. The opening up of extensive coal deposits anywhere near its line would therefore mean an important reduction in the operating cost of the property.

difficulties several times, still many can look back upon the Casino with pleasant memories of the hours spent in rest and refreshment under the hospitable roof. The Casino matches the Music Hall, which is at the other end of the peristyle. The peristyle is composed of forty-eight columns, twenty-four on either side. These columns are symbolical of the States and Territories. It is two hundred and thirty-four feet from each corner building to the grand Columbian Arch, which is surmounted by a quadriga representing "The Triumph of Columbus." The chariot is drawn by four mettlesome horses held in check by two women. Mounted heralds on each carry banners. In front of the arch on an isolated pedestal rises the heroic statue of the Republic, which is a masterpiece of the sculptor, Daniel Chester French.

The statue is sixty-five feet high and rests on a pedestal thirty-five feet in height. This bold creation, which is of a rugged and almost archaic type, worthily embodies the spirit of the New World. It is not altogether an independent work of art, but it is intended primarily as a piece of architectural sculpture, and is a complement of the surrounding build-

ing. In the dry weather the trees around Manila are quite illuminated with fireflies. With insects in the house, however, one is less troubled than in most tropical countries, owing, it is said, to the predominance of the lizards and "chacons," which devour them, and which swarm sometimes on the ceilings by lamplight, and are quite harmless, while beneficial. There are huge pythons in the interior of the forests and various poisonous snakes in the fields and woods, some of which have a deadly bite, but people may pass their lives here without seeing a snake. Although a harmless species, the ratsnake frequently takes up his lodging under the roof, and only makes his presence known by the squeals of the rats which he seizes. The ants, white and red, and others, and the cockroaches and mosquitoes are more troublesome and destructive. Against the white ants precautions have to be taken by putting the legs of tables and sideboards into basins filled with water to prevent the insects climbing up and attacking articles of food. The destruction of wood by the white ants is something incredible—none but the hardest fibers withstand their ravages.