

NOT ALL BEER AND SKITTLES

Englishman Has Somewhat Lengthy List of Drawbacks to Life in the Turkish Capital.

An English business man backed me into a corner in a Constantinople club, looked at me sternly over the top of his brassy and soda and addressed me as follows:

"When you write about this town, old chap, I hope you'll tell your people what a beastly place it is, what? A chap can't make a move, you know, without some one asking him to have something. Look here, old chap. In a court of law, you know, a chap is ordinarily supposed to be sober after 8 o'clock at night, what? Here it's the opposite, by Jove! A bit thick, eh, what?"

"Look here, make a note of this, what? They celebrate five Christmases and five New Years in this rotten town. Oh, at least five. On my honor, old chap! English, Armenian, Greek, Russian, Turkish, Jewish—really, old chap, I become fearfully incoherent when I try to remember what they are. By the time the last New Year is over one can just totter around. Oh, absolutely, I give you my word! And then there is the Russian Easter, which is fearfully nerve racking. It lasts from one to two weeks, and one is obliged to do a fearful amount of drinking. While it lasts one goes up to any one and says 'He is risen' and kisses him three times. It's done that way, old chap. I give you my word, everybody does it. One hunts for a pretty girl and says 'He is risen' and kisses her three times, and, by Jove, it's considered quite all right. Oh, quite. In a way, old chap, it beats egg rolling on a lawn all hollow, what? A bit thick, by Jove, but a bit of all right, what?"

"But of course there's a fearful lot of good feeling and one must eventually be buying a drink for some one. It cuts into one's work fearfully. You just tell all that to the chaps at home, and they'll see that living in Constantinople isn't all beer and skittles, by Jove! What?"—Chicago Daily News.

HAD THE LAUGH ON TEACHER

Instructor Called for Examples, and Tommy Was the Boy Who Could Furnish Them.

There has never been any love lost between Tommy and his teacher. Tommy thinks the teacher is a severe and occasionally unjust person, who has never known what it is to be young, while the teacher considers the little chap both stupid and mischievous.

"You are not attending to what I say, Thomas," said the teacher one day in the midst of an address to her class.

"Yes, teacher, I is," said Tommy with much earnestness.

"You should never say 'I is' corrected the teacher. "I have told you that a hundred times. You know the correct form. There are no exceptions to its use. Give me two examples at once!"

"Yes, ma'am," said Tommy, meekly. "I am one of the letters of the alphabet. I am a pronoun."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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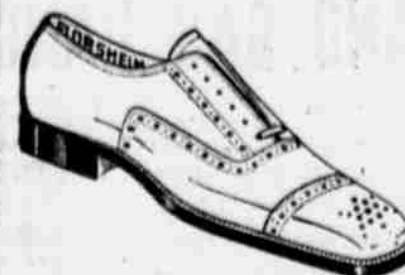
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