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The Sound Absorber

by Florence Gray Webster



HE Harvard-Yale football game was on at the stadium, and a demonstration of the Sound Absorber was shortly to be on.

Hon. William Gazukes, the millionaire, who seemed to be renewing his youth, sat chatting excitedly with the inventor and a party of friends. It seems that the Hon. Gazukes had recently been forced, through a practical joke on himself, to become interested in this sound absorber and to realize that it had a variety of possibilities for his friend. Faxon, the inventor, had lain in wait for him one day by the side of a building. He had seen the millionaire coming toward him, earnestly engaged in conversation, and wishing to demonstrate his invention, he had quickly sprung upon a barrel and, as quickly, he had set the absorber in rapid vibration, so as to disturb the atmosphere before the faces of the gentlemen. Neither was able to hear the other and after much consternation Faxon, with a twinkle in his eye, confronted them.

The millionaire then became anxious to try it on a crowd, and had secured seats for his friends in little groups about the stadium, all of them being located within the Yale cheering line. "Little do people about us know what we have on our minds," he was saying.

They were happily expectant and laughed as the old gentleman added: "Or should I say: 'on our coats?'" for each one of the 30 men in the party was supplied with a sound absorber.

This invention was simply a circular plate, with curving edges, looking something like a flattened bowl. The



Had Lain in Wait for Him.

Plate was to catch vibrations, which are carried in waves to their ears through the atmosphere around them. In the center of the apparatus were small revolving plates, which, being fanlike, when set in motion would break up, by an area of disturbed air,

the sound waves assembled in the bowl. For, as the inventor argued, we cannot prevent the creation of noises, but we can in a great measure stop them from annoying us.

Not caring to attract attention, the men had hooked the plates across their inner coats at the chest, hanging them from the front edges of their overcoat sleeve holes, and allowing the flaps of their coats to hang out and hide them from the side view. The batteries which were to set the fans in motion were in an inner pocket of each coat.

Harvard rooters were busy, alternately with Yale's. The game stood 6-0 for Harvard at the first half. Bands were playing and college songs had been sung. Red and blue flags and banners were waved in the spirit of the game of the season. The women, whose costumes displayed predominantly the colors of their respective teams, lent a gaiety to the scene.

The Crimson had emitted in one roar "Rah rah rah! Rah rah rah! Rah rah rah! Harvard!" and Yale was getting ready.

Young men, swinging their arms to get the Elms to yell together, looked in surprise that there was no response. Again they tried, but could not hear themselves.

Everyone was wondering what was the matter. Plainly the leaders had been heard in the first place, but there was no response. No one had



Amazement on Every Face.

sense enough to close his mouth, notwithstanding it had apparently become useless, for there was only an occasional sound, as though half articulated, where some voice had not come within the range of the sound absorbers distributed through the crowd.

"Say, I shall bust," groaned the inventor. "We will raise the devil. We must shut these things off," for amazement was evident on every face.

"Am I bereft of my senses?" one man muttered.

Harvard, from her side, was shouting: "What's the matter with the kids? They've lost their wind!"

Everyone was keyed to a great tension, especially the Gazukes men, and all of them were greatly relieved when, on the third attempt, they heard the leaders of the Blues call: "Now, together. Rah rah rah! Rah rah rah! Yale! Hooray! We're all right!"

Mr. Gazukes knew it would not do to interrupt the cheering again, and exhilarated with the first experiment, it was with much uneasiness that he waited for a further test at the theater later.

As the game proceeded, the inventor was whispering to the millionaire: "Wouldn't it be more fun than a barrel of monkeys to take it into the gallery of the stock exchange when bids were being made? Orders would be given and, not being heard, would forever fail to be carried out. What

Let Us Give Thanks

PLEASURES, prosperity, all the material blessings that abound—even ingrates can give thanks for these. Let us, at least this once in the long year, look deep into the heart of our sorrows, our failures, our disappointments, our illnesses, and see if there does not lie there, as within the hard, bitter hull of the nut, some good kernel that is sweet and wholesome and nourishing. And so give thanks! The rich, the well, the happy—surely they need not be taught to give thanks! No; it is the voice of praise that wells up through tears from the heart that aches, to which angels lean and listen.

For what we have got out of this world it is easy to be grateful. But for what we have been able to give to it, of goods, of sympathy, of sacrifice, of cheer, of uplift, of soul-stuff—for this we may give thanks that will blend, infinitely sweet, into the eternal music of the spheres.

So each of us, as different gems have different powers to reflect the light—let us give thanks.

The Truth of It.

"Well, Nettie, did you know that we had all come for Thanksgiving?" asked Uncle John, as he chucked his little niece under the chin.

"I expected you," she said, sweetly. "Mother said that the whole family was coming, and it was a dreadful bore, but that Thanksgiving only comes once a year."

Turkey Belongs to America.

The turkey is an American bird.



Waiting Expectantly.

close to the orchestra. During the second act one of the conspirators leaned toward the millionaire, when, as previously arranged, they all turned on the absorbers suspended over their vests, and endeavored to whisper. "They can't imagine what's the matter." But the joke was on him, for he could not hear his own voice, and Mr. Gazukes could only guess at what he meant.

A trio behind the footlights was waiting expectantly for an introduction to their song. The conductor, who at first was quietly waving his baton and indicating for the first violin to commence, then looked angrily at him and nodded his head wildly to go on.

People were surprised. Although those in the front seats could see the bows passing over the instruments, there was no sound. The leader of the orchestra then indicated for the drummer to drum. The veins on his temples stood out and his hair seemed to rise from his forehead, while his spectacles slid along his nose to the furthest distance from their proper position. Now there was consternation that, while he seemed to be giving orders, no results were forthcoming, and, not understanding, the audience was getting restless, looking around.

Harvard's night at the theaters—when she wins—are dreaded perhaps as much by conductors as by the actors, who know that interruptions may be expected at the most inopportune times, and, awakening to the fact that this was some joke, the conductor commenced to scan the audience.

All this had taken but a few moments, although the time seemed an eternity to the men who occupied the entire second row. Already one of the chorus girls was "on," and they began to fear the partial obstruction of the persons in the front row would not be enough to shield them from the scrutiny of the actors. Involuntarily they drew their coats together and shut off the batteries. The millionaire rather sheepishly nudged the man next to him, but he was enjoying to the utmost his diabolical plan.

When things went smoothly again, the star improvised: "This was no fancy of Nancy's, neither was it a fancy of ours."

Hon. William Gazukes then whispered to the inventor: "I am convinced of the satisfactory working of the marvelous sound absorber."

(Copyright, 1918, Western Newspaper Union.)

Luenbus and the Epicureans did not know about him. He was found in his wild state after Columbus' first voyage. About a hundred years after the discovery of America broiled young turkeys became great delicacies on the Frenchman's table.

No Time to Abandon Custom.

It has long been the honored custom of our people to turn in the fruitful autumn of the year in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for his many blessings and mercies to us as a nation. That custom we can follow now, even in the midst of the tragedy of a world shaken by war and immeasurable disaster, in the midst of sorrow and great peril.

Dont let a smooth tongued stranger persuade you that there is any kind of printing the Herald Print Shop can not do.

A. N. Halleck buys junk of all kinds and pays highest cash prices. 26tf

Monmouth and Independence Auto-Bus Schedule

Leaves Monmouth	Leaves Independence
6.50 a. m.	North Bound 7.30 a. m.
1.50 p. m.	" " 2.25 p. m.
5.15 " "	" " 5.48 " "
10.00 a. m.	South Bound 10.34 a. m.
3.15 p. m.	" " 3.51 p. m.
6.30 " "	" " 7.12 " "

GRAHAM & SON Proprietors

Notice of School Meeting

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of School District No. 13 of Polk County, State of Oregon that a School Meeting of said District will be held at High School Building on the 30th day of November, 1918, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to vote on the proposition of levying a special district tax.

The total amount of money needed by the district during the fiscal year beginning on June 30, 1918, and ending on June 30, 1919, is estimated in the following budget and includes the amounts to be received from the county school fund, special district tax, and all other moneys of the district:

BUDGET

Estimated Expenditures

- Teachers' salaries - \$6,000
- Furniture - 200
- Apparatus and supplies, such as maps, chalk, erasers, stoves, curtains, etc. - 200
- Library books - 75
- Flags - 25
- Repairs of schoolhouses, out-buildings or fences - 75
- Janitor's wages - 700

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AT ALL DRUGGISTS

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- Janitor's supplies - 50
- Fuel - 250
- Light - 70
- Water - 65
- Clerk's salary - 100
- Postage and stationery - 50
- For the payment of bonded debt and interest thereon, issued under Sections 117, 144 to 148, and 422 of the School Laws of Oregon, 1917 1100
- Warrants and interest - 240
- Fire insurance - 20
- Miscellaneous - 250

Total estimated amount of money to be expended for all purposes during the year \$9470

Estimated Receipts

From county school fund during the coming year \$3834.70

From state school fund during the coming school year 509.64

Cash now in the hands of the district clerk - 50.00

Cash now in the hands of the county treasurer, belonging to the district - 615.30

Total estimated receipts, not including the money to be received from the tax which it is proposed to vote \$5009.64

Recapitulation

Total estimated expenses for the year - \$9470.00

Total estimated receipts not including the tax to be voted 5009.64

Balance, amount to be raised by district tax - 4460.36

Dated this 14 day of November, 1918.

Attest: Mina Cornelius, District Clerk. Ira C. Powell, Chairman Board of Directors.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY

In Odd Fellows Hall

Services, - 11.00 a. m.

Subject: REALITY

Sunday School, - 10.00 a. m.

Wednesday evening meeting, 8.00 p. m.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

PETER CONKLIN, PASTOR

Sunday School, - 10.00 a. m.

Preaching Service, - 11.00 a. m.

Y. P. A. Meeting, - 6.15 p. m.

Preaching Service, - 7.30 p. m.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday, 7.30 p. m.

BAPTIST CHURCH

E. B. PACE, Pastor

Sunday School, - 10.00 a. m.

Preaching Service, - 11.00 a. m.

C. U. E. Meeting, - 6.30 p. m.

Preaching Service, - 7.30 p. m.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday, 7.30 p. m.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday School, - 10.00 a. m.

Preaching Service, - 11.00 a. m.

Y. P. S. C. E. Meeting, - 6.30 p. m.

Preaching Service, - 7.30 p. m.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7.30 p. m.