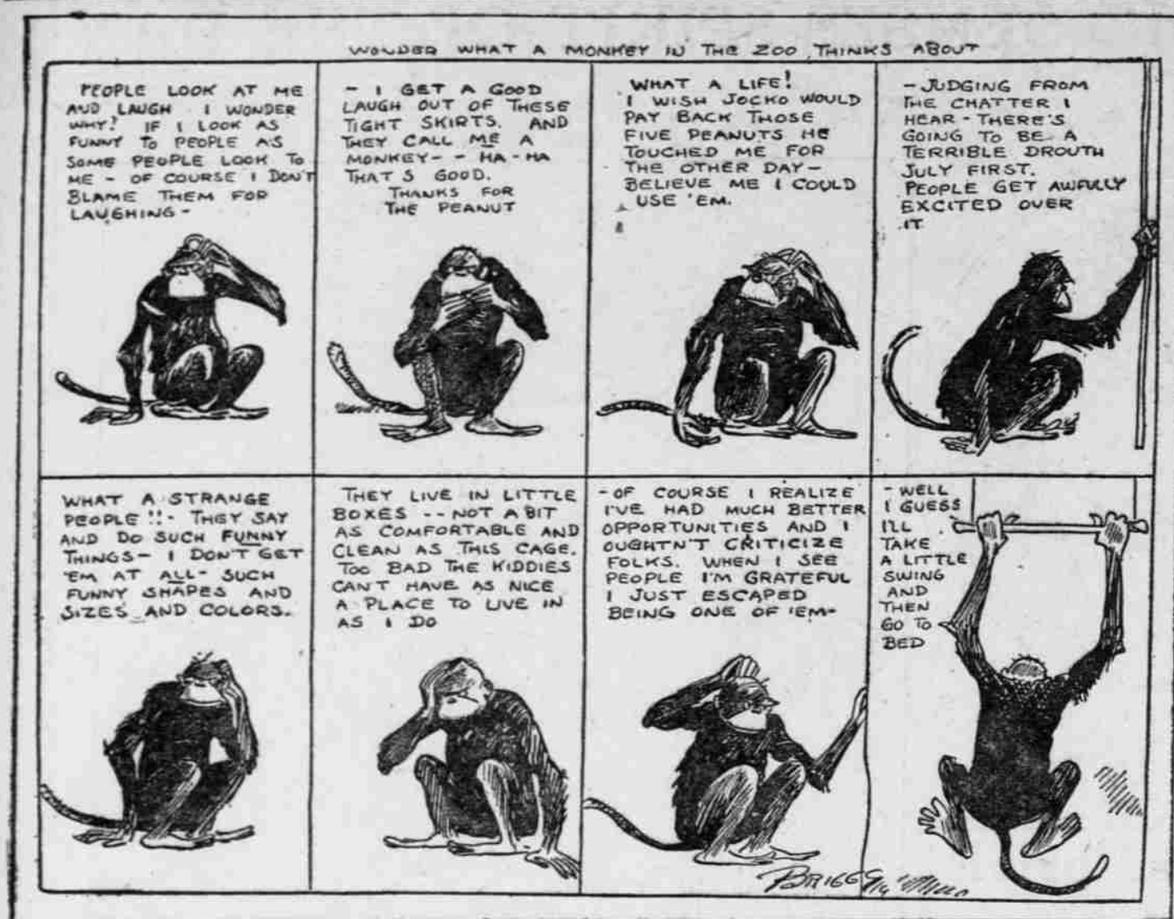
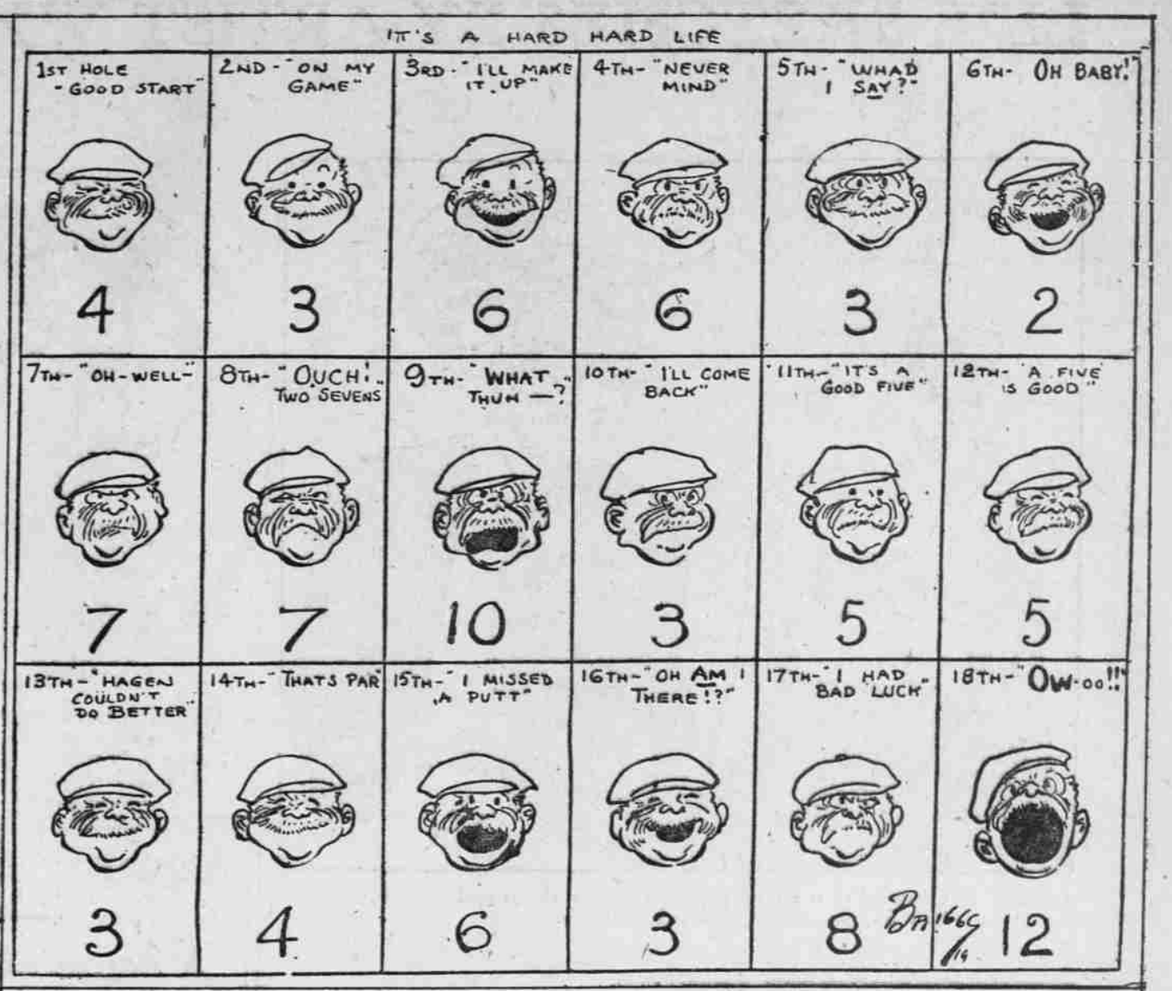
FACES AND FIGURES DRAWN TO LIGHT A SMILE WITH BRIGGS





BOOKS

By Joseph Macqueen

Mexico Under Carranza, by Thomas E. Gibbon. Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, N. Y.

Mr. Gibbon is a lawyer, who, in a painstaking and liberal-minded manner, has passed much time in Mexico studying its people and its industries under the governments of Diaz, Madero and Carranza.

In these 270 pages we read the result of Mr. Gibbon's investigations and his indictment against the government of Carranza and the land-owning class he represents is a lurid and terrible one.

Of course, our author admits that civil war amounting to near anarchy and hopeless confusion exists today in unfortunate Mexico. He is careful to point out that this condition will always exist so long as 20 per cent of the Latin governing, educated classes try to grind the life out of the 80 per cent Indian population comprising the uneducated peon or Indian class.

It is recalled that the Aztecs, a native Indian race about whom much in the way of laudation is written, are supposed to have arrived in Mexico about the year 1325 and were previous to that time nomadic in their habits. The Tezcocans occupied a portion of the great central valley and appear to have marched with the Aztecs in their development of civilization. The descendants of both these Aztecs and Tezcocans, together with those of all other native populations, have come to be referred to as Indians or peons and have, since the Spanish occupancy, constituted the common laborers of the country.

When Cortez and his Spaniards landed as conquerers in Mexico they there and then founded a Latin form of government that ruled the peons with a hard hand and did its best to squeeze all possible gain and hope out of them. No wonder then that the country became one of seething discontent.

It was in the year 1810 that the patriot priest Hidalgo rang the "grito" or alarm upon the bells of his little church at Dolores to call together a few friends to begin the revolt against the intolerable oppression of Spain. After 11 years of fighting, in the second year of which Hidalgo paid with his life the penalty of his patriotism, Mexico, in 1821, established her independence and began her career as a self-governing nation under a doubtful form of democracy.

"In the 98 years that have elapsed since then there has hardly been a year—except during the period under the iron rule of Diaz—that has not been marked by one or more attempts at revolution. That most of these attempts have been successful is shown by the fact that within this period Mexico has experimented with some 38 different forms of government under 85 rulers. During the 55 years which elapsed between the date of her independence and the accession of Diaz to power she tried 36 of these several forms of government under 75 rulers."

President Carranza, featured in a new book, "Mexico Under Carranza."

Under the iron hand of Diaz a fair amount of order was observed in Mexico, but the revolution only slumbered. The cause is shown to have been due to the wretched condition of the laboring classes comprising 80 per cent of the population. It is shown also that the trouble is agrarian, "caused by the holding of the lands in great bodies by a small number of persons, and the denial to the masses of the opportunity to secure an interest in the land. Promises to amend this condition have been made by almost every one of the more than 100 leaders who have, in less than that number of years, begun important and often most successful attempts at revolution."

Carranza is only another of these faithless leaders, according to Mr. Gibbon, and it is shown that crime and anarchy under his administration have increased to a marked degree. It is thought that "the ultimate salvation of Mexico depends upon its majority race being elevated and improved by a broad and effective scheme of popular education, and also by a chance for the betterment of its economic condition, which can only be afforded by an honest and efficient administration of its government."

The ultimate answer, according to our author, as to what Mexico must receive to effect her salvation, "is the intervention of some saving power such as England has afforded to Egypt and our own nation has afforded to the Philippines and to Cuba, in a degree, under the authority of the Platt amendment."

The United States of America is not mentioned as this intervening power, but it is meant all the same.

Age-Long Battle of Satan for the Crown of Christ, by Rev. J. H. Leeper, Multnomah Printing company, this city.

Rev. Mr. Leeper has been known for many years as a stalwart pioneer in the work of the church for the use of Sunday as a day for worship and rest, in the Pacific Northwest, and he has been field secretary in this department.

In this little book of 66 pages, our author interprets from the Bible lessons which spread light on the various plans laid by Satan to destroy this world and overthrow Christ—plans which, we are assured, began with the dawn of creation and are going on today.

Much of the author's arguments are also historical, and in them he criticises several well-known religious sects.

Prophecy is also discussed in the light of Biblical interpretation, with reference to events in the late world war and the destruction wrought by Germany.

Spiritualism, Its History, Phenomena and Doctrine, by J. Arthur Hill. George H. Doran Co., New York City.

There are books on "Spiritualism" which are abusive or negative in technique. This one is affirmative in its doctrine that spiritualism is a reality. Our author is perfectly sincere in his beliefs and statements concerning the subject at issue.

These principles are discussed: Antecedents of modern spiritualism, Swedenborg; confluence of Swedenborgianism and mesmerism in this country; the Hydesville knockings; early days in England; William Stainton Moses; the society for psychical research; Physical phenomena; confirmatory phenomena in India; ghosts; on evidence, proof and belief; spiritualism as a religion; materialistic and other objections; Roman Catholic and mystical objections; some Protestant objections; Fechner's theory of life after death; spiritualistic conceptions of after-death conditions.

Mr. Hill says he repeats these principles of spiritualism: the fatherhood of God; the brotherhood of man; continuous existence; communion of spirits and ministry of angels; personal responsibility; compensation and retribution hereafter for good or ill done on earth; and, a path of endless progression.

However much we may differ about spiritualism, it is informing and educational to read such a stalwart belief in it.

A Short History of Rome, by Guglielmo Ferrero and Covado Bargallo. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York City.

Guglielmo Ferrero is a world-famous historian whose studies in Italian history are remarkable for their originality, courage, humor and informing values.

In the present volume, 516 pages, we read historical studies of Rome, from the death of Caesar to the fall of the western empire, 44 B. C.-476 A. D.

The leading ideas of the work are those which Ferrero has developed in his "Greatness and Decline of Rome," and the method of setting forth his facts is also the s a m e—only the sketches are necessarily shorter, and the narrative more concise and swifter.

The Russian Collapse, by Boris Kadontzeff. The Russian Mercantile and Industrial Corporation of New York City.

Our author is bachelor of economic sciences, Petrograd polytechnicum, and in this little book of 63 pages—written principally in May, 1918—he presents an informing, valuable study of the political and social situation of Russia, as affected by the late war. He attacks the entente allies for the hunger they imposed on Russia, by enforcing the blockade, asks that engineers be sent to Russia instead of politicians, and insists that the world is weary alike of Hohenzollerns and bolshevism.

The Valley of Vision, by Henry Van Dyke. Illustrated. Charles Scribners Sons, New York City.

Eighteen short stories, written in that matchless English that marks the work of such an exquisite writer as Henry Van Dyke, poet of cheer. Most of the tales are tales of heroism and adventure in the late war. The most fascinating one of the collection is "The Broken Soldier and the Maid of France," in which a runaway and dejected French soldier again joins and fights with the French army—with fresh courage received from a personal talk in a vision of Joan of Arc.

Prefaces, by Don Marquis. D. Appleton & Co., New York City.

Humor and solid philosophy, mixed in judicious doses. This book of 277 pages consists of stories, each supposed to be written to introduce some special subject—literary reminiscences, a cook book, a play of Euripides, a calendar to Billy Sunday's works, safety pins, to a check book, a miser's biography, to an unpublished volume, etc.—in short, a book of laughter.

Just Me, by Pearl White. George H. Doran Co., New York City.

Pearl White, the heroine and actress of moving pictures, writes in this book the realistic, human and happy story of her life up to date, and it's certainly an interesting one. From early childhood until now this wonderful record of the life of an actress is certainly worth reading.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.

Rhymes Grave and Gay, by Carolyn and Gordon Hillman, 43 poems, excellent in quality, and many of them reflecting the spirit of war scenes; and, Singing Places, by Margaret Barber Bowen, 48 pages of serious, finely expressed poems (The Cornhill Co., Boston).

Swords Drawn, by J. M. Edgar Hart, a romantic play, in four acts, depicting life in England about the time of William of Orange (The Cornhill Co., Boston).

La Bodega, by Vicente Blasco Ibanez, a novel of remarkable dramatic power, dealing with love, intrigue, etc., in Spain, and especially picturing the effect on Spanish workers of the national traffic wins (E. P. Dutton & Co., N. Y.).

The King's Coming, by William de Carrick. This French novel, dramatically told, depicts the wonderful adventures of Mademoiselle Marie d'Estranger, daughter of a baron of that name who is caught in the invasion of the Huns as they start to devastate France. She says she is descended from Joan of Arc, and that she, by divine command, is God's messenger to help win the world for righteousness and prepare for Christ's second coming. Through her help, a brotherhood of nations is established, and Palestine is restored as a Jewish nation. A pretty love story is unfolded (The Sherwood Co., N. Y.).

A Handful of Aussays, by C. Hampton Thorp, with foreword by General Birdwood and an introductory poem by Robert Bridges, the thrilling, rollicking story of Australian troops from the time—during the late war—when the troops leave far-away Australia until they become "on draft" and join the battalion holding the battle line in France; Songs While Wandering, by A. Newberry Choyce, 56 poems, sparkling, patriotic, military, reflecting the late war, and written by a lieutenant (wounded) of the Leicestershire (England) regiment; The Pursuit of Happiness, by Benjamin R. C. Low, 25 poems, each with a singing quality and possessing true poetic voice; Some Soldiers and Little Mamma, by Helen Boulnois, eloquent, pathetic, merry letters from a woman worker on duty, in acts of helpfulness, among battle lines in France; and The Hidden Valley, by Muriel Hine, a smart English novel of love and puzzling matrimony (John Lane Co., N. Y.).

Capitalism versus Bolshevism, a smart L. Walker, 147 pages, a painstaking defense of capitalism, and a little book that fairly bristles with information (Dukelow & Walker Co., 264 Washington st., Boston).

Syncopation, by Robert DeCamp Leland, 33 pages of well written, readable blank verse, where the poet discusses love and passion (The Poetry-Drama Co., Boston).

Auction Bridge, by Wynne Ferguson, paper cover, 71 pages, a pocket-size edition of a popular book that tells all about the (1919) game referred to, and how it is played at the big New York clubs (Wynne Ferguson, 329 Broadway, N. Y.).

The Federal Reserve Act, by Robert L. Owen, United States senator from Oklahoma, and chairman of the United States senate committee of banking and currency, a valuable, instructive essay on the origin, principles and working out of the Federal reserve act, 107 pages, written by a national authority on the subject (Senator Owen, Washington, D. C.).

How to Study the Best Short Stories, by Blanche Colton Williams, Ph. D., 22 pages, an informing, valuable analysis of Edward J. O'Brien's annual volumes of the best stories of the year, prepared for the use of writers and other students of the short-story (Small-Maynard, Boston).

The Messenger of Napoleon, by R. N. Moffat, 353 pages, a romantic, interest-sustaining novel, in which Napoleon the Great is a central figure (Roxborough Pub. Co., Boston).

More, by E. K. Means, 369 pages, splendid, amusing, realistic incidents concerning negro life, and woven into a most readable novel; A Life at Stake, by Marcel Berger, an exciting, fire-eating story of the late war, from a French viewpoint; and The British Empire and a League of Peace, together with an analysis of federal government, its function and its method, by George Burton Adams, Litt. D., 115 pages, a learned essay, in which the author points out the new hands-across-the-sea historical and other ties that binds this country and Great Britain into a federal ideal (Putnam's, N. Y.).

Prince of Wales Now Has His Own Residence.

York House, Home of His Boyhood Days, Selected.

LONDON, June 29.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—The Prince of Wales is now 25 and King George has decided that he should have his own residence. York House, St. James', the home of his boyhood days, has been selected.

Except that it lacks a garden and a garage, York House is regarded as an admirable residence. Decorators are now preparing it for the prince, who will move in in about a month. His household will not be large.

York House formerly was the property of the king of Hanover, who refused to let Queen Victoria have it. But after his death she was able to offer it to the widowed duchess of Cambridge. Subsequently the house was occupied by the Duke Clarence and the present king and queen. Its most recent occpants have been the late Lork Kitchener and Sir William Robertson.

Since the armistice the Prince of Wales has been very much in the public eye, and his activities are diversified. He made a speech in the ring at the National Sporting club after the Wild-Lynch contest, being introduced by Lord Lonsdale the chief figure of the British sporting world. He spoke also at the dinner of the Royal academy on the eve of the opening of the annual exhibition which was attended by a great gathering of notables.

He has been initiated into the Free Masons, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, King Edward, and his great uncle, the Duke of Connaught, and has become an honorary member of two of the old city trade guilds.

Recently the prince flew over London in an airplane piloted by one of the most daring army fliers, and looped the loop and went through the most up to dat programme of stunts, which the more conservative aviators have begun to discourage since the end of hostilities.

MUSSULMAN NO BOLSHEVIK

Mohemmedans in Ports of Russia for Most Part Land Owners.

UFA, Russia. (Via Vladivostok.)—There are about 700,000 Bashkirs (Mohammedans of mixed Finnish and Tartar descent) living in Perm, Ufa, Viatka and the Orenburg governmenis. They are for the most part landowners, small or great, and for that reason are opposed to bolshevism. Otherwise there is little difference between the Mussulman and the Russian in his attitude toward bolshevism.

The Mussulman is opposed to bolshevism also regarding its policy toward religion. The mass of the Mussulman population is extremely religious and believes that questions of religion are its own affairs. The merchants, like the Russian merchants, are against bolshevism. The peasant who owns no land favors it.

Abraham Ahtiamov, a social democrat (Menshevik) of Ufa, a member of the first constituent assembly, a Mussulman attorney and a man of exceptional intelligence, quotes Lenine, the bolshevik premier, as saying that to every bolshevik are attached "39 scoundrels and 60 fools."

Ahtiamov does not believe in the possibility of a world-wide social revolution because "America doesn't smell like it; France is not ready for it; England will buy off its promoters, and Germany is too weak."

The Kolchak government, he said, is an imperfect nucleus of government which in the present state of affairs must be recognized."

STORY OF ALCOHOL IS TOLD

(Continued From Page 5.)

benefit places scattered through Rome, where great quantities of wine were kept for them. This was sold very cheaply and, although the quality was not very good, it was pure. Gibbon gives an unpleasant picture of the ragged frequenters of the baths of Carcalla, crowds of poor men who loitered about to gossip and to pour down their throats the potent wine that could be purchased so cheaply.