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THE JUNIOR PLAY.

The Sentinel seems to have been laboring under a misapprehension, two or three of them, and possibly more. Let them come in their order.

The Sentinel has frequently had a kind and complimentary word to say about plays that have been given by high school students. No one ever thanked The Sentinel for the complimentary stories, or in any way indicated that they had been read and appreciated. Naturally The Sentinel presumed that such stories had not been read, or that no one cared very much what it said about high school plays.

But it seems that in this The Sentinel was mistaken. What it has to say about high school plays is very thoroughly read. This fact wasn't discovered by accident. The discovery followed very closely upon the publication of a story in Monday's paper in which criticism was expressed as to the manner in which the junior class put on a recent play.

This was misapprehension No. 1. The play was given in the city's theater by pupils who are in their third year of high school and they were directed by an unusually competent instructor and an admission fee was charged, all of which put the performance in a position which to The Sentinel seemed to demand an amateur production of a high class.

This was misapprehension No. 2. Furthermore a production by juniors, produced as part of their regular school work, can not be expected to be in the same class as an annual class play, or some other play by the senior class. Of this the writer has been informed by those fully as able to judge as he is.

The Sentinel thought it the proper thing to offer something in the way of criticism that would indicate to those soon to take their places in the world that great reward does not come from little effort, and hoped thereby to put on their mettle those who may later in the year take parts in high school plays.

This was misapprehension No. 3. The criticism was so severe, so The Sentinel is reliably informed, that it is feared that it may be difficult to get pupils to take parts in future proposed plays.

Which is not as it should be. In the first place, the criticism should not have been, was not intended to be, severe enough to have an effect of that kind.

In the second place, pupils who soon will have to battle with the world, instead of hesitating for fear of criticism should buckle down and go into the next play with a determination to produce it in a manner to force commendation. The things the world has to give go to the fighter and the

Sentinel trusts that in the 1928 class there is not a quitter.

Pupils of the Cottage Grove schools have teachers who have their interests at heart, whose greatest joy is to see their pupils win high marks, who wish for every one of their pupils a high place in the world in which they will move after school days are gone, who are giving the best years of their lives to make profitable the after years of those they are instructing, who wish the Cottage Grove schools to maintain a high place in educational circles of the state.

The instructors are competent, but success lies largely with the pupils. If they would win praise they must welcome well-intended criticism, for only by having their faults pointed out can they correct them. Praise and encouragement they may need, but the greatest harm that can be done them is to give them praise when not deserved, thereby giving them a wrong slant on life by giving them something they haven't earned, thereby causing them to rest on their oars when they should be straining every muscle to win the race.

The Sentinel is ready to admit that others, including members of the cast, have taken the criticism of the junior play more seriously than The Sentinel expected, for which reason it may be well to say that it is the wish of this paper at all times to find things in the schools which can be complimented. It believes that the recent criticism, even though it may have been rather severe, was better than damning with faint praise and will result in the opportunity which The Sentinel always seeks to boost anything and everything done in Cottage Grove, particularly things done by those soon to take our places, those who in a few years will be criticizing youngsters whom they will believe are not making as good a record as did high school boys and girls of today.

This writer is reminded of the story of the man from a country town who visited a cousin in New York. The New Yorker took his country relative to a drama at one of the best theaters in America's greatest city. At the conclusion of the play the country cousin asked where the players came from.

"Why from right here in New York," he was informed.

"Well, I think they did darned good for home talent."

The Sentinel has been informed that members of the recent cast did well for juniors. As this writer has never been a junior, and as those who say the play was good for a play put on by juniors have been juniors, and know what ought to be expected of juniors, and as The Sentinel sincerely wishes to encourage those who try to do their best, it is willing to let that go as the criticism that should have been offered, but it sincerely trusts that high school students producing plays in the future will not be satisfied with that kind of praise.

Cottage Grove pastors and others claiming familiarity with the bible are discussing the unpardonable sin. As usual, there is disagreement as to what that sin is and as to what the bible says on the subject. The Sentinel mak as well settle the question now and forever. The unpardonable sin is to fail to pay your newspaper subscription, but this writer is unable to point to the passage in scripture which is authority for this statement.

It takes coffee to make this man sleep: He is Joseph Peetel, a school janitor at Newark, New Jersey. He insists that he cannot sleep unless he drinks six quarts of coffee a day. The thing that keeps most people awake sends him into dreamland. But that's the way of the world—some men prefer brunettes, some blondes.—Oregon Journal.

The Journal should not have left us to wonder which one keeps us awake.

Correspondents in The Oregonian are carrying on an extended discussion as to whether a fellow who bought a dog for \$1 and sold it for \$500 made 500 per cent profit, 49,500 per cent profit or 50,000 per cent profit. Such rates of profit are too high to be lightly discussed in any newspaper.

"Boys and Girls of Lane Exhibit Stock," says a headline in this morning's Eugene Register. We take it that this means that the Lane boys have taken unanimously to ne plus fours.

It is no wonder that there seems to be a lack of interest in good roads when so many of us care so little about the way we are going.

When a woman meets the postman with a smile and doesn't get a letter, she thinks he is extremely unappreciative.

This hero worship makes us tired—mostly because we never expect to be a hero.

Beck-Nor and Greenwood Income Tax Books. The Sentinel.

Reck Brains to Find

Names for Animal's

Giving names to the thousands of animals newly discovered each year is a problem with which scientists are confronted. An international commission on zoological nomenclature has since 1895 been engaged in the gigantic task of working out the rules for assigning to each sort of protozoa, worms, echinoderms, mollusks and vertebrates its proper designation.

With close analogy to the rules for priority of patents on man-made inventions and trade-mark registrations the scientist who first recognizes and describes a new zoological genus or species by publication has the right to give it at time of its publication its technical Latin name by which it will be known for all time. The commission has decreed that beginning in 1931 the scientist must not only name the new genus or species, but also state its characters that distinguish it from others with which it might be confused.

It is estimated that more than half a million different genera and species have been named since Linnaeus in the early Seventeenth century created the beginnings of systematic zoology and zoologists believe it probable that there are still several million additional that will be differentiated and named in the future.

Two Causes Found to Predispose to Death

For some time conclusions have been drawn regarding the times of day when most births and deaths occur. The question was studied in different countries and the results indicated that conditions differed with environment. No biological law was found to exist.

The inquiry has been carried on in various hospitals for a year past. Hourly statistics of births at La Pite hospital, kept under Professor Jannin, show that every month the number of births is greater between midnight and noon than between noon and the following midnight. As for deaths, they are more frequent during the period of sleep, from six o'clock at night to six o'clock in the morning, than during the waking hours. In a single year 113 patients died in the night and only 88 in the daytime.

Besides, of these 112 deaths 59 occurred between six o'clock and midnight, in the early part of the sleeping period. There is thus a cosmic influence of night on births and deaths and perhaps sleep also does its part. These two causes, by increasing the excitability of the pneumogastric nerve, work together to predispose to death.—La Science Moderne, Paris.

The Short-Lived Pin

By a series of experiments conducted on his estate a French investigator has discovered that pins go the way of all flesh and are dissolved to dust. Hairpins which the experimenter watched for 154 days, disappeared at the end of that time, having been dissolved into a ferrous oxide, a brownish rust, which was blown away by the wind.

Bright pins took nearly 18 months to disappear, polished steel needles nearly two and a half years, brass pins had but little endurance; steel pins at the end of 15 months had nearly gone, while their wooden holders were still intact.

Pencils with which he also experimented, suffered little by exposure; the lead was unharmed and the cedar almost as good as new.

Sympathetic Understanding

A young American mother went to stay with Mr. and Mrs. Rodyard Kipling in England. Necessity had forced her to leave in America her two little girls, from whom she had never been parted before. Upon arrival at the Kipling home, much worried at not having heard from the children, she was handed a cable saying they were well. Relieved tears arose in her eyes. G. B. Burgin relates in "More Memoirs and Some Travels." Kipling saw them and said to his wife: "Take Mrs. — up to the nursery and show her the children. What she wants is baby talk."

Rainy-Day Railway

Only when rain is falling do freight trains puff from Mount Jewell to Snelford, Pa., over a 24-mile railroad that runs through dense woods. Some time ago it was found that the locomotive sparks caused frequent forest fires and a notice in the passenger schedule said, "These trains will operate only on rainy days." Later a gas locomotive restored passenger service. Freight trains, however, require steam locomotives to haul their heavy weight; so freight is shipped on rainy days only.—Popular Science Monthly.

Has Trouble

The proprietor stood on the front veranda of his hotel. "Help! Help!" a drowning man was shouting from the lake. The proprietor stood unmoved. "Help! Help!" again pitifully came the cry over the placid lake. "Aw, shut up!" growled the hotel owner. "I'm struggling with the help problem, too, but you 'don't hear me yelling about it!"

Muskrats' Daylight Work

Muskrats are chiefly nocturnal, but they are much more active by day than many persons suppose. Where seldom disturbed, they often may be seen at work in bright sunlight, especially at the season when they are building winter houses.

Little More to Be Said

In China the death of a public official is made known by the announcement, "He is drawing no salary."

Good Things to Eat

in Odd Restaurant

The marquis and I got along like a couple of long lost poker chips in Florence. He invited me to dine at the famous Buca Lapi. Buca means "hole in the wall," and Lapi is the name of the three brothers who dug the hole under the historic Antinori palace. George Rector writes in the Saturday Evening Post.

You go into this restaurant backward, as the entrance is down a flight of flat-footed marble steps. The first man you meet is a dishwasher, scrubbing away at ancient pots and battered chinaware. Then you walk through the vegetable department, and after that you must pass through the kitchen before you slide down another flight of steps to the restaurant proper.

The remarkable thing about the Buca Lapi is the smallness of the kitchen, for everything is prepared and cooked on a flight of steps and a landing.

But their food is wonderful, and Buca Lapi is one place in Europe where you can sink your teeth into a genuine T-bone steak, the prime of prime beef. The Florentine T-bone steak is from the Tuscan steer and is the finest meat ever broiled on a flight of steps. It is cooked over charcoal on a small grill. I remember that grill, because it is located on the third step from the bottom.

Ingenious Method of Ascertainng a Date

In the days when alendars were not known people had a clever way of finding the day of any fixed anniversary. The only fact you had to know was the day of the week on which New Year's came. A key sentence of 12 words was used in which one word stood for each of the 12 months. The sentence was: "At Dover dwelt George Brown, esquire, good Christopher Finch and David Friar."

Take for example the Fourth of July. As July is the seventh month, take the first letter of the seventh word of the key sentence; that is, g; g is also the seventh letter of the alphabet. So begin with Monday, the known New Year's day, and count seven days. Thus Sunday will be found to be the first day of July and the fourth will be the following Wednesday.

Another illustration: To find the day of the week of a birthday falling on the seventh of May. As May is the fifth month, take the first letter of the corresponding fifth word of the key sentence; that is, b; b is also the second letter of the alphabet. So begin with Monday, the known New Year's day, and count two days. Thus Tuesday will be found to be the first day of May and the birthday will be the following Monday.

Peach of a Cook

The peach season had arrived and mother had baked a peach cobbler one evening for dinner. Jean, aged four, had seen her first helping and sat looking about wistfully at the other members of the family, who were eating theirs more slowly. Finally she mustered up the courage to ask for another helping. Her father, glancing at her empty dish, remarked: "You seem to like that pretty well, don't you Jennie?" "Oh, daddy, I just love it," was Jean's answer. "I'm mighty glad you married this lady, 'cause she can certainly make the best peach cobbler I ever tasted."

"The Curfew Tolls"

Scattered about Great Britain are a few places where still "the Curfew tolls the knell of parting day." St. Nicholas, Bristol, maintains the custom. Earlsferry in Fifehire is another instance and so in Midhurst in Sussex, where it is heard every evening at eight o'clock. Tradition has it that about 1700 a merchant on his way to London lost himself in the great woods to the north of this town and found his way to houses by hearing the bells of Midhurst church. In gratitude he left a little garden, still called Curfew garden, the rent of which pays for the daily ringing of the curfew bell.

Start of Big Industry

Ice cream was first made commercially in this country in 1851 by Jacob Fussell, a milk dealer of Washington and Baltimore, who began its manufacture as a side line to his regular business. His methods were very crude and laborious, and his equipment exceedingly simple; his dishpan was partly filled with ice and salt, in which was placed a smaller dishpan containing the ingredients. Freezing was executed by revolving the smaller pan in the mixture of ice and salt. The total output of Mr. Fussell's factory at first amounted to only a few quarts per day.

Middle Age Battle Cries

The names "Gueph" and "Ghibel" originated in Germany in the twelfth century in a contest of rival families for the title of "Emperor." During the siege of Weinsberg the followers of Count Weif shouted the name of their leader, while the other party took up the cry of "Waiblings." Waiblings having been the birthplace of Frederick, the brother of the Emperor Conrad. These names came to represent principles as well as families and as such were carried to Italy, where they were corrupted into "Gueph" and "Ghibelline."

Historic English Churches

Excavations at Canterbury, Eng land disclosed the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, begun by Augustine in 598 and consecrated in 613. St. Martin's church marks the spot where Augustine and his 40 companions, on their arrival from Rome in 597 A. D., began their efforts to convert the inhabitants of the southwest part of England.

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She's beginning to smile on you, is she?

Not yet, but last night she said she had told me no for the last time.

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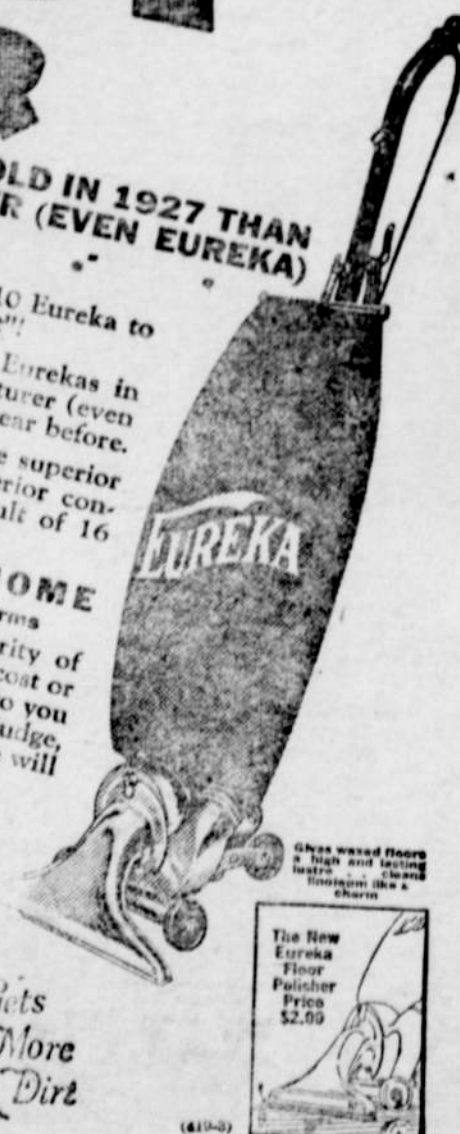
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