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You Need Not Fail

by Whit Hadley

Down in Comfort, Texas, they say, "God made the armadillo, but Charles Apelt, our richest townsman, found out what the armadillo was good for." When he found that out he made a million dollars.

With the few dollars he had left after eleven failures, Apelt bought a tiny farm and settled down to support his sickly family by tilling the soil.

One day as he sat, discouraged, he saw a small animal running past. He threw a stone at it, but the animal's tough armor-plate hide was an effective defense. Apelt threw again, hitting the animal squarely in the head and killing it. More as a souvenir, Apelt skinned his strange find. He tried to flatten the skin, but found this kind of hide wouldn't flatten, so he threw it away. A day or two later he noticed that the sun had curled up the armadillo coat into a half oval shape and given it a polish like a mirror. Then he had a vision of an artistic silk-lined basket formed out of this shell. That day there was born a new industry.

The armadillo, as you may know, is a mammal about three feet long. It is a harmless animal that lives on roots and worms, and its meat is sometimes eaten.

Tapering the shell into a beautiful design and having it silk-lined by Mrs. Apelt, he took his odd find to a curio shop, where it was eagerly bought. Then he started a basket business. Today he employs 100 men and as many dogs—just any sort of a dog—and they are kept busy in the mountains routing out armadillos, which are plentiful.

The demand for armadillo baskets has extended all over the world. In some of the shops on Fifth Avenue, New York, an Apelt made armadillo basket sells for \$250.

On his great estate in Texas the man who failed a score of times is the proud possessor today of a mansion that is the show place of his city. "It wasn't just luck," he says. "I saw my opportunity, and stuck to it."



I journey through life, embittered by strife and burdened with woes Titanic, while the man, smug, who gobbles the yen is—*the Automobile Mechanic.* I might have had gold and jewels untold and revelled in robes Sultanic if I had the sense of that wisest of gents—the Automobile Mechanic!

He accumulates power in cash by the hour and gives his commands tyrannic. He renders his bill with immaculate skill, does the Automobile Mechanic. I do without hash just to hand him my cash and return to my dreams Sultanic, till my boat brings a sack, then I reverently seek—that Automobile Mechanic!



TALES OF THE OLD FRONTIER

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

(c. 1923, Western Newspaper Union.)

THE BRAVEST WOMAN IN ALL FRONTIER HISTORY

SHE was the mother of Col. Richard M. Johnson, a hero of the War of 1812, and later a vice president of the United States, but Kentucky knows her best as Mrs. Jemima Suggett Johnson, the heroine of Bryan's station and performer of the bravest deed in all frontier history. She was in that stockaded fort one hot August day in 1782, when a force of 400 Indians led by the notorious white renegades, Girty, McKee and Campbell, appeared before it.

The settlers were accustomed to get their water from a bubbling spring several rods distant, but they had carelessly let the supply in the fort run low. The Indians concealed their main force in the woods around the spring and sent a small skirmishing party before the gates to tempt the settlers into making a sortie.

Knowing the vital need for water in the hot fighting soon to begin, Capt. John Craig, the commander of the fort, resorted to a desperate expedient to get it. He assembled the women and children and told them that if the men tried to go for the water, the Indians, knowing that they did not usually do this work unless danger was near, would immediately attack them. But if the women and children went as usual, the savages in their desire to keep the presence of the large ambushing party concealed probably would not harm them, although there was no positive assurance that they would not.

Immediately Mrs. Johnson laid baby Richard in his log cradle, told his sister Sally to look after him and volunteered for the duty. Other women quickly followed her example and in a few minutes a party of twelve women and sixteen of the older children strolled down toward the spring. They were laughing and chatting as though totally unconscious of danger, but at the thought of the possibility of capture their hearts almost stopped beating.

At the spring they filled their pails and with no visible signs of haste prepared to return. Although conscious of the savage eyes glaring at them from the bushes barely an arm's length away, so well did they play their part that the Indians were completely deceived and allowed them to start back undisturbed. Then began a struggle within themselves to keep from making a mad dash for safety. But their superb will power won, and it was not until they were under the very walls of the fort that their steps quickened and a few drops of the precious water was spilled.

The men of Bryan's station defeated their enemies. They could not have done otherwise and been the sons and husbands of such women as these.

Etiquette

What & When to do it
By A. Leda

Readers desiring personal replies on points of Etiquette or heart affairs may write Miss A. Leda, care of this newspaper, enclosing a self addressed and stamped envelope.

Dear A. Leda—

(1)—In fashionable society is it necessary for a groom to give a bachelor dinner before his wedding day? (2)—If so, how long before? (3)—Where should the dinner be held? (4)—And are souvenirs given? (5)—Also, who sits at the host's right?

K. M.

(1)—No. This is a habitual but not necessary feast. (2)—It is given from one to two weeks preceding the wedding. (3)—Either at his club, at home, or in the private dining room of a hotel. (4)—The souvenirs which are to be given the ushers are tied up in boxes with white ribbon and put on or beside the individual plates. (5)—The best man should sit at the host's right side. One usually takes this opportunity also to give the neckties the ushers are to wear. They likewise should be done up with a narrow band of white ribbon around them. When it is to be a large wedding and guests are to be invited with whom all the ushers are not acquainted it is a great help to the ushers to have a list of the guests' names. Then at a glance he can tell which side of the church (bride or groom's) the guest is to be seated.

Dear A. Leda—

Will you please tell me what the fifteenth wedding anniversary is? Maybe you would give a list of the various ones, and greatly oblige

Marion L.

Indeed, I'll be glad to, Marion. The order of the wedding anniversaries are as follows: First year, paper; Fifth, wooden; Tenth, tin; Twelfth, leather; Fifteenth, crystal; Twentieth, china; Twenty-fifth, silver; Thirtieth, ivory; Fortieth, woolen; Forty-fifth, silk; and Fiftieth, diamond. Today wedding anniversaries are seldom noticed until after the first quarter century of married life.

HELPFUL HEALTH HINTS

Earsache—Apply clothes wrung out in hot water to the ear or near seat of pain. Give hot drinks. Moisten a little cotton with extract of witch hazel and put in the ear.

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