

They Are Regulated by the Royal College of Physicians.

The specialists must be divided into two distinct classes, the surgeon proper and the pure physician.

But the pure physician is an entirely different matter. His fees are standardized not by act of parliament, but by that autocratic body, the Royal College of Physicians.

If the physician should accept more fee, "medical etiquette" and is branded a quack by his less lucky brethren.

MEASURING TIME.

Methods Used Before the Advent of Clocks and Watches.

Probably the oldest method of determining the time of day was by the sundial, but other devices have been used for ages, including the water clock, the burning wick, and the hour glass filled with sand.

In parts of southern India there was used a thin copper bowl about five inches in diameter and rather deeper than half a sphere, having a very small hole at the bottom.

Plato introduced the clepsydra into Greece. It was used by the Romans also. The king of Persia is said to have presented Charlemagne with a water clock of bronze laced with gold.

DEEP SEA LEVEL.

Its Changes Illustrated in the Case of the Mediterranean.

Changes in the level of the sea are well shown in the case of the Mediterranean. M. Ph. Negris in a brochure presented to the Academy of Science furnishes interesting information on this point.

The Steam Engine.

The steam engine was made perfect by James Watt, a Scotchman, who was employed to open and close the valves.

One Phase of Mexican Etiquette.

Mexican etiquette is peculiar, as is shown by the following quotation from a letter written by a Spanish woman while traveling in that country.

POLLY LARKIN

"How do young men spend their evenings in San Francisco, Polly?" asked an anxious mother, whose son had accepted a position in one of the big department stores in this city.

Speaking of excursions reminds me of an excursion over the California Northern Railway to Ukiah and Willit recently. Such a tremendous crowd of sight-seers, all eager to see this land of promise, traversed by this road, which has already thrown off its somber russet garb of summer and donned its mantle of green.

BRIEF REVIEW.

The Oldest Inhabitant.

Probably the oldest living animal on the globe is on exhibition at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. It is not a human being, since man rarely passes the century line.

Live Toad Found in Strata of Coal.

Paleontologists are deeply interested in a remarkable discovery made in the coal mines at Renton, Wash., twelve miles from Seattle.

Rather Clever Birds.

An agriculturist's paper tells this yarn: A poultry fancier who kept some fowls in a field beside a railway line fed the fowls on wheat.

New Cotton Plant.

If the expectation of experts of the Agricultural Department are realized, at the end of the present season the cotton boll weevil will have been dealt another hard blow.

Mozart's Skull.

In the middle of Salzburg stands the small house in which Mozart was born. It contains two old pianos and many relics belonging to the composer.

Doing Nothing.

Wearily Willie—I'm a victim of police persecution, lady, dat's what. An' why, de first time I was arrested I wasn't doin' nothin' at all.

Clark Wanted the Penny.

Senator Clark was in Chicago the other day, and gave a good illustration of how rich men look after the pennies.

Helping Along the Joke.

"These," said the epicure to the bright Philadelphia girl, "are snails, suppose Philadelphia people don't eat them for fear of cannibalism."

Very Considerate.

Careful Husband—By the bye, I noticed a mistake of 5 shillings in the butcher's bill this morning, Laura.

INSULT THEIR TEETH.

That's What People Do Who Do Not Masticate Their Food.

People who swallow their food whole are insulting their teeth. The teeth are there to perform their duty, and the one who fails to use them is implying that they are not fit for the duty assigned them.

Don't favor the teeth until it is necessary. Give them plenty of work to do. Eat crusts, and when eating meat spare not the work of the teeth.

Few people will eat food from dirty fingers, yet hosts of men, women and children eat food with poorly kept teeth.

Dressing tables and vest pockets are filled with nail files, but the silk thread or the rubber band for removing particles of food from between the teeth is more essential.

Any smile is spoiled by ill kept teeth. Brush the teeth before and after eating. Carry the brush in a pocket or handbag.

Use the silk thread or rubber band after meals. It can be carried with the brush.

WEEPING WILLOWS.

The Curious Manner of Their Introduction into England.

The Salix Babylonica or Willow of Babylon, the English weeping willow, is a native of the Levant, the coast of Persia and other places in the east.

Pope, the poet, having received a present of Turkey figs, observed that a twig of the basket in which they had been packed was putting out a young green shoot.

This species of willow is generally planted by a still pool, to which it is an appropriate ornament, and when, in misty weather, drops of water are seen distilling from the extremities of its branches nothing could be more descriptive than the title it has obtained.

THE MINIATURE.

How the Term Came to Mean a Very Small Portrait.

Miniature painting originated in the practice of illuminating manuscript books, when small pictures were introduced with the initial letters or upon the borders. These initial letters were usually painted in red, Latin minium; hence these small pictures were termed miniatures.

After the invention of printing and engraving this art entered upon a new era. In small sizes of celebrated pictures were made, and the demand was particularly great for portraits, and so the term miniature came to mean a very small portrait.

Photography checked miniature painting for a time, but of late there has been a notable revival of the art.

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THE FIRST DIRECTORY.

It Was Issued in England in Queen Elizabeth's Reign.

The first directory dates from 1595, Queen Elizabeth's reign. A copy of it is in the British museum, entitled "The Names of All Such Gentlemen of Account as Were Residing Within the City of London."

The next does not seem to have appeared for nearly a hundred years. It was called "A Collection of the Names of Merchants Living in and About the City of London." This was printed for Lee, Lombard street, in 1677.

A Philanthropic Joke.

First a halfpenny then a gold piece gave considerable amusement to a small crowd in the Rue Daunou, Paris.

The Speaker's Magnetism.

Paterfamilias has come, soft shod, into the parlor and had found matters such as he might have expected considering that Reggie Adelpalt and the daughter of the house were there alone and that he had sneaked in.

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Starting the Row.

Nell—Oh, my! I don't like the shape of my new gown at all. I wish I knew how to improve it. Belle—Why not let some other girl wear it, dear?—Philadelphia Ledger.

RUSSIAN WOLFHOUNDS.

They Are Known as the Aristocrats of the Canine Family.

Beyond any question the aristocrat of the canine family is the Russian wolfhound, otherwise the borzoi or borzo, which is the Russian name for coursing dog.

In eastern Europe he is merely the ornamental companion that he is in eastern America. In the coyote section of our continent he can be made as useful as he is in Russia, and to assist in clearing off that scourge of the cattle ranches.

The result was a natural failure, because, like a bird dog, the wolfhound must be trained to the work. American purchasers have no occasion to worry about that, however, for the dog's high courage is the result of education and encouragement; without it they are docile and obedient and fit companions for the ladies of the house.

A Clean Record.

"I've worked for the party faithfully for fifteen years," said the office seeker, "and in all that time I never once asked for an office."

MONSTER SPIDERS.

Some of the Bird Eaters Are Nearly as Big as a Rat.

The bird eating spiders of South America, Africa and Australia are beasts of prey worthy of their tropical jungles. Their appearance is repulsive. They are of immense size. Some which have been caught have been nearly as big as a rat.

Like other beasts of prey of tropical forests, they are essentially creatures of the night. During the day many of them hide in some natural crevice in the ground.

Curiously enough, they reserve their spinning powers for their nest building, entirely disdaining the use of webs for the trapping of their prey.

They feed their food, prepare to leap upon and devour any living creature that they come across. Their name comes from the fact that they have been found in the act of devouring small newly killed birds clutched closely between their hairy claws.

HER EXCUSE.

"I didn't see young Jenkins with his arm around you?" "Yes, but we were just practicing the position for the waltz."

TOO BUSY.

Otherwise—And you actually approve of gossiping women? "Wise—Yes, for this reason: I have noticed that a woman who is always talking about her neighbors never has time to complain of her husband."

WATCHES HIM.

She—Why is it a woman never looks at the man she's marrying when at the altar? "He—I don't know, but I do know she keeps her eye on him pretty well after the wedding."—Yonkers Statesman.

IN SOCIETY.

Mrs. Hoyle—She was once in society, but she isn't now. Mrs. Doyle—What shut her out? Mrs. Hoyle—She got into the habit of going to the opera to hear the music.—Town Topics.

FORESIGHT.

"Why do you keep two automobiles?" "I use the second one to bring along the things I'm likely to need in keeping the first one in running order."—Baltimore News.

THE AGGRIEVED PARTY.

"Has your automobile frightened any horses?" "No," answered the novice. "But every now and then some horse turns suddenly into the road and gives me a scare."—Washington Star.

CONVENIENT IGNORANCE.

"How can you tell whether your automobile is going faster than the law allows or not?" "I can't tell. That's one of the beauties of it."—Chicago Record-Herald.

MORE THAN ALL ELSE.

"Did you see anything in Italy that appealed to you particularly?" "Yes, the beggars."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

FIRST AID.

Edith—Is it true, Dolly, that Larkin kissed you before he picked you up in that runaway? Dolly—Yes, dear; you know he is studying to be a doctor, and that was first aid to the injured.—Chicago Record-Herald.

TOO MUCH TALK.

Browne—To what do you attribute the troubles of the world? Towne—To the mobility of the lower jaw.

HUMOR OF THE HOUR

It Was Up to Him.

"I was walking along the Strand, London," said a Boston business man, "when I was stopped by a duke of a feller who had the head of his cane in his mouth, but removed it long enough to say:

"Aw, now, but I beg pawdon, doncher know?" "Do you, really? I asked.

"Pon honor, I do. Yes, beg pawdon."

"I can hardly realize it." "But I do, doncher know?" "You actually and truly and with out any coercion on my part beg pawdon, do you? I asked.

"Bah Jove, but I don't know." "And had you as soon state your reasons?" "I had. You are carrying your cane in your right hand, doncher see? I beg pawdon—really I do."

"Yes, I see, doncher know, and what would happen if I carried it in my left? Answer me, please. What would happen?" "Bah Jove, but I don't know," he replied, as a startled look came into his face, "but I beg your pawdon, doncher know, and I'll ask young Lud Sledge next time we meet."

MAYBE SO.

"Don't you suppose, Mr. Giddums," said the man with the pale brow and the thoughtful eyes, "that there is some psychological reason for the declining of popular interest in the sport of wheeling?" "Seems to me more as if the reason would be bicycleical," replies Mr. Giddums, with an offhand air.—Chicago Tribune.

A CLEAN RECORD.

"I've worked for the party faithfully for fifteen years," said the office seeker, "and in all that time I never once asked for an office."

"My dear sir," interrupted the leader, "that's a glorious record. I wouldn't think of urging you to break it. Keep it up."—Philadelphia Press.

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CHOICE MISCELLANY

The Geranium.

All things considered, the geranium is our best plant for winter flowering. It blooms freely and constantly in most instances and adapts itself to the conditions prevailing in the ordinary living room more readily than almost any other plant I have any knowledge of.

It has little to boast of in the way of attractive foliage—though a plant well set with vigorous, healthy foliage is far from being uninteresting—but it has a right to pride itself on the beauty of its flowers. Some of the brilliant varieties are so exceedingly brilliant that they actually seem to impart a feeling of warmth to the observer. The little child who declared that auntie's geraniums were "on fire" was conscious of this suggestion of heat in the intensity of color which characterizes some of the most richly colored sorts.—Lippincott's Magazine.

HEITY GREEN'S THRIFT.

"I consider that I owe all I am in life to the principles instilled into me by my father," said Heity Green, richest woman in the world, in a recent Broadway Magazine interview. "Daughter," he repeated again and again, "cultivate common sense and judgment. Learn how to manage your brains and you will know how to manage your fortune. Intelligence is better than Greek and Latin, and good morals will stand by you better than a fine education."

"I was just fourteen years old when I went to the bank and deposited \$25, my first savings. My father went with me and was very proud of my thrift, for it had cost me some sacrifice. I am proud to say that I have added to that first \$25 and haven't yet drawn it out."

"The trouble with most persons," she continued, "is that they want to spend, but they don't want to work. No man or woman in my employ stays awake until 2 o'clock in the morning thinking about investments. Well, that's how hard I work."

VEGETABLE IVORY.

As the vegetable became scarcer it was found that the amount of ivory would be curtailed to such an extent as to make it too expensive for practical use. As a matter of fact, however, there is still plenty of ivory for all practical purposes. This result has been brought about by the discovery that a very good substitute for the diminishing ivory is what is called vegetable ivory. The tree from which it is obtained is known as the ivory palm, which produces nuts containing a milky pulp something like that of the coconut, but which when ripe and dry becomes as hard as ivory. The nuts are covered with a bark almost as hard as iron, and this covering has to be removed by friction, the nuts being placed in a drum with iron weights and rapidly revolved until the outer covering is worn off, when the nuts are ready for the cutting machine.

CHINA'S OIL TREE.

Five years ago the attention of American importers was called to the value as an astringent and drier in varnish for the finer kinds of furniture of the product of the Chinese wood oil tree. Since then two American firms have established branches at Hankow, China, for the exportation of the oil, and one of them has shipped nearly 200,000 gallons since last fall. Because of the fact that no barrels are manufactured in the provinces where the oil tree grows a Hankow firm has imported from New York shooks for 5,000 barrels and machinery for setting them up. About a thousand seeds of the oil tree have been planted in California and are doing well.—Manufacturer's Record.

REVENUE FROM BILLIARD TABLES.

Taxation enables many curious tables of statistics to be compiled. It would probably puzzle the best of English statisticians to guess even approximately at the number of billiard tables in use in England. There is no such difficulty in France, where the billiard table is a taxed luxury, and its relative frequency in communes of all grades of population and wealth is made the subject of calculation as elaborate as they are ingenious. In all France there are 89,676 billiard tables, divided among 18,071 communes and realizing more than \$40,000 in taxes.—London Globe.

FISHING BY TELEPHONE.

A Norwegian has invented a queer way of finding out where the fish are. A microphone, which is an instrument that will catch and transmit the least bit of sound, is lowered into the water from a fishing smack, and a wire from it leads to a telephone aboard the boat. Now, as the herring, codfish and mackerel schools number thousands and tens of thousands of fish, their passage through the water naturally causes a rushing sound, which can be heard by the fishermen at the telephone, and thus they are enabled to lower their nets at the right time and in the right place.

FARMERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The 1900 census shows that white farmers operated 4,970,129 farms in this country, with a total of 798,958,187 acres and valued at \$10,201,431,880, exclusive of products. Negroes operated 748,717 farms, including 38,233,933 acres and valued at \$499,943,734. Indians had 19,910 farms, valued at \$38,239,478; Chinese 1,842 farms, Japanese 570 and Hawaiians 480. Of the entire number of farmers 3,140,344 owned their farms and 451,515 were part owners.

A HARD YAK.

"Don't you think you could learn to love me?" he said, looking at her wistfully. "I'm sure I couldn't," she answered decidedly. "I'm a perfect dunce. When I was at school my teacher could learn anything."—London Punch.

THE DRY PART.

Mr. Pepper—I don't believe there was a dry eye in the house when the curtains went down on the third act. Mrs. Pepper—No, but there seemed to be the usual number of dry throats.

HE WHO IS DESTITUTE OF PRINCIPLES IS GOVERNED BY WHIMS.—JACOBI.