

Merry Moments

As We Journey Through Life Let Us Laugh by the Way

Hopeless.

"Better take this patient out of the observation ward and place him with the incurables," said the great alienist.

"But his hallucinations were not out of the ordinary," said the head of the insane asylum. "He imagined he was Napoleon. Why do you regard his case as hopeless?"

"He told me that he was the president of Mexico," replied the great alienist. — Cincinnati Enquirer.

Agreeable Change.



He—Won't you take my seat?
She—No, thank you; I've been skating all the afternoon and I'm tired of sitting down. — St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Enlightening the Court.

Two women were charged at a police court with assaulting a neighbor. The evidence was very confusing, and one witness attempted to make things clear in the following words:

"Her hit her, and her hit her; and, if her had hit her as hard as her hit her, her would have killed her." — London Tit-Bits.

New Dishes.

"What new dishes have you had since you have had your new French cook?" asked Mrs. Squire of a friend whom she met one morning.

"Oh, a whole new dinner set," replied the other, "and several pieces of cut glass, and she's only been with us about a week." — Philadelphia Press.

So Silly of Him.

First Divorcee—And do you remember just exactly what your husband said to you when he proposed?

Second Ditto—I do. It was so silly. He said, "Miss Tompkins—Luella—I love you—be mine—be mine forever"—something like that. It was awfully silly. — St. Louis Republic.

May Senec.

"Had an interview with a farmer just now," said the poet, "which gave me quite a shock."

"How was that?"
"He told me that new mown hay had no points of superiority over hay a year old." — Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Practical Person.

Marion—I can marry either a count or an auto repair man.

Winnie—Which shall it be?
Marion—Our auto is in terrible shape. I think it will be the repair man. — Boston Globe.

Synonymous.



Hampton—All he speaks of is dollars, dollars, dollars.

Rhodes—I noticed his voice had a metallic sound. — Washington Star.

Wanted Too Much.

"Here, caddy, you haven't given me enough change."

"Well, mister, ye can't expect to hire a boss and kerriage an' a expert accountant fer 50 cents a mile." — Life.

Emulation.

Crawford—How in the world does it cost you so much to live?
Crabshaw—I sometimes fancy it's because I have such expensive neighbors. — Judge.

MEASURING THE EARTH.

The Pole Star is the Guide to the Solution of the Problem.

As the earth is a sphere, its magnitude will depend on the length of its diameter or its circumference. But how can the length of either be ascertained? We cannot follow a line through the center of the earth to the antipodes, nor can we even travel around the surface of the earth in a great circle to measure the circumference, nor is it necessary to attempt either. As the circumference of the earth, like the circumference of every circle, is conceived to be divided into 360 equal parts or degrees, it is evident that if we can ascertain the length of any one of these parts we have only to multiply it by 360 to find the length of the circumference. And if we divide the circumference by 3 1-7 we get the diameter. To illustrate:

The latitude of Philadelphia is 39 degrees 57 minutes north. This is the altitude of the north pole of the celestial sphere. Now, the polar star is not at the north pole of the heavens, but near it. The pole star is 1 1-4 degrees from the pole and describes a small circle around it. Such stars are called circumpolar. The pole star is selected to find the precise position of the north pole of the heavens. Its upper and lower culminations (highest and lowest points) are accurately noted. The point midway between these two positions of the star is the pole of the heavens.

Knowing the altitude of the pole, not of the pole star, if we travel due north or south till we find that the pole has increased or decreased a degree in altitude, it is evident from what has been said that we have traveled a degree on the earth's surface, and if we measure the distance in miles traveled over, making due allowance for elevated ground, etc., we have the length of a degree, and if we multiply this length by 360 we have the entire circumference, and if we divided this circumference by 3 1-7 we get the diameter. The length of a degree of latitude on the earth's surface is found by actual measurement to be 69 1-10 miles, which, multiplied by 360, gives 24,876 miles in the circumference of the earth, and which distance, divided by 3 1-7, gives about 8,000 miles diameter. The exact student would divide by 3.1416. The mean diameter of the earth is nearly 7,956 miles. — Philadelphia Telegraph.

Weary Widowhood.

The death of the husband not only blights the life of a Bengali widow, but makes the rest of her existence a state of unmitigated misery and privations. She is required to fast on every eleventh day of the moon, when she is debarred from all sorts of food and drink for twenty-four hours. Her sufferings from thirst on hot days of summer are extremely painful, but she must go through them. The widow must live on one meal a day and eschew meat and fish. She must renounce ornaments and all sorts of luxuries. The idea of such a state of misery of his widow keeps a man from hazardous enterprises, not because he is afraid to die, but because his death means so much misery to his wife. — East Indian Mirror.

Caustic Whistler.

Whistler was once taken by a friend to the home of a newly rich millionaire who had been gathering a collection of dubious paintings supposedly by old masters. After Whistler viewed the collection his friend said:

"Now, Whistler, Mr. Blank wants to make provision in his will to bequeath these paintings, and he would like a suggestion from you as to which institution to give them."

Promptly came the answer, "The East End Institution For the Blind."

Queer Idea of the Oil in the Earth.

Employment of oil as fuel for the navy would have met with the wholehearted disapproval of an American who figures in Sir John Robinson's reminiscences. This farseeing person petitioned congress that "a stop might be put to the irreverent and irreligious proceedings of various citizens in drawing petroleum from the earth, thus checking the designs of the Almighty, who stored it there for the future destruction of the world."

The Word "Charlatan."

"Charlatan," says a writer in the London Chronicle, "is companion to 'quack' in our vocabulary, and of this word the origin is certainly Italian. It is 'ciarlatano,' merely a chattering, and describes the traveling doctor in his cart who used to offer in an overwhelming torrent of talk his pills to villagers in the market place. He was a dentist as well as a physician and wrenched out the tooth in public."

DANGER IN OZONE.

While It Kills Some Germs, It May Be Injurious to Health.

That ozone is a most desirable thing, that it is a purifier of the air, a destroyer of noxious bacteria, a wholesome stimulant to the lungs, is a popular belief that cannot be banished too quickly.

Ozone is a poisonous gas. It is injurious to the throat and lungs, irritates the endings of the sensory nerves, corrodes the epithelial cells and causes indirectly changes in the blood which produce headache, depression and drowsiness.

The very latest word on ozone is in the form of two articles in the Journal of the American Medical Association. One by Dr. W. A. Sawyer, director of the hygienic laboratory of the California state board of health, and his coworkers, Beckwith and Stolfeld, denounces the use of ozone machines in theaters, schools, offices and other places where it is desired to purify the air. The other, by Drs. E. O. Jordan and A. J. Carlson of Chicago, describes a long series of experiments with ozone performed by them.

So far as its effect upon bacteria is concerned, ozone is valueless in the opinion of all these experts. It undoubtedly does kill some germs, they agree; but, in the words of Drs. Jordan and Carlson, "human beings are injuriously affected by amounts of ozone far less than are necessary to produce even this slight bactericidal effect. * * * Ozone has no place in room disinfection."

Neither is ozone a deodorizer. It sometimes disguises odors, but more often paralyzes the olfactory nerves so that the nose is incapable of smelling them.

Ozone gives a certain "tang" to the air, a "tang" that may temporarily whip up a fagged brain. But Drs. Jordan and Carlson consider this no more beneficial than "a whiff of smelling salts or a puff of the cigarette."

Dr. Sawyer reports that ozone in concentration sufficient to kill typhoid bacilli in several hours will kill guinea pigs in an even shorter time.

Thus is another theory that has been taught as a fact in school textbooks on chemistry and physics—if it is not taught still—thrown into the scientific rubbish heap. — New York World.

Queer Wedding Effigy.

There is a curious custom still prevalent in the Bellary district of India in connection with the wedding ceremonies among certain Brahman families. Just prior to the close of the feasting a hideous effigy of a male figure, fantastically robed in rags, supposed to represent the bridegroom's father, is carried along the streets in procession under the shade of a sieve adorned with tassels of onions and margosa leaves. Every few yards during the procession the feet of the effigy have to be reverently washed and its forehead decorated with a caste mark by its living spouse, the bridegroom's mother. The bridegroom's other female relations have several mock attentions paid to them by the women of the bride's party. — St. James' Gazette.

Respect For Funerals.

A French friend of mine who has been staying in Glasgow for a short time is amazed, not to say shocked, at the indifference of the crowd during the passing of a funeral. They do things differently in France. Even in the crowded streets of Paris every one lifts his hat or cap at the sight of a funeral. In many cases the onlooker stands bareheaded till the cortege has filed past slowly. My French friend assures me that in some parts of his country one would run the risk of almost being assaulted if the observance were neglected. — Glasgow News.

Wonders of the Grand Canyon.

The Grand Canyon of Arizona, 7,000 feet deep and twenty miles across, with one side festooned with a million rainbows, makes the other valleys seem contemptible, while the cathedral, built of layers of marble, standing in the center of the canyon, ten miles around at the base and with its final tower twenty times as big as the dome of Cologne and far more beautiful, reduces St. Peter's to the dimensions of a molehill. — Newell Dwight Hillis.

Assumed Names.

A New York detective says there are probably at least 1,000 men in that city living under names assumed after reaching the age of twenty-one years, many of them respected and trusted citizens. He adds, "Men who have been unfortunate in other cities, who have committed some petty crime and want to hide from the world, come to New York to begin life anew, leaving their old names and reputations behind."

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Portland has a population of about 243,327, according to figures presented by Commissioner Dieck.

The Oregon State Hardware Men's association met in Portland for a four days' session beginning Tuesday.

Dust Manos, a Greek, who killed Bill Karahalios, a fellow countryman, at Philomath, was arrested near Corvallis.

The milk and cream tests being conducted in various rural schools of Polk county have proven to be helpful to the dairy industry of the county.

Thomas B. Kay, state treasurer, has announced his candidacy for reelection, subject to the action of the republic party.

Five cars of Rogue River Valley potatoes were shipped to the United States army on the Mexican-Texas border. The price received was 75 cents a sack f. o. b. Medford.

Senator Chamberlain has introduced a bill in congress authorizing Multnomah county and Clark county, Wash., to construct an interstate bridge across the Columbia river at Vancouver.

Senator Chamberlain has referred to the house committee various protests by salmon packers against Representative Lafferty's bill, requiring the date of the pack to be placed on the cans.

Farmers are finding good use for the oyster shells being dug out of the channel by the government dredger at work at Coos Bay. A large bed of the shells has been struck and the shells are excellent for a fertilizer.

In view of the protests by northwestern apple growers and shippers against the McKellar cold storage bill Congressman McKellar informed Representative Sinnott that his bill was not intended to apply to fruit.

A law and order league, having for its object "the enforcement of all laws of city, county and state, and especially those pertaining to gambling and immorality," has been organized in Bend.

Logging operators in Coos county have their landings clear and 11,000,000 feet of logs have come out on the high water in the last few days. One jam of 3,000,000 feet occurred in the South Coos river, but they were released.

James E. Godfrey, of Salem, has been appointed income tax agent in the internal revenue service on recommendation of Collector Miller and Senators Chamberlain and Lane. His compensation will be \$7 per day and \$4 per day in lieu of subsistence.

With a declaration against it by Attorney-General Crawford, all members of the state desert land board, with the exception of Secretary of State Olcott, have gone on record against Governor West's plan of irrigating public lands by state and federal cooperation.

The good roads convention held at Independence declared for the Pacific Highway being built on the west side of the Willamette river, or for two highways, if necessary. It also went on record in favor of constructing permanent hard surface highways on all main traveled roads in Polk county to connect with the Pacific Highway on the north and south.

In John Lytle, under arrest in Grand Island, Neb., for criminal assault upon a young girl, which he has confessed, Detective Sergeants Day and Hyde, of the Portland police, believe that they have at last caught the murder of five-year-old Barbara Holzman and cleared up a mystery which has baffled the police, since March, 1911.

With a capital stock of \$641, the Corvallis Cannery, operated by the Benton County Growers' Association, did a \$55,000 business in 1913. The cannery packed 17,840 cases of fruits and vegetables, this being 38 carloads of 36,000 pounds each. The cannery paid the growers approximately \$16,000, minus 25 per cent retained as working capital for 1914. Besides this about \$4000 was spent for additional room and equipment.

Russell Hawkins presented Jonathan Bourne, Jr., with a solid gold plate as a Christmas remembrance from citizens of Nehalem, Wheeler, Tillamook and Bay City, with an inscription testifying their "Lasting appreciation, respect and esteem and particularly in recognition of loyal, indefatigable, intelligent and effective effort in upbuilding the wonderful state of Oregon and welfare of the people."

Receiving reports that more boys in the state are smoking cigarettes than ever before, Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill has announced that a campaign, having as its slogan "swat the deadly cigarette," would be started in the schools at once. So determined is Mr. Churchill to put an end to smoking by school boys he has announced that no smokers, no matter how excellent their handiwork, will be allowed to exhibit in the children's industrial fair department at the State Fair, and none will be eligible for competition for which the prizes will be free trips to the exposition at San Francisco.

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