

# THEFTS IN HOTELS

### Traps to Catch Guests That Have the Souvenir Fad.

## DETECTIVES AND DIPLOMACY.

The Two Combine in a Very Effective Way to Fall the Efforts of Those Who Feel It a Duty to Help Themselves to Fine Linen and Silverware.

The concerted action of the house detectives of all the large hotels in America has carefully extracted the points from two erstwhile excellent stories, the first, ascribed to Adele Hiteber, who, when asked once if she had ever been in Kansas City, replied, "I can't just remember, but I will look among my trunks and see," and the second, the more pathetic narrative of the young man who was obliged to break off his engagement because as he left the dining room of a large hotel with his fiancée a number of forks and spoons fell from the sleeves of her gown, for the house detective had devised a "system" whereby the man or woman who wants to take a souvenir from a big hotel finds her path beset with almost insurmountable difficulties.

The matter is carried on with the greatest artfulness. There are no "hurt feelings," no homes broken, no arrests made.

The house detectives simply extract the unrightfully attached articles as pathetically as they extract the points from old stories, and in the great majority of cases the frustrated "borrower" never knows at all what happened to him.

First the detective is provided with a complete list of everything which is owned by the hotel—every particle of linen, silver, soap, etc. Then he delegates the responsibility for the care of them to various head waiters, waitresses, housekeepers and chambermaids.

Then he gets a list each day of new arrivals and of those who having retained a few days are preparing to leave. From these lists of occupied rooms the detective calculates the areas where trouble might possibly brew and into these he goes with his subdivided lists and a checking-up book.

The chambermaid is required to give an exact account of every piece of linen, silver, soap, etc., that she has in her charge, and when she has to leave, she is furnished with a list of what she has. This is taken to the laundry, where a balance is made of those sheets, towels, etc., which have come out of each room. If there is a precise balance the matter ends there, but were to the woman who believes to be a victim of the matter carefully in her locked trunk will not be "missed."

Her trunks and bags on their way downstairs are simply carried to the basement floor as if by chance, and there the house detective, with the aid of a skeleton key, goes through them in search of lost hotel linen.

It is very gently removed and checked up on the household's list, and the trunk is carefully repacked and relocked. Nothing is left to give warning that the search has been made, and nothing is ever by any remotest chance said to the departing guest.

She is sent cheerily on her way rejoicing and is usually perplexed out of all reason to account for the fact that the towels and pillow cases that she knows well she put into her trunk have mysteriously disappeared.

Do you suppose for a moment that this is an extreme case or even a rare one? It happens on an average once a day in every large hotel in New York and with almost as astounding frequency in Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago.

And in the case of silverware the matter is almost as simple, though remedying these thefts requires taking into your confidence at least the man who pays the bill, for every waiter has had his eye trained to count up the silverware while he is placing the finger bowls, and if so much as one small spoon is not where it should be it is immediately placed upon the bill.

The hotel graciously leaves it to the discretion of the escort as to whether or not the culprit shall be told. But at least it does not permit him to be enlightened only by the belated method of a leaky sieve.

Again, the head waiter will assure you that this happens, not once or twice, but ceaselessly.

"Many a woman that thinks she's got away with it would be surprised to know that it is down in black and white on her escort's check and that he and the hotel know just how many spoons and forks she is taking home with her," said one genial head waiter, who viewed the business with considerable indignance. —New York Times.

### French Fairy Tales.

French nursery literature if poor in rhymes is singularly rich in fairy tales. Three of the world's greatest fairy tale writers were French—La Fontaine, Charles Perrault, the Countess d'Aulnoy. Of these three the greatest in this particular line was undoubtedly Charles Perrault, to whom we owe "Cinderella," "Puss in Boots" and "Bluebeard." But the Countess d'Aulnoy gave us the "Yellow Dwarf" and "Beauty and the Beast." To Antoine Galland, another Frenchman, we have to render thanks for the first European translation of the "Arabian Nights." —London Chronicle.

### Wanted the Solids.

Tommy went out to dine at a friend's house one evening. When the soup was brought Tommy did not touch his and the hostess, looking over, said:

"Why, Tommy, dear, what's the matter? Aren't you hungry tonight?"

"Yes," replied Tommy, "I'm quite hungry, but I'm not thirsty."—Judge.

### Subtle Scheme.

First Jeweler—Aren't you afraid to leave those diamonds in a front window at night? Second Jeweler—Not with my scheme. Just before I go home I put in a little sign on them reading, "Anything in This Window 50 Cents."—Chicago News.

### Verbal Abuse.

"How do you manage to keep such a clean record with so many of your cranky relations?"

"Just use soft soap."—Baltimore American.

### Be Slow to Throw.

After a man has thrown a rock he, nine times out of ten, wishes he had it back in his hand.—Philadelphia Ledger.

## LONG TIME FARM LOANS.

### Simple and Easy Credit System That Operates in Europe.

The standard length of time in Europe for a long time farm loan is fifty-four years. For such a loan at the present time the rate is 4.35 per cent, as follows: Interest 4 per cent, administration .35 per cent and amortization (payment on principal) .59 per cent. This rate will pay both principal and interest and repay all charges due to the bank in fifty-four years. As this will seem almost incredible to some students, I will give a concrete illustration of how it works. It does not depend upon compound interest, but upon the fact that, though the rate of yearly payment remains the same, the charge for interest and amortization is constantly decreasing because they are computed on a smaller sum which is constantly being repaid; therefore the proportion which is applied toward the repayment of the principal is always increasing.

For illustration, if the debt is \$1,000 the borrower will pay \$25.25 every six months. Of the first payment, \$20 will go for interest, \$1.75 belongs to the debt, and \$3.50 is applied to the repayment of the principal. When the debt is half discharged, however, this distribution will be greatly changed. The borrower will pay \$25.25, as usual. Of this amount only \$10 will go for interest, \$8 cents will be retained by the bank, while \$13.17 will be applied to the discharge of the principal. The final payment will be almost wholly to the payment of principal, as the first one went largely to the payment of interest. In this way one-half of 1 per cent will repay the principal of a \$1,000 loan, while \$13.17 will be applied to the discharge of the principal.

## ORIGIN OF THE HARP.

### Evolved from the Lyre of the High Priest of Osiris.

The history of the piano counts as a day compared to the harp. We have authentic records that as early as 1200 B. C. the first lyre was evolved from the mind of the high priest of Osiris, who in one of his daily walks along the banks of the river Nile found an empty tortoise shell spanned with dried ligaments. Happening to strike it, he noticed that it gave forth pleasing sounds, and he at once seized this instrument on the plan of the tortoise shell.

From the lyre it was but an easy step to the harp, now the most famous instrument in the world. Milesius, one of the Phoenician priests, carried it with him in his conquest to Ireland, and there he planted it among the music-loving Celts in 1200 B. C. The royal harp became a controlling feature in Druidical worship, and the harpist or bard ranked with royalty, the prophet and the priest. The druids advanced the harp from eleven to thirty-two strings and crowned their efforts in its improvement by the evolution of the pillar, which has ever since found universal adoption.

Our modern harp consists of forty-five or forty-seven strings, seven per octave for each note in the octave, and the wonderful instrument shares with the piano and organ the faculty of being autonomous—that is to say, it needs no accompaniment and furnishes both melody and harmony.—Miss Lovretta De Louse in New York Tribune.

### Two Ideas.

Uri, a candidate for congress, said to Jonathan, another, during a heated debate: "I think, sir, you have but one idea in your head. It is a very small one, and if it should swell your head would burst."

Jonathan, looking at the bare and venerable head of his opponent, replied: "Well, I think you haven't one in your head and never had. There has been an enormous scratching around the outside, trying to get in, but it has scratched all the hair off your head. But it didn't get in, and it never will." Uri was silent.—Chicago News.

### Hindu Confectionery.

Like the American girl, Hindu girls are passionately fond of sweet things. One of their candies, *adru*, is very much like our plain sugar candy. It is made of sugar and milk and flavored with *atar* of roses. *Buddhikal*, or *hair of Buddha*, is one of their most popular sweets. It is so called because it is in the long string like vermicelli. This is made of sugar and cream from buffalo's milk, which is exceedingly rich.

### Earth and Moon.

The diameter of the earth is 8,000 miles. The diameter of the moon is 2,162 miles. The nearest approach of the two bodies is 219,147 miles. The mean distance from the earth is 238,855 miles, the maximum distance which may be reached being 252,830 miles. The moon's surface contains about 14,055,000 square miles, or nearly four times the area of Europe.

### Still Sadder.

"What could be sadder than a man without a country?" feelingly asked the high school literature teacher of her class.

"A country without a man," responded a pretty girl just as feelingly.—Woman's Home Companion.

### A Surgical Operation.

The customer raised his hand, and the barber, pausing in the operation of shaving him, inquired his name. "Bry?"

"Give me gas," said the customer.—London Globe.

## GIGANTIC WATER WHEELS.

### Creeping, Groaning Monsters That Enliven a City in Syria.

Hama, in Syria, says a writer in the *World Magazine*, is famed for its huge water wheels, locally known as saars. There are four of them, and they are driven by the river Orontes, which flows through the city. Each of the wheels bears a distinguished name, and the visitor to the city is made aware of their presence long before he sees them by the creaking and groaning noises which greet his ear. At first it suggests a pipe organ and later a brass band practicing.

The wheels are built of a dark mahogany, which gives them at a distance the appearance of iron. The largest of them boasts of a diameter of seventy-five feet and is declared to be the largest water wheel in existence. The saars are erected on what is known as the under-shot principle—that is to say, they are driven by the water striking them at their base. They serve not only to supply the town with water, but also irrigate the adjacent gardens.

The wheels never stop, summer or winter, and day and night their creaking and groaning are heard in the

## FORMATION OF COAL.

### Conditions on Our Planet While the Process Developed.

What may be said to be the strange period through which our earth passed in the past which was responsible for the formation of coal. The planet is described as having been at that time flat and smooth as to surface and peculiar as to vegetation. The continents were just beginning to rise above the ocean and the land had not yet become dry. Mountain ranges had not arisen from the swamps, and the atmosphere was thick with fog. In this state of affairs there sprouted and flourished the plants which were later to furnish the world with its coal supply.

These plants grew as big as our latest species, taking deep root in the mud and flourishing like the lush grasses in moist meadow land and developed into the strange shapes now found in tropic vegetation. The forest looked, the scientists assure us, like dense growths of weeds, rushes and enormous ferns. Some of these great plants, some of them, like the lush grasses in moist meadow land and developed into the strange shapes now found in tropic vegetation. The forest looked, the scientists assure us, like dense growths of weeds, rushes and enormous ferns. Some of these great plants, some of them, like the lush grasses in moist meadow land and developed into the strange shapes now found in tropic vegetation.

The custom of having watches all under seal and orders from the seal of wartime powers to prevent the plans from becoming known to the enemy in the American navy such orders come from the president and are delivered to a commander of a ship or squadron by a confidential messenger who knows nothing of their contents. Sometimes they are in cipher and the spies of the enemy are ordered to discover the secret of such communications.

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### Princess Form Memory.

The princess of old was credited with a much greater skill as well as a superstitious value. Even now in some countries parts a devotion of pinrose eyes is supposed to restore a failing memory, and in 1654, when Calpeper wrote his "London Dispensary," the pinrose was regarded as an almost universal panacea, curing "convulsions, falling sickness, palsy, etc.," and strengthening "the brain, senses and memory exceedingly." And even the healthy did not disdain to eat it, for pinrose was also a family doctor.

### Youthful Independence.

"Father said the fat girl," I have arranged a very important interview for you this evening, Harold is going to call on you."

"To make a formal request for your hand, I suppose?"

"Not at all. He wants to look you over and see how you do and for a father-in-law." —Washington Star.

### Condensed.

"Here is an article on 'How to Live a Hundred Years.'"

"Yes, and the whole subject can be condensed into two words."

"What are they?"

"Don't die." —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Chronic Constipation Cured.

"Five years ago I had the worst case of chronic constipation I ever knew of, and Chamberlain's Tablets cured me," writes S. F. Fish, Brooklyn, Mich. For sale by all dealers.

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Burns, Oregon, December 22, 1913.

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### LARGEST KNOWN ICE CAVE.

### Wonders of the Frozen Grotto in the Dachstein Mountains.

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Notice is hereby given that William George Meridian, of Burns, Oregon, who on May 28, 1913, made Homestead Entry, No. 5525, for SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25, Township 28 N., Range 2 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, at Burns, Oregon, on the 25th day of January, 1914.

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,  
Burns, Oregon, December 22, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Ernest Eugene Larsen of Burns, Oregon, who on May 28, 1913, made Homestead Entry, No. 5525, for SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25, Township 28 N., Range 2 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, at Burns, Oregon, on the 25th day of January, 1914.

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,  
Burns, Oregon, December 22, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Howard W. Holmes of Burns, Oregon, who on Sept. 3, 1906, made Homestead Entry, No. 5525, for SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25, Township 28 N., Range 2 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, at Burns, Oregon, on the 25th day of January, 1914.

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,  
Burns, Oregon, December 22, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that Howard W. Holmes of Burns, Oregon, who on Sept. 3, 1906, made Homestead Entry, No. 5525, for SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 25, Township 28 N., Range 2 E.,