

# ON THE FUNNY SIDE



## OAK WAS VERY OLDEST TREE

Little Girl Comes Near Putting One Over on Secretary of Agriculture on Question of Age.

No one, looking at the president's cabinet en masse, would give it credit for uttering the words of wit accredited to it.

Even the secretary of agriculture has a slender joke attributed to him. A little girl, believing that the secretary of agriculture must be versed in the lore of the forests, asked him one day, indicating a huge tree:

"Did somebody tell me right when he said that that tree was the very oldest one around here?"

"Yes, my dear; that is quite true." "But how can I be?" questioned the child. "That isn't an oak, and they used to tell me that the oaks were the very oldest trees anywhere."

The secretary saw himself tottering on the precipice of self-betrayal, so he ended further questioning by saying:

"Yes, that's so, too. The oaks really used to be the oldest. But, you see, that was before the elders were planted."—Neal's Monthly.

## Conversational Meteorology.

Reggie—So, by way of breaking the ice, I remarked that the weather was very cold.

Henry—Well, and what did she reply?

Reggie—She said: "The recurring phenomena of heat and cold are so frequent and so familiar as to be matters too negligible to engage my interest, Mr. Riskey."

Henry—That all?—Judge.

## Also Called Nemesis.

"Pa, what is fate?"

"Fate, my boy, is that mysterious something which leads you to pick out of 400 people in the ballroom the one man who has a personal interest in the homely woman you are making fool comments about."—Detroit Free Press.

## Another Expensive Remedy.

Wife (with newspaper)—Here's something interesting. Physicians have found that the skin from the inside of an egg possesses curative properties.

Hub—Just like 'em! They're always experimenting with radium and those expensive things.—Boston Transcript.

## Discouraging.

"I made a point of talking about the American eagle and the dove of peace," remarked Senator Sorghum.

"Did the audience approve?"

"I'm afraid not. The only remark I heard was that I was a better ornithologist than I was a statesman."

## HOW MEAN.



Mr. Growl—I hope when we're married you won't be towing that dog about.

Mise Howl—Of course not—I'll have you then.

## When Umson Snores.

"Umson makes a great racket when he snores, doesn't he?"

"I don't know; I never heard him."

"But you can hear him now, can't you?"

"Great guns, is that a snore? I thought he was filing a saw!"

## A Small Tragedy.

"No, Gladys," said Mrs. Cumrox; "you cannot go to the party tonight."

"Why not?"

"Because we cannot be out of fashion. There is only one set of rainbow hair in the house and I am going to wear that myself."

## Details.

"Poor Blings has been up against it again."

"Against what?"

"The fresh painted door in his new suit."

## QUAKE DESTROYS MANY IN SICILY

### Mount Etna In Fierce Eruption Brings Destruction.

#### Deep Fissures Block Roads—Bodies Strew Country—Victims Alive In Ruins.

Catania, Italy.—An earthquake Saturday afternoon brought death and destruction to many villages on and near Mount Etna. The number of dead up to Monday morning was officially given as 183, with about 350 injured, but as yet a large portion of the devastated territory has not been inspected.

The affected zone extends from Zaffarana, the highest village on Mount Etna, to Bianca Reale, on the south, and Giarre, on the north. It includes Linera, the center of the disturbance, Pisano and Santa Venerina.

In Linera alone 110 persons were killed and 300 injured. In the village of Bongiaro, 13 dead and 27 injured were taken from the ruins. At Cosentini 16 were killed and many injured.

At Passopomo 12 persons were killed; at Malata 12; at Santa Venerina 6; Santa Tecla 2; Santa Maria Vergine 8; Garbati 4.

These villages and many smaller places were practically leveled. Automobiles which made the trip through the devastated region were often forced to make long detours owing to the deep fissures across the road.

The district presented a spectacle of desolation, ruin and death. Peasants rushed to meet the automobiles, imploring aid. From the debris, agonizing cries could still be heard. Others asked that their injured relatives be transported to Catania, as all train service was abandoned, owing to the collapse of bridges, broken tracks and obstructed tunnels.

For centuries this region has suffered from earthquakes, owing to the activity of Mount Etna. Yet it is relatively thickly populated, as the land is most fertile, vineyards growing with little attention.

Near the central point of the disturbance dozens of bodies were observed lying along the road. Many of them were unrecognizable, as they were crushed. Heart-rending lamentations arose on all sides, and the injured lay in the open awaiting assistance which had been sent to them.

Where Linera stood is a mass of ruins. Those houses which did not collapse entirely were so broken as to emphasize the completeness of the disaster. The village consisted of about 800 inhabitants.

A majority of the people escaped because the shock occurred when the men and some of the women were still working in the fields. From the vineyards they saw their houses falling and when they arrived, breathless, at their homes, they found only wreckage with some of their people buried beneath it.

## American Expedition Makes Discoveries Along Amazon

Philadelphia.—News of the arrival at Georgetown, British Guiana, on April 19, of the University of Pennsylvania expedition, after nearly a year spent in Amazon Basin and in the highlands which divide Brazil and the Guianas, never before explored, was received at the university from its leader, Rev. William C. Farabee.

The expedition has discovered hitherto unknown native tribes, made vocabularies of their languages, collected many ethnological and other specimens, and has put on the map for the first time a portion of Northern Brazil and the Guianas, including the Corentyne river, traversed for the first time by white men.

## Rebels Tighten Cordon About Federal Garrisons

Torreón, Mex.—Determined that the federal forces at Saltillo and San Luis Potosi shall not consolidate and that one shall not be reinforced by fugitives from the other, General Carranza, first chief of the constitutional army, has given orders to his commanders to draw a close cordon about each town. The constitutionalists are confident of victory at each place, but they intend to insure that the victories shall be decisive and that there shall be no opportunity for the federals to retreat, reform and again check the advance.

## Tribesmen Recall Chief.

Redding, Cal.—Chief Wesley, of Baird, head of the Wintun tribe of Indians in Northern California, was removed from his chieftainship in a recall election believed to be the first ever held by Indians. Wesley was elected chief about a year ago in an election at which Indian women voted, following the privilege of their white sisters of California. It was not for dereliction in office, but because Wesley is said to be part Yaqui, that he was recalled. The Wintuns want a full-blooded chief of their own strain.

## Women Dynamite Church.

London.—A bomb placed by suffragists exploded Sunday in the gallery of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in South London, an edifice made famous by the late Charles H. Spurgeon. Little damage was done. Near the spot where the bomb exploded was a card on which was written: "Put your religion into practice and see that women obtain their freedom."

## Suffragists by Thousands Bear Petitions to Congress

Washington, D. C.—Several thousand women from practically every state in the Union and representing millions of their sisters, paraded along Pennsylvania avenue from the White House to the Capitol, and, presenting to members of congress petitions adopted at meetings all over the country a week ago, made plain their desire that the right to vote be given them.

Five hundred and thirty-one of the marchers carried these petitions, one for each member of the senate and house, and asking the adoption of the Bristow-Mondell resolution, amending the constitution so as to enfranchise women.

The scene after the pageant reached the East steps of the Capitol was impressive. Marching themselves on the plaza steps, and with several bands and a chorus of 100 girls at the entrance to the building, the enthusiastic paraders sang "The March of the Women," by Dr. Ethel Smyth, of England, and heard only once before in this country. The spectacular feature of the demonstration was witnessed by thousands of persons who filled the immense plaza.

The bands then struck up "The Star Spangled Banner," and the 531 petition-bearers filed up the steps into the rotunda of the Capitol, where a special committee of congress received them. In the line were Senators La Follette, Thomas, Thompson, Owen, Bristow, Poindexter and Brady, and Representatives Madden, Sabath, Falconer, Stone, Knowland, Raker, Moss, of West Virginia, Roberts, of Nevada, Helvering, Keating and Bryan, who shook hands with each of their callers. Many of the women then entered the galleries of the senate and house and watched the proceedings.

Crowds assembled along the line of march early and suffrage colors were much in evidence. The police, desiring to avoid scenes such as marred the demonstration the day before the inauguration of President Wilson, last year, roped off Pennsylvania avenue and kept the crowds orderly. Several hundred policemen walked beside the paraders.

## Mexican Peace Impossible Without American Forces

Portland.—"Peace in Mexico is impossible," says A. E. Palm, who has just returned from Tampico, "unless the United States steps in and takes complete charge of the country, the same as it did in Cuba and in the Philippines."

"General Huerta would be able to handle the Mexican situation alone if the United States would let him. He is a man with force of character, ability and determination, and—contrary to the general understanding in this country—of education. Indeed, he is a well-educated man."

"He is a man of much the same caliber as Porfirio Diaz was."

"It is true that he drinks considerably, but that does not discount his ability. Let him alone a year and he will control the Mexican situation."

Mr. Palm declares that complete self-government cannot be attempted in Mexico until the people are educated up to it. Of the 15,000,000 inhabitants, fully 11,000,000 are illiterate. "As for Villa," he says, "he is a mere bandit. He is not fit to have charge of the Mexican government or of any part of it."

## Two Are Burned to Death Underneath Wrecked Auto

Portland.—George Betz, 697 Williams avenue, and Martin McNichols, of 516 Albina avenue, burned to death at 8:30 o'clock Sunday night on the Canyon road west of this city, one mile beyond Sylvan, when an automobile driven by Betz caught fire after plunging over a bank, pinioning the two men under the front seat. Howard Franklin and Walter James, a colored porter, who were riding in the back seat, crawled from beneath the wreck before the flames reached them.

Returning from a trip to Vancouver, Wash., Betz met the others in a barber shop. The party started on a ride around town and then out the Canyon road. Tracks at the scene of the accident showed that the car had swerved sharply and shot into a ditch at the left of the road. The overturned car was wedged against a fence and was held by a tree.

Betz and McNichols screamed several minutes before they lost consciousness. The tail light is thought to have caused the fire.

## Island Lighthouse Seized.

Mexico City.—Foreign Minister Ruiz has telegraphed the South American mediators in Washington that several United States torpedo boats with a transport and tender appeared off the island of Lobos, on the east coast of Mexico, between Vera Cruz and Tampico, landed a party and arrested the lighthouse tenders, who were released after they had turned over instruments and apparatus. The mediators were asked to make representations to the United States in connection with the armistice.

## American Guns Seized at Dublin.

Dublin.—The customs authorities seized 20 cases of arms on the steamer Lord Charlemont, from Baltimore. The contents of the cases were described in the invoice as fowling pieces manufactured in the United States.

## War Aeroplanes on Way West.

San Diego.—Three new war aeroplanes are en route from Eastern airplane factories to be put in shape for service with the second detachment of the First Aero corps at North Island.

## ASK MORE HELP IN STRIKE ZONE

### Disturbances Continue in Northern Colorado Districts.

#### Disarmament Order Issued—Miners Told They Will Be Expelled If They Refuse.

Trinidad, Colo.—Insistent appeals continue to come to Colonel James Lockett, of the Eleventh United States Cavalry, in command of the Federal troops in the Southern strike fields, for detachments of Federal soldiers at Oak Creek, Crested Butte and Glenwood Springs, in the Northern zone.

Colonel Lockett suggested to the War department the Northern districts seemed to need several hundred troops. He advised Governor Ammons Saturday to send state troops into the Northern field and to ask the War department for more Federal soldiers.

The proclamation for general disarmament was published calling on all citizens to report at specified places and at specified hours to surrender their firearms.

The union officials in a proclamation directed to all members of the United Mine Workers of America in Trinidad and vicinity, declared: "You are hereby officially advised and requested to turn over to the military officers of the United States army all firearms and ammunition in your possession or under your control, beginning at 10 o'clock a. m. May 3."

This proclamation was signed by William Diamond, an international representative of the union. Mr. Diamond supplemented the proclamation with the published declaration that "anyone failing to comply, who is a member of the union, will be stricken from the relief list and be barred from membership in the United Mine Workers of America."

The mine operators said: "Our guns have been awaiting collection by the Federal officers for some time, and when the soldiers go after them they will find them, the machine guns and all."

Union officials planned to secure an audience with President Wilson concerning the re-establishment of the Ludlow tent colony.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN MAY CHOSEN AS MOTHERS' DAY

Washington, D. C.—Hereafter the second Sunday of May will be National Mothers' Day. The senate has agreed to the house resolution requesting the President to issue a proclamation designating as Mothers' Day in the coming years the second Sunday of each May.

## Report American Orderly Killed By Mexican Troops

Vera Cruz, Mex.—Private Parks, orderly for Lieutenant Colonel Elmore Taggart, who disappeared inside of Mexican lines Saturday with two of Colonel Taggart's horses, was put to death by the Mexicans, near Tejera, according to a report received here.

This information, however, was not regarded as conclusive. A Mexican railroad man, the authority for the report, said he was told by one of Maas' soldiers, with whom he had a talk in the vicinity of the alleged execution, that Parks had been killed. He said also that the Mexican soldier told him that two nights before another man dressed like an American soldier had been executed.

## Norwegians Back Steamer Line to San Francisco

San Francisco.—Through a cable received here by a local shipping firm, it is learned that a new steamship line backed by Norwegian capital will begin operations in October with San Francisco as its terminal. Freight and passenger service between ports on the West coast of the United States, Mexico and Central America, and via the Panama Canal, the Eastern ports of the same countries, will be instituted.

## Rebel Paymaster Taken.

Laredo, Tex.—Major Manuel Caballero, paymaster of the constitutionalist army of the Rio Grande, was captured Saturday afternoon below Laredo by the United States border patrol and interned at Fort McIntosh with a large amount of ammunition and Mexican money he was delivering to rebel soldiers.

The paymaster was journeying up the American side and crossing the border at points where there were garrisons to be paid. The patrol considered this a violation of neutrality laws.

## Alaska Surveys to Begin.

Washington, D. C.—Surveys preliminary to the construction of the government railway in Alaska are to be made immediately. On being advised that the President desired to send Lieutenant Mears, now in the Canal zone, to Alaska at once, the house passed a bill authorizing the assignment.

## Mother Sees Aviator Killed.

Utica, N. Y.—Percival Van Ness, of this city, an aviator, was killed Sunday when his new biplane turned turtle. Van Ness and his brother, Jesse, had just completed the new machine. Their mother witnessed the tragedy.

## Spiritual Healing Endorsed by Clericals and Medicos

London.—An important contribution to one of the foremost topics of the day is found in the report of the "committee on spiritual healing or faith cure," appointed by the conference of the clerical and medical professions held in October, 1911.

The committee, which is composed of prominent clergymen and doctors, in its conclusions says: "The members of the committee fully recognized that operations of divine power can be limited only by the divine will, and they desire to express their belief in the efficacy of prayer. They reverently believe, however, divine power is exercised in conformity with and through the operation of natural laws. With advancing knowledge of these laws, increasing benefits are being secured for mankind through humane instrumentalities."

"Especially is this true in the case of healing of disorders of the body and the mind, and they consider that spiritual ministrations should be recognized equally with medical ministrations as carrying God's blessing to the sick."

"The committee is of the opinion that physical results of what is called faith or spiritual healing do not prove different from those of mental healing, or healing by suggestion."

"The committee recognizes that suggestion is more effectively exercised by some persons than others, which would seem to explain the gifts claimed by 'healers.' The use of religious influences does not differ essentially from non-religious appeals to the mind, yet the former are often more potent."

"Faith or spiritual healing can be permanently effective in functional disorders, as distinguished from organic disorders, and the committee warns against resorting to healers and postponing medical treatment."

"Spiritual ministrations may contribute to the success of medical treatment, and we desire to see more importance attached to them, but we strongly deprecate the independent treatment of disease by irresponsible and unqualified persons."

The witnesses examined by the committee differed in their definitions of spiritual and mental healing. Some regarded the former as a divine interposition above the laws of nature, while most of them connected spiritual healing today with the gifts of healing of the apostolic church, saying they thought these had long been dormant, although never wholly interrupted.

The witnesses differed widely as to whether moral excellence in the healers or the healed was essential for success.

## Leper Quietly Departed and Chicago Is Relieved

Chicago.—Chicago and Cook county authorities are congratulating themselves over the successful deportation of Charles Wolgren, a native of Sweden, who was taken to the county hospital in February suffering from what was diagnosed as leprosy.

Because of the fear which the disease engenders all details of the deportation were kept secret and none but the crew of the train on which Wolgren rode in a private car knew of his presence aboard.

Special permits were issued secretly by the governors of states across which the train passed, and all connected with the deportation breathed easier when word was received here that Wolgren was safely aboard a liner due to leave for Sweden in a few hours. Wolgren came to America several years ago and took out preliminary naturalization papers.

Later he returned to Sweden, and then journeyed again to America, visiting Alaska and Western points.

He was taken to the county hospital from South Chicago, where he had been employed all winter.

## HUERTA DENIES INTENTION OF RESIGNING PRESIDENCY

London.—President Huerta told the Mexico City correspondent of the Daily Mail that he was not going to give up his position of chief executive of Mexico. He said:

"I have had no thought of resigning the office which the republic conferred upon me."

General Huerta declared that his health was good. In reply to a question as to his sentiments toward Americans he said:

"The conduct of my government and of the Mexican people towards Americans who are remaining here during the present conflict is the best answer to that question."

## Democrats Rush Things.

Washington, D. C.—Democratic leaders in the house who want congress to end by July 10, called a party caucus for Tuesday, through which they hope to expedite consideration and passage of the anti-trust bills on the administration programme. The caucus will determine the length of time the measure shall be debated in the house and in compliance with its decision the rules committee will frame an order under which the debate will proceed. It is probable that the bill will be put to a vote in two weeks.

## Refugees Back From Tampico.

Galveston, Tex.—Seventy American refugees from the oil district about Tampico have sailed for that port. If the steamer is unable to discharge her passengers at Tampico they will be taken to Vera Cruz. The oil men said their return was necessitated by the situation in the Panuco oil fields, where the oil is flowing unrestrained. They said they did not believe they would be molested by the Mexicans.

## REBEL GAINS IN SOUTH REPORTED

### Mexico City Hemmed In on All Sides By Troops.

#### Funston Has Authority to Extend Lines—Plans for Mediation Are Also Continued.

Washington, D. C.—While the Mexican situation is outwardly calm, pending the formal opening of the conference of the South American mediators at Niagara Falls on May 18, there continues an active undercurrent of discussion and preparation for the peace plans, and definite reports have reached the constitutionalist headquarters here of sweeping victories of their forces near San Luis Potosi and other points far south of Saltillo, where it was thought their next big battle would be fought.

The news of constitutionalist success reached here in dispatches from General Carranza to Raphael Zubaran, minister of the interior in the constitutionalist cabinet, who had a direct wire set up to the headquarters of General Carranza Thursday.

General Carranza's messages showed that three converging campaigns were in active operation, each within 300 miles of Mexico City. General Obregon, with 15,000 men operating from the Pacific Coast side, had captured all the intervening territory, was besieging Mazatlan and was threatening Mexico City from the West.

Another division, General Carranza reported, had fought a battle at Penasco, near San Luis Potosi, which is 300 miles north of Mexico City. This is the southernmost point which the constitutionalists have reached in Central Mexico, and with the army now attacking Tampico they assert that the general advance on the Mexican capital is to be made within a few weeks from three sides.

The significance of these constitutionalist successes lay in the fact that San Luis Potosi is far south of Saltillo, and only 300 miles from Tampico on the West and Mexico City on the South.

General Carranza's report of the desperate condition of the federals at Mazatlan was coincident with reports from Rear Admiral Howard, who said a land and sea engagement was carried on there throughout Thursday, the constitutionalists firing from Piedra Island, while the federal gunboat Morelos was supported by the federal shore batteries.

Aside from the noteworthy constitutionalist successes, the chief military development is the authorization to General Funston to extend his lines at Vera Cruz as might be required for defensive purposes, without, however, undertaking any aggressive operations.

## 10,000,000 Wheat Crop Increase for Northwest

Portland.—An increase of about 10,000,000 bushels in the wheat crop alone is forecasted in the Pacific Northwest at this time, according to reports received by The Daily Journal from over 200 special crop correspondents located in the various districts of Oregon, Idaho and Washington. Present prospects are for a total of 86,000,000 bushels of wheat for the three states.

The condition of the winter wheat crop today in the three states is sufficiently good to enable growers to harvest an average of 25 bushels per acre, while the spring showing is at least 20 bushels average. This is for the combined Pacific Northwest states, and includes the heavy as well as the light land sections.

An increased acreage is shown both for winter and spring planting. The great increase in the winter acreage is one special reason for the unusual bumper outlook in the three states.

Not a single report was received during the past month that showed any material complaint regarding the outlook for the wheat crop. In the central Oregon section the outlook is the best known. In Umatilla county and the Walla Walla section the prospects continue unusually favorable. In the Palouse and Big Bend there is nothing but good heard of the outlook. Taking the situation as a whole, the outlook for the coming harvest could scarcely be improved so far as wheat is concerned.

Similar condition is showing for coarse grains in interior sections.

## Haiti Pays Indemnity.

Port Au Prince, Haiti.—The National bank advanced to the Haitian government \$62,000, the amount of the indemnity claimed by Mr. Peters, a British subject, whose sawmill had been destroyed by fire in the Leconte revolution. The payment had been demanded in an ultimatum from the British diplomatic representative. The incident is regarded as closed. Consternation had been caused in the capital by the British ultimatum, which was supported by the presence of the British cruiser Suffolk in the harbor.

## T. R. Is 55 Pounds Lighter.

Para, Brazil.—Colonel Roosevelt during his exploring trip through the wilds of Brazil lost 55 pounds in weight. He is still weak, but his condition is better, and he is recovering from the abcess on his leg. He will deliver a lecture before the Royal Geographical society in London.