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NOT LIKE OLD DAYS

Men of Middle Age Indulge in Comparisons

Lack of Thrift in Rising Generation
Especially Subject of Comment—
Finally Thoroughly Convinced
"The World Do Move."

Two plainly dressed, substantial looking men of fifty or thereabouts were discussing the high cost of living, dying and every other old thing while having their shoes polished in a place just off Herald square. One was saying he couldn't figure how persons of small earning capacity were managing to keep body and soul together. The other ventured the opinion that the class of persons he referred to were not entitled to the sympathy they were getting because their standard of living was out of all proportion to their pay envelopes. "When we were youngsters back in the middle West," the second man went on, "we considered ourselves lucky if we got some plain schooling and three fairly square meals a day. We had pennies where the average boy in this town has dimes and quarters. After we came to New York we waited until we were fairly well established before we indulged in even small luxuries. It seems to me that small wage earners have lost all sense of thrift."

Even as he spoke there came an illustration of his remarks in the person of a messenger boy, who climbed into the next seat and directed the bootblack to polish his russet shoes and put in new laces. After giving this order the boy bit a five-cent bar of chocolate in half, took a cigarette from a ten-cent package, and then settled down to read a magazine that had cost 15 cents. The two men exchanged amused glances.

"That boy's shine and refreshments and other things will cost him fifty-five cents," said the man who had been doing most of the talking. "Honest, I don't think I spent that much in a month when I was his age."

"Nor I," laughed the other. "And it was a great lark when we were boys to shine our own shoes. When we felt real wicked we smoked cinnamon cigarettes. A couple of cents would buy enough material to provide smokes for a whole crowd."

"And a five-cent thriller was passed from one boy to another until all the youngsters in town had read it," added his friend.

They stole another look at the young plutocrat, sighed deeply and left the place shaking their heads. Crossing the street in this contemplative mood, they barely escaped being knocked down by a youth on a motorcycle.

"And we used to feel real reckless on our velocipedes," mused one.—New York Evening Telegram.

Spying on Spies.

Spy spies on spy in Germany. The German office holder, ex-Ambassador Gerard writes in the London Times, fears the spies of his rivals. "I often said to Germans holding high office during the war: 'This strain is breaking you down—all day in your office. Take an afternoon off and come shooting with me.' The invariable answer was, 'I cannot; the others would learn it from their spies and would spread the report that I neglect business.' German spies are adepts at opening bags, steaming letters—all the old tricks. The easiest way to baffle them, Mr. Gerard says, is to write nothing that cannot be published to the world. 'For a long time after the beginning of the war I was too busy to write the weekly report of official gossip usually sent home by diplomats. I suppose the Germans searched our courier bags for such a report vainly. Anyway, its absence finally got on the nerves of Zimmermann so much that one day he blurted out, 'Don't you ever write reports to your government?'"

New Artificial Leather.

The base of the artificial leather developed within the last few years is some cotton fabric, thick or thin, which constitutes about three-fourths of the weight of the finished material. This is treated with a paste of varying composition, including nitrocellulose, oil, and some lead coloring matter as essential ingredients, then a thin celluloid finish is given and the grain of the leather imitated by being passed through special pressure rolls. This product, said to cost about a third as much as genuine leather, has been adopted for a great variety of purposes. It is used for trunks, slippers, pocketbooks, fancy leather goods, and especially for upholstering furniture and automobiles, but as a material for the uppers of shoes it appears to be still in the process of development, with no satisfactory results in sight.

F. O. B. the Kitchen Door.

Do it with your hoe. Or, if you are too progressive to use that implement, the full suite of modern earth tools will do just as well. Whatever you grow in the yard this year is f. o. b. your own back door. It does not need to be crated or hauled; no busy station agent will have to waybill and rate and fuss with it; no freight handler need worry over the strength of its packing case. Probably your vegetables would not fill a whole freight car, but fancy what five or ten million times your own output would mean in the way of terminal congestion and track space. Try f. o. b. the kitchen door as a slogan.—Collier's Weekly.

PREFER TO LIVE IN WILDS

Trappers and Fishers in Canada Frequently Men of Education and Intellectual Ability.

The white trapper of Canada is another fiction-ideal gone glimmering, declares Harry W. Langley. In Rod and Gun in Canada, he writes: "And a word about the white trapper's personality in passing. We are likely to imagine a personage of the type described in the dime novels of a decade ago, shunning his kind when possible and speaking a strange vernacular, who lives in a den in the wilderness, reeking in rags and filth. But the more modern pioneers of the North are on the frontier for choice, as Boone and Crockett were, and have carried there the imprint of their earlier environments."

"A man who was a short time ago a mining engineer in the employ of the Mexican government, trapped last winter on the headwaters of the Paddle river. Another who had won his sheepskin is a trader farther down; while if one passes the falls of the lower Peace he may find, contentedly fishing from a bark canoe in the quiet waters around the mouth of the Little Red river a man who, after ten years in the wilderness, still fakes the classics on an old, one-lunged guitar."

"Why are they here? God knows. Certainly not from necessity."

SOLDIER'S WIFE KEPT HOME

British Judge Refused to Eject Family Because Rent for House Was Overdue.

William Freeman of Kennington Road, applied at Lambeth County court for possession of a house occupied by John Barnard O'Reilly and his wife. He stated that rent amounting to \$64 was owing.

Judge Hodges (to Mrs. O'Reilly)—Where is your husband?

Mrs. O'Reilly—In the trenches.

She added that her income was half what it was before the war, and that she had lived in the house with her mother 30 years, and since she was married, 14 years ago.

The Judge (to Freeman)—And now you are wanting to turn these people out after all these years, while the husband is fighting for you?

Freeman—There is a large amount of rent owing, and I want possession of the house.

The Judge—If it had not been for this man and the likes of him you would not have any house at all. I will not make an order for the possession of any house against a man fighting for his country.—Lloyd's News, London.

STAND AT TYPEWRITERS.

Officials in the French army do not believe that the most efficient service is obtained from members of the military clerical force when the latter sit at their desks practically all day without interruption, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. Accordingly the French government is said to have installed, for the use of army clerks, typewriter stands so made that each machine is alternately raised and lowered each half hour. Under this arrangement the most sedentary individuals are compelled to stand while doing a part of each day's work. The innovation is reported to have proved very beneficial.

COATING ALUMINUM.

By a new electroplating process, aluminum can be coated with nickel, silver, copper or other metal. The process can be applied to sheets, rods, wire, tubing, etc., and to aluminum alloys in castings or worked products. With nickel plating, a hard, beautiful finish, taking a fine non-tarnishing polish, is given, while the aluminum is much strengthened, with no great addition to its weight.

FINE FOR THE FACE.

"We are using artificial pies in all our comedies now," said the motion picture producer. "That's a patriotic thing to do." "Yes, and we get better results with imitations than we used to get with the real article. Our property man has invented a pie that smears magnificently."

SEALED PROPOSALS.

"I don't understand this stuff about sealed proposals," declared Gertie. "Huh?"

"It must be a very strange young man who would send a girl a proposal that wasn't sealed."—Kansas City Journal.

BID HIGH FOR PRIVATE'S HAT

Headgear That Belonged to Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., Brought \$5,000 in Liberty Loan Bonds.

It was not until Private Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., headquarters troop of the Twenty-seventh division, offered his service hat in the Globe theater, New York, during the recent Liberty loan campaign, if some one would bid a five-thousand-dollar Liberty bond for it that his friends knew he had come to New York after months of continuous service at Camp Wadsworth.

And in that amusing bond-selling episode his identity was not made known until he signed for a bond at the theater. He wrote: "Private Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., special dispatch driver, Twenty-seventh division, Spartanburg, American expeditionary forces." Those last three words may be eloquent of the immediate future.

The young soldier's well-seasoned service hat proved fine bait for a bond. It was snapped up for \$5,000 in an instant and passed back to the new owner in the orchestra seats.

"Give it back to the soldier; he may need it," some one in the audience said, and so Private Vanderbilt eventually got his hat back after it had won \$5,000 for the government.

He came with his father, Col. Cornelius Vanderbilt, from Spartanburg and attended that theater with his parents.

FOR SURE



"I think women would like baseball if they could enjoy it as they do a book."

"How is that?"

"The last inning first."

HOW TO PICK A CAMP SITE.

When you make your camp, pick out a rise of ground where there is good drainage, and where the trees are not too thick, for good circulation of air is important, says Boys' Life.

Avoid large soft-wood trees, such as cottonwood, poplar and soft maple, as the limbs break off easily in a storm and a big branch might come crashing down on your tent and seriously injure the occupants. Good campers do not pitch their tents directly under large oak, elm, ash or hard maples, as those trees are most frequently struck by lightning.

Avoid rank grass, for that is a sign of excessive moisture. Never pitch camp in narrow ravines or gullies, for frequently in sudden storms they carry small torrents of water which would flood your camp.

MUSIC SENT BY WIRELESS.

Through wireless transmission of music the tedium of long hours of idleness is to be broken for wounded soldiers at an American base hospital abroad. A radio phonographic apparatus, illustrated in the Popular Mechanics Magazine, will be employed. It is a device of recent evolution that permits the dissemination of music from a central place to numerous points. A complete outfit with 50 receiving sets has been sent overseas to one of our hospitals and is possibly in use by this time.

CONSIDERATION OF HUN.

First Picket—Here comes twenty Germans to attack us, Bill. I guess I'll start for the rear.

Second Picket—You ain't going to desert your pal like that, are you? First Picket—Tain't that, Bill. But I want to give the Boches a sportin' chance.—Life.

IN PATRIOTIC AGREEMENT.

"You and Zeb Spicer don't argue as much as you used to."

"No," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "This fight for world democracy has put Zed in line to be perfectly correct in his political opinions for the first time in his life."

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