

There were two predominating features, dread and timidity, in the thoughts and actions of Ralph Burton as the leap year came in and he was made the target of organized menace and raillery on the part of those who fancied they could play upon his

"You're a selected victim, Burton!" declared more than one of the little town club of which he was a member. "Oh, he'll never escape through the month!" insisted others. "You'd better keep away from the trap of so-

"I rarely favor them," observed Burton gravely.

cial functions."

"And have a bodyguard," was the further advice. "I understand that the girls' clubs laid out a regular program, with dates and victims. Not an unmarried man in the town will

"Yes, and a well-fixed individual like Burton will be the especial object of persecution!"

Ralph Burton smiled, but it was not a natural smile. Nature had awarded him a shrinking, self-deprecating element, and he had never battled it. At twenty-eight he found himself a reserved young bachelor with an inborn veneration for all womankind, yet bashful and retiring. If he had ever loved, he had never been able to summon up the courage to confess the fact to the object of his adora-

"A confirmed woman hater," was the snappy ultimatum of more than



That is Strange."

one of those disappointed, for in intelligence and fortune Burton was a most eligible party.

The "boys" at the club were fond of jokes and the arrival of the month with 29 days in it favored their

"Now, then, you want to rush the program hot and heavy!" was the decision of Ned Walton, a tireless misgive Burton a period of misery was set in motion.

"A young lady called twice, sir." was the announcement of his landlady, two evenings later, when Burton came home from the office.

He colored and fidgeted, Visits from young ladies comprised a proceeding to which Burton was an utter stranger. He could not even recall where recently he had joined company with a member of the opposite sex so far as a single block on the public strepts.

"Er-that is strange. Leave any name? Ah, perhaps my sister from Smithville."

"Oh, no, sir-I know her," disclosed the landlady. "She was veiled. Your visitor was young and graceful and acted very auxious to see you. It struck me she was quite mysterious. And when she left I noticed she joined two other ladies in the street."

"Witnesses!" gasped Burton to himself. "If all the crowd tell about the outlandish exercise of the leap-year privilege by the female sex this year is true, I fear I am going to be the object of some annoyance.

For three days Burton did not go home to dinner. For three evenings he went without a light in his room and barricaded the doors. His "veiled lady visitor" did not appear again, however. He began to feel relieved, when a letter reached him.

Its pages were delicately scented and the handwriting was exquisitely dainty. Its sentiments were burning, professing "the ardent admiration of a longing soul seeking a life ideal," and finding it in him. further epistles, it suggested that he wear a pink carnation in his coat the next day, in order that his correspondent might know that her continued attentions might not be distasteful to

That especial morning Burton buttoned up his coat tightly and reached his office by unfrequented byways He stayed away from the club, he had serious thoughts of taking a vacation. When one day a bouquet was delivered, he decided that affairs had reached the limit. He was so disturbed he decided to take a day off.

Burton made for the outskirts,

woods. As he passed a certain house he gave one startled glance behind him and quickened his pace. His blushing glance had caught sight of a faded lady of uncertain age waving her hand at him and calling his name. He feigned not to hear. He saw her throw a light wrap over her shoulders. He saw her run out of the front door.

"Gracious!" gasped Burton, "I do believe she is going to follow me. Yes, she is, and leap year-say! she may be the one who sent me those flow-

In desperation Burton edged off the A row of bushes protected him. How was he to know that Miss Celia Dempster was simply seeking from him a contribution to the town relief fund for the poor?

Then as he glided through the open doorway of a great barn and realized where he was, Burton flushed to the roots of his hair. Why! he had invaded the precincts of the Morton home, and Ruth Morton was a very dear name to him, although he had never told anyone so-no one, not even Ruth herself, who would have been pleased to learn the fact.

Twice he had been Ruth's escort to a town entertainment. Then he had been too bashful to call. Often he had thought of her. Now he dodged back farther into the barn Ruth, four of her little sisters and brothers accompanying her, were making straight for his retreat.

"Why, Mr. Burton!" exclaimed Ruth, and she looked really pleased, though flustered, as she came upon him-"is this your long-looked-for call?"

"Er-why, yes," declared Burton in stumbling tones, feeling that he was acting like a dunce. "That is, Iwell, I'm taking a day off and you see, sort of putting in the time-

"Which you can do to decided advantage to us," chirped the sprightly "Myself and this brood have Ruth. about ten bushels of apples to pare and cut for evaporation. You shall string. Will it please you?"

"Please me? It will be delightful!" declared Burton.

"Then come, sir, you must be aproned like the rest of us!"

What a thrill pervaded his sensitive being as Ruth tied a big kitchen ical activities which have disturbed apron around him! What a novelty the Celestial empire, and it is not surto be seated amid the gayly chatter. prising that its people should be ing group, doing his share of the

Then there was a grand lunch, then a ramble in the orchard. Mrs. Mor. Geographic society. ton insisted upon his staying to tea. It was in this p and then there was moonlight, and a feverishly delicious critical moment at the garden gate, his own face close- ton, the capital, practically financed

blurting out all the story of his fears and his hopes, he found in Ruth a truly Doctor Sun himself came from Canoyal sympathizer. Love, love, love!-it drove him, bold

as a lion, to the club that evening. His fellow members stared. There bore his head high. There was a happy smile on his face.

"Got you yet-the leap-year plwho had driven Burton into par-

"Oh, yes." answered Burton, and there was a cheer and joy in his tones. 'One of the fair ladies has. Only she didn't ask me. Tell it to the world that I am the happiest man it holds! I'm going to marry-

THE ORIGIN OF SURNAMES

Those Most Familiar Were Taken Originally From the Occupations of the Holders.

Once upon a time given names all there was about it. Our present Tom Taylor, and his descendants by individual count. used Taylor as the family name. The con are simple. Purcell developed exports. from pourcel, meaning little pig. Gait the same meaning. Tod meant fox, nings of our names in the old dialects, Some of the nicknames were originally distinctly uncomplimentary, as Seely for silly, Cameron for crooked nose and Kennedy for ugly head. Grace by sea were the Portuguese, developed from gras or fat.-Ameri-

A Fee to Fire. "Our childhood ambitions are sel-

dom realized."

can Boy.

Too true. "Life with me is just the reverse of what I thought it would be.

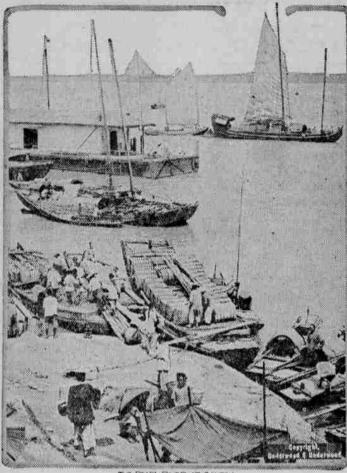
"I thought I was going to set the world on fire, and now I make my liv-Courier-Journal.

Difficult Diet.

"You Americans are becoming a race of dyspeptics," remarked the ob only port of entry. servant visitor. "You are too impa-

"Maybe that isn't it," replied the quiet citizen. "Maybe it's all due te craving for a day's solitude in the lowing our indignation."

CHINA'S COM



THE PEARL RIVER AT CANTON

HE great province of Kwang- by the British for just such a purpose tung, third in size of the eighteen political divisions of China proper, in modern times has been the center of many of the politamong the first to declare their independence from the national government, says a bulletin of the National

It was in this province that the young China movement had its birth in 1895. The secret societies of Can closer to the charming one of Ruth.

What ever possessed him? What ing seventeen years later in the over put new courage into his timid soul? throw of the Manchu dynasty and the What irradiated his being as, after establishment of a republic with Doctor Sun Yat-sen as the first president ton and was the first graduate of the

College of Medicine at Hongkong. The Cantonese have been an in spiration to phrasemakers for years. was a new Burton revealed. He Because of their gift for political or ganization they have been called 'the Irish of China," while their penchant for political unrest has caused them rates?" questioned one of the group to be dubbed "the rebellion makers in ordinary to the Chinese people." His torians see a striking analogy be tween Canton's relation to the Chinese nation in 1912 and that of Paris to provincial France in 1789.

Population Is Very Dense. Many factors have contributed to the unrest in the province of Kwang-"Not on your life! but charming, ing the struggle for sheer existence lovely, incomparable Ruth Morton!" in a state which with an area equal to South Dakota has to support a popu-

lation fifty times as great. Canton itself is a city of seething humanity with streets so narrow that only coolies can be employed as "beasts of burden." A large percentage of the people live in small boats which form a floating floor on the were the only names in use. One was thick waters of the Pearl river. So Tom, Dick or Harry, and that was precious is space that the shops are reduced to mere boxes; so close is the surnames arose from the nicknames. margin of profit and so small the pur-Thus Tom the Taylor became in time | chases that beans and peanuts are sold

Geographically, the two provinces most familiar of our surnames were of Kwang-si and Kwang-tung are cut taken from the occupations of our off from northern and central China forefathers, as Smiths, Bakers, Brew- by mountain ranges which are moders, etc. Many men, moving to new erately rich in minerals-iron, gold towns, had the name of the place and a cheap grade of coal. The soil from which they had come fastened is fertile and some of the chief produpon them. Others took names like ucts are sugar, cocoanuts and betel Pope, King and Bishop, from playing nuts, Slik, firecrackers, matting, ginthose parts in plays. Hogg and Ba- ger and palm-leaf fans are the chief

The Cantonese were among the first and Grice are old dialect words of Chinese people to come in general contact with the outside world. The Fitchie was polecat, and so the keen Arabs reached the shores of the maristudent of language traces the begin- time province in the tenth century, and soon these hardy sailors were acting as captains of Chinese junks sailing to Manila, Java. Borneo and Siam. The first Europeans to reach Canton years before Cortez landed in Mexico, Emanuel, king of Portugal, sent an ambassador with eight ships around the Cape of Good Hope to induce the emperor of China to sanction trade relations with the nation of navigators. The mission was successful and the visitors were allowed to enter the har-

bor of Canton. More than a hundred years later the English arrived and met with a hostile reception on account of a recent rupng selling insurance."-Louisville ture in the friendly relations between the Portuguese and the natives. It was not until 1685 that the emperor finally sanctioned trade relations with Great Britain, naming Canton as the fore,

Few Foreigners in Canton. Of Canton's population, variously estimated at from 900,000 to 1,500,000, only about 400 are foreigners, most She would put me to sleep in no time." the habit we have get into of swal of whom reside in the Sha-mein set-

from an extensive mud flat.

Although characterized by Caucasian observers as sullen in their political antipathies, the Cantonese are a cheerful, industrious and intelligent people in their daily lives. They accept philosophically their many hardships and receive with stoical forti- there every day, hoeing." tude the visitations of pestilence, which from time to time remove much of the surplus population.

Perhaps it was the scarcity of food which caused the Cantonese to in she can tell what kind of a man or clude in their menus many "deli- woman it will become cacies" not so classed by western peodog which is fattened in this great life cornless. city and much prized by those who can afford more than a rice diet. Cats, hawks and birds' nests, are also regarded as appetizing viands.

SHEERNESS IS A WAR PORT the business man.

Garrison Town and Harbor on Thames Estuary Are Protected by Mighty Fortifications.

Sheerness, the pivot point in the English blockade of the North sea and control of all the Channel waters, situated behind a powerful shelter of fortification on the southern shore of the Thames estuary. The garrison town and seaport are situated on the Isle of Sheppey where the Medway estuary joins with the Thames, 51 miles east of London, and joined with the metropolis by the Southeastern and Chatham railway. Thrown around the port are a chain of formidable modern fortifications, opposing such armament as would make attack by an enemy fleet almost impossible. There are also extensive barracks here, and acres of warehouse space piled high with naval stores. Residences for the admiral of the home asked one tramp. fleet and other naval officers constitute the most important part of the city.

tramp. The dockyard and works of Sheermade me sick." ness, equipped for the carrying out of all kinds of naval repairs, cover about sixty acres, including three basins and me pie, and it large modern docks. The harbor is a spacious and excellent one. Sheer tect." ness is primarily a war harbor, with little importance as a place of trade. It has fallen once before the attack of a hostile fleet, but that was before the days of formidable ordnance, when the Dutch admiral De Ruyter captured the fort of Charles II at Sheerness on July 10, 1667.

Cocoanut's Three Eyes. Who can tell why the cocoanut has three eyes? Luther Burbank explains

Cocoanuts usually grow at the edge of the sea or rivers. The nuts are surrounded with a thick husk with a waterproof covering so that when they drop into the water they will float. Two In floating, the three eyes are always on top.

Once in the water nature gets busy. From one of the eyes there comes a shoot which develops broad leaves like sails. The wind catches the sails and wafts the coccenut on a journey sometimes many miles long. As it sails the other two eyes develop roots, which at first grow among the fibers of the woody husk,

In good season, the cocoanut is swept upon another shore, perhaps on another island. The roots imbed themselves in the soft earth, the sail becomes the trunk, and a cocoanut palm is growing where none grew be-

A Rest Cure. "What a horrible reader that girl is you got for your invalid husband! "Sh! don't let her hear me, but tiement, an artificial island reclaimed that's just what we got her for."

World Will Always Be Able to Support Its Population

By IOHN M. HESS of Chicago

Government statistics show that approximately 1,500,000,000 acres of land are subject to cultivation—an area equal to 32 states as large as Illinois. These statistics further show that an area equal to about thirteen such states is being cultivated. All the rest, or 19 states, lies unplowed. That is to say, only three-eighths of the land susceptible of cultivation in the United States are now under cultivation.

Oh, the need there is and the room there is for the millions that are

being slaughtered in Europe!

The same statistics show that a farmer of today can and does produce 28 times as much as a farmer could produce 100 years ago. These facts, well established and certain, thunder forth the falsity of the Malthusian theory. The earth can and will support its population not only now but for all time to come.

In America we believe that we can take care of the entire population of the earth and do it better than it is now being done. This is the very opposite of the Malthusian theory, which prompts men to kill each other.

What folly is this Malthusian theory, when we stop to think that the entire population of the earth could live in the single state of Texas, in families of five, and still have a half acre to the family!

A Few Smiles

Annihilating Distance, Bacon-Do you think the automo bile has done much good to civiliza-

Egbert-Sure. Why, I don't believe my wife ever would have had any thing to do with that woman next door if our neighbor hadn't got an automobile.



"Do you have to put a scarecrow out in the cornfield to keep away the birds?" asked the city man. "Oh, no," re

plied the farmer, taking another pull at his pipe; my wife's out

Can't Believe It. Bacon-By examining the soles of baby's foot a French woman claims

cacies" not so classed by western peo-ple. For example, there is a breed of really tell if they are to go through

Against Deals. "I see a Frenchman has invented a machine for dealing cards that is said to make misdeals impossible," said

"Well, I'm against those machine deals," said the disappointed politician.

Touches of Life. Bacon-Switzerland normally sells \$3,000,080 worth of cheese yearly to

the United States. Egbert-Well, it's an even break. American tourists put a lot of life into Switzerland, too.

She'll Finish Him.

Patience-Is she going to marry that man? Patrice—I believe so,

"He's a self-made man, isn't he?" "Yes; but she's going to put the finishing touches to him.

"Advice."



How It Looks Bill-He says his father has a flow-

JUI-That's right. "But what is a flowing beard?"

'Why, it's one that reminds you of water coming out of a hydrant."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

For each disease there are a dozen cures that don't. There are lots of good women in the

world in spite of the men. A man's always satisfied to be out when a bill collector calls. Truth in a nutshell is not

what it is cracked up to be. A man usually has to change cars several times on the road to success. Some girls have the whine habit almost as badly as some married in Leeds.

Ever notice how you appreciate the company of people who admire you? Money may make the mare go, but

it takes more than that to start a stubborn mule. When a man tells a woman she is all the world to him, she doesn't blame

Round Doily Boxes

him for wanting the earth.

Instead of the flat case for dollies that has enjoyed much popularity for the last few years, one may use a round box, just big enough to hold the doilles in question, and an inch or two high. This box is covered with cretonne and is both attractive and convenient.

MOTHER'S COOK BOOK

How to Boil Meat. In boiling meat it should be dropped into boiling water and boiled for five minutes to sear over the outside and keep in the juices, then the heat is lowered and the meat simmers until tender. Too long cooking reduces meat to rags and makes it unpalatable and lacking in nourishment,

Raisins Keep Indefinitely.

Raisins are advancing in price; at one time a package cost ten cents, now they are often fifteen. In buying in large quantities one can save quite a sum, and they keep indefinitely if properly packed.

A Delicious Sherbet.

A delicious sherbet is made of one lemon, two oranges and three cupfuls of thin cream, with sugar to'sweeten as desired. Freeze as usual and serve in orange or grapefruit cups.

Cottage Cheese Salad. Cottage cheese mixed with canned red peppers which have been put

through the ricer or sieve then well seasoned served on lettuce with a little boiled dressing, makes a most tasty Parsnip Fritters. Parsnip fritters are another deli-

table. Cook them until tender, mash and season, dip in fritter batter and fry in deep fat.

cious way of serving this good vege-

Cheese Ball Salad. Cheese balls of seasoned cheese rolled in chopped chives and arranged in a blanched lettuce leaf, served with any boiled dressing makes a most sat-

isfying salad. Nellie Maxwell

Fashion's Decrees

Narrow bands of tulle are still used for evening gowns of tulle.

Quaint turbans are fashionable; so are large picture hats. Sport suits of mouse-gray corduroy are extremely natty. Gray buttons are

the fasteners.

Some of the new sweaters have silk linings, which are very effective when displayed as a backing to the flowing belt sashes. Small fruit has been used from time

to time for trimming hats, but this season pears, crab apples, as well as berries of all kinds, are seen. The fashionable coiffure is largely a matter of individual taste. The hair

wide or narrow effect. Short-winged sleeves of filmy stuff are characteristic of the latest evening gowns. They are often wired to stand up straight from the shoulders.

may be worn high or low, may be in

Matches Luxury in Leeds.

The scarcity of matches in Leeds that was threatened in the fall of 1915. has become a reality. The prices have been high and the quality has been poor. The Yorkshire Evening Post of Leeds said recently: "It sometimes. takes three matches to raise a light nowadays, and with the price increased some 250 per cent, that makes them a rather costly luxury."

Much interest was manifested recently in the arrival at London of a cargo of matches from Japan. Up to the present time no matches of American manufacture have been noticed

A STRAIGHT TIP.

