

Digging a Ditch In a Flash

Things move quickly nowadays. The pace of yesterday is tomorrow's... Ditches that once consumed many...



Loading.



The Ditch.

Coos - Bay - Times - Magazine - Page

WAKING DREAMS.

A Long Series of Events Can Be Crowded Into a Few Seconds.

It is more than likely that the great majority of dreams belong to the few moments when we are falling off to sleep and the equally brief time we take to wake up.

A well known writer in London was sitting up late writing something he much wished to finish. Suddenly some one came into the room and announced that he was called to go to Manchester.

SPOILED HIS FISHING.

An Angler's Abrupt Departure From an Uncongenial Visitor.

An easterner was spending his first summer in Montana, says the Washington Star, where he had a good opportunity to indulge in his favorite sport of trout fishing.

Pushing along to the fallen pine, he climbed upon it by dint of hard scrambling, holding on as best he could with his rod in one hand and his string of fish in the other.

The fisherman emerged some distance farther down the stream and, scrambling to the bank, looked back. There on the pine sat the bear, intently watching the hole where he had disappeared.

A Plank's Inside and Outside. There is an inside, also an outside, to every plank or board, the outside being the side farthest removed from the "plth," or center, of the tree from which the plank was cut.

An Unfortunate Accident. "Goodness, little boy!" exclaimed the kindly old gentleman to the weeping youth; "what on earth is the matter?"

Impudence. The only cure for impudence is the suffering which impudence entails. Nothing but bringing him face to face with stern necessity and letting him feel how unbending, how unyielding, it is can improve the man of ill governed desires.

Candid Analysis. "Can you dance?" "Yes," answered the self approving man. "I ain't much for style, but I've got wonderful endurance."

None For Him. "Why did you quit your last place? Wasn't your work congenial?" "Lady, no work is congenial."—Detroit Free Press.

Fidelity in small things is at the base of every great achievement.—Wagner.

WRESTLING WITH ENGLISH.

Joyous Course in Conversation in a Brazilian Handbook.

Occasionally are heard expressions of discouragement that the South Americans do not respond warmly enough to our efforts to win their confidence.

"Conversations for the Daily" is the heading of the first round of this battle with English syntax. Then follows a sample of a "conversacion" that should take place between two Americans meeting each other out walking.

The Russian Moujiks. After he had smashed a Russian army and overrun a province Napoleon collected the moujiks and told them that henceforth they belonged to him and France.

A Punctured Metaphor. "Did you write this note to Maria?" asked the young woman's mother.

Stark Realism. An advance agent for a theatrical production was speaking to a newspaper man with reference to the wonderful powers of the leading woman.

His Mistaken Idea. "But, my dear," remonstrated Mr. Meekum, "there's a good deal to be said on both sides."

Aiming to Please. Husband—Why in the world do you have our bills come in weekly instead of monthly? Wife—You told me that you didn't want them so large, didn't you?—Boston Transcript.

Safety First. "They conceal the orchestra in this restaurant, why?" "Well, wait till you hear it play."—Exchange.

Better a blush in the face than a blot in the heart.—Cervantes.

Refraction of Light.

Refraction plays many magical tricks with men's eyes. It is responsible for the extraordinary phenomenon called mirage, which has excited the wonder of mankind in every age.

In Old Porto Rico. In the vicinity of Mayaguez, Porto Rico, are several historically interesting places. The little village of Ilo Guanroba, near Anasco, was the scene of the unique experiment by which the Indians in 1511 endeavored to discover whether the Spaniards were immortal.

Carried It Through. A teacher was one day explaining to her class the degrees of comparison of adjectives. To make sure she was understood she called on each pupil in turn to give comparatives and superlatives of adjectives which she named.

The Things That Count. What, when our time comes, does it matter whether we have fared daintily or not, whether we have worn soft raiment or not, whether we have a great fortune or nothing at all, whether we shall have reaped honors or been despised, have been counted learned or ignorant as compared with how we may have used that talent which has been intrusted to us for the Master's service?

No Alibiation. A belted earl was in the habit of playing golf daily at Musselburgh. This gentleman had contracted some ailment which made his head always ache a little.

Right Up to Date. Mother—Are you sure you can give my daughter all the luxuries and privileges enjoyed by the married women of her set? Sultor—I can give her town and country houses, motorcars, a string of polo ponies and dancing lessons at once, and a divorce and alimony within two years.—Life.

The Inevitable Thing. "Did you get any sock in that balloon tie project?" "Yes, but I think I paid for it more than it was worth."

A Chance Yet. Tom—Is it true that you proposed to Alice and were rejected? Jack—Not exactly rejected. She said when she felt like making a fool of herself she'd let me know.—Boston Transcript.

These Unsaught Fish. Maud—Don't you think there are just as good fish in the sea as ever were caught? Marie—Well, they're certainly scarier.

All He Has. "He has a fortune in his own name." "Worth a lot, eh?" "No. But his name is Rich."—Detroit Free Press.

The Calaveras Skull.

Of interest in connection with tertiary gold bearing river gravels of California is the story of the Calaveras skull. For a time this skull attracted much attention not only from the people in California, but from scientific men the world over.

A Grim Cathedral. Once the capital of the kingdom of Portugal, Coimbra possesses a number of interesting monuments. Its cathedral dates from the early period when it upon the west, Toledo in the center and Saragossa to the east were the Christian outposts against the infidel.

Hiding Behind Smoke. The accuracy of modern naval gunnery is so marvelous that the only hope for a ship to escape being sunk within range of the guns is to hide itself. That is easier said than done, however, and there is only one way in which it can be done, and that is by means of a "smoke screen."

Hawking in the Old Days. Falconry, or hawking, was a favorite sport with the nobility and gentry of Europe down to the first half of the seventeenth century. Hawks were trained to mount and pursue game and bring it to their masters and mistresses, coming and going to the call of the latter with marvelous docility.

Still Has Friends. Two retired tradesmen residing in the country were discussing matters generally, when one asked: "How is your son doing in the city?" "Oh, he doesn't say much about his business," was the reply, "but he writes me that he's got a lot of friends!"

A Much Needed Rest. "Does your boy take kindly to farm life now that he has finished college?" "Oh, yes!" replied Farmer Cobbles. "He says that after the strenuous four years he's been through it's a pleasure to loaf around home and watch the hired men at work."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Silver. The handle of a silver spoon gets hot more quickly than that of a pewter spoon when thrust into a cup of hot coffee. In fact, this is an easy and quick way of detecting imitation silver. Silver itself has been found to be the best conductor of heat known.

His Ambition. "How would you feel if the end of the world came tomorrow?" "I'd be glad of it. I always wanted to be present at a great historical event."—Detroit Saturday Night.

Happiness. Mankind is always happier for having been happy. So that if you make men happy now you make them happy twenty years hence by the memory of it.—Sydney Smith.

Norway's Clear Waters. In the fjords on the Norway coast the clearness of the water is wonderful. Objects the size of half a dollar may be seen at a depth of twenty-five to thirty fathoms.

Early Coal Discoveries.

The first mention of coal in the territory which afterward became the United States has heretofore been credited to Father Louis Hennepin, who showed on a map published in 1680 the location of a "coke mine" along Illinois river near the site of the present city of Ottawa.

A Kindly Human Touch. How rapidly nature repairs and beautifies the torn places! The gash left by the uprooted tree is soon covered with green, and moss and vines are quick to make the old stump into a thing of beauty.

Tinted Polygamy. The old negro had been arrested for "having more than one wife," the last woman being the complainant. He happened to be well known locally and an orderly character.

Grease Spots on Books. To remove grease spots from the pages of books, gently warm the soiled page of the book, which should have a piece of thick paper under it, by holding a hot iron at a little distance from the paper. Next press upon the spots pieces of clean blotting paper, one after another, so as to absorb as much of the grease as possible.

Charles Lamb and May. Charles Lamb did not like May. Here is a fling of his against the merry month: "I do not mind the utmost rigor of real winter," he wrote to Bernard Barton, "but these smiling hypocrites of May wither me to death."

Evidently He Was. "Larceny" was the word given out, and one man taking the examination tried to peep at the next man's paper to see how he spelled it. "What are you up to?" demanded the examiner sharply.

One Way to Eat Bananas. It is said that the best way to eat bananas, which are now so common a diet, is to crush them with a fork, squeeze a lime or lemon over them and sprinkle them with sifted sugar. They are often eaten this way in the tropics and found to be delicious.—Pittsburg Press.

Color Combinations. Knicker—The novelist dresses his heroine in some clinging white stuff. Hooker—But doesn't mention the cost in some vanishing green stuff.—New York Sun.

Just For a Joke. "She says I am dull." "You should crack a few jokes occasionally. Ask her to marry you or something like that."—Puck.

Take life as you find it, but don't leave it so.—Arist.

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