

Johnny Jones Is Mushing Again



Who has not heard of Johnny Jones, or of his finding the lost American balloonists in 1920, when he guided them back to civilization at Mattice in northern Ontario? Johnny has joined the mushers at Red Lake in the hunt for gold. The picture shows him with his outfit.

Cost of White House Growing

About Eight Millions Spent on Mansion—New Roof Needed.

Washington.—The White House needs a new roof which will cost, it is estimated, about \$500,000. The home of the President has come to be looked upon so much in the nature of a perpetual national monument that items of upkeep are usually a matter of surprise to individual citizens.

The Treasury department figures, nevertheless, indicate that the official residence of the President of the United States has cost the taxpayers of this country, from the time it was built, approximately \$8,000,000 for building, care, repairs and various furnishings. And this does not include more than \$1,000,000 expended at various times for a variety of other purposes. To include these miscellaneous amounts, refurbishing last summer, and the repairs now under consideration, would bring the total cost of the President's house to nearly \$10,000,000.

Furnishings Become Obsolete. Nearly every President has added materially to the furnishings. This was not because, in the main, the furnishings were not adequate, but because of wear and tear. Then, too, at various times in its history the furnishings have become obsolete in the view of the various mistresses of the White House, and this has brought about many alterations.

As decade followed decade, it is not to be wondered at that such sums have been expended. The nation's eyes are constantly fixed upon the home of the Chief Executive and thousands of citizens every year make pilgrimages to the real seat of the national government. This great horde of visitors makes it imperative that certain of the rooms be completely refurbished and redecorated almost every year.

The first appropriation made by congress for the White House was included in a general fund of \$200,000 for the construction of public buildings at the site selected by the first President. Part of this sum was to be used for the construction and furnishing of an adequate residence for the nation's Chief Executive. The appropriation was not made until some time in 1793.

The first sum set was almost immediately demonstrated to be insufficient for the purpose, and it was not many months before congress was asked for additional funds. These also proved to be inadequate, and it was several years before the residence was finally furnished.

This early White House was far from being a pretentious affair. It looked like a giant box. Nor were the

grounds at all what they have since become, in spite of the fact that a great deal of money was spent on them from year to year. The grounds, like the residence, had to have a great deal of care, the sum of \$4,420 being spent in 1861 for the bringing of Potomac water over to the grounds for irrigation purposes. This, at the time, was considered a remarkable improvement.

In 1814 the British reached Washington and burned nearly all the government buildings, including the White House, from which President Madison had fled only a few hours previous to their arrival. The fire did not wholly destroy the mansion, but left it in such a state that it was practically necessary to reconstruct it from cellar to attic. Some of the walls were found to be in good shape and thus it was rebuilt virtually according to the original plans; the architect of the first building was, in fact, in charge of the rebuilding.

Some White House Figures. Rebuilding required several years. In 1820 the commissioners made a report in which they stated that the work was far from complete, as it was not possible to furnish the inside. The report of the commissioners showed the following expenditures on the White House:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Erecting the President's house' and 'Repairing the President's house'.

These figures do not take into account the salaries paid the architect and other officials, but do include the wages paid to laborers and mechanics.

From the day that the White House was again ready for occupancy congress began appropriating annually large sums for its maintenance. Sometimes the house needed refurbishing; sometimes the occupant felt it did not suit his large or small family, as the case might be. One and all simply asked congress for the money to refurbish it in accordance with his own special tastes. Practically every President who has occupied the house has purchased new tableware, china, silver and cut glass. The bills for these often ran rather high, or so some thought.

The following table shows the expenditures by periods since the early days:

Table with 2 columns: Period and Amount. Shows expenditures from 1858 to 1924.

Now these figures, interesting and large as they are, do not include smaller sums of money that might be charged against the upkeep of the

mansion. From 1913 to 1924 they include only such appropriations as are charged to "repairs, fuel and so forth," "lighting, &c.," "extraordinary repairs." They do not include salaries of servants and in many instances the cost of repairs to the grounds, as these were included under certain War department expenditures and were hardly separable from other District of Columbia items.

President Harrison found the White House rat-infested and Mrs. Harrison had the floors removed in places to root them from their runways. At one auction of old White House furniture of the earlier periods was sold a rat trap which Lincoln himself used to catch the rodent that had ruined his best suit of clothes.

The new White House roof which will cost \$500,000 will replace the present elaborate one of copper. It is likely that the present sleeping quarters now located on the roof will be preserved, although not used by the President's family. These were added by President Taft for the benefit of servants.—New York Times.

Princeton Man Revives "Cold Light" in Dead Fish

Princeton, N. J.—Returning to his Princeton laboratory after an eight-months' research tour in the marine laboratories of Naples and Messina, E. Newton Harvey, professor of physiology at Princeton, disclosed new information about his theory of "cold light" before the Biological seminary.

"Cold light" is the popular term for the rays emitted by certain animals, such as the firefly, without appreciable heat. Among the experiments conducted by Doctor Harvey while abroad was work in restoring luminescence to dead fish by the use of the ultra-violet ray. He also reported observations on a type of deep-sea squid which emits a luminous substance when pursued which, he said, takes the place of the inky fluid emitted by the ordinary cuttlefish in flight.

In discussing animal luminescence, he declared that he believes it results from oxidation in animals, as in ordinary illumination. The heat thus produced is so inappreciable that it cannot be measured, not exceeding, in the opinion of Doctor Harvey, one-thousandth of one degree.

Stone Age City Found on Edge of Moscow

Moscow.—Russian archeologists have discovered on the outskirts of Moscow the remains of an ancient city, believed to date from the Fifth century before Christ, when stone tools were just beginning to be replaced by metal implements.

Iron arrows, knives, glass bracelets, bone combs and gold and silver jewelry were unearthed. Several examples of primitive pottery bearing designs for textiles also were found. The main occupation of the inhabitants, the archeologists say, was cattle breeding, hunting having played a minor role. Traces of an ancient Krenin also were excavated.

NATIVE ILLITERATES IN THE UNITED STATES TOTAL 3,084,733

Louis, Baltimore, Trenton, New Orleans and Milwaukee.

"This grand total of more than 3,000,000 adult students is the most significant proof of the strength of the adult elementary education movement in the United States," continues the report. "Despite waning of public interest in Americanization and the serious retrenchment policy in public expenditures, the school programs for native illiterates and adult foreign born have steadily improved during the past five years, and the general outlook for the nation is most promising."

"The 1920 federal census shows that every state in the Union has more than 10,000 foreign-born adult and native illiterates. Thirty-four states to date have recognized the importance and the need of public-school programs for adults needing elementary civic instruction and have enacted legislation favoring this work.

"Financial aid to local communities conducting adult classes is provided by 27 states."

would insure a marked reduction of illiterates in the census of 1930.

In May, 1925, the federal commissioner of education sent a questionnaire on elementary education in English and citizenship for adults to every state superintendent of education in the United States. Returns were received from 44 of the states and from Alaska, the Virgin Islands, Canal Zone and Hawaii.

The returns showed that the students enrolled in classes for adult illiterates and adult foreign born in 25 states numbered approximately 286,000 in 1924.

In addition to the 286,000 students recorded officially from the 25 states, there are undoubtedly 50,000 adults enrolled in classes in the larger cities of those states, which have not provided state leadership for this work; for example, Chicago, Detroit, St.

This Is the Number Recorded in Last Federal Census—Challenge to Education.

Washington.—The native illiterate population in the United States, according to the 1920 federal census, was: Native white illiterates, 1,242,572; native negro illiterates, 1,842,161. The native illiterate group represents 41 per cent of our total national illiteracy problem, although the total number of native illiterates in 1920 shows a marked decrease as compared with the number in 1910 and 1900. That the 3,000,000 citizens of the United States who are unable to read and write constitutes a challenge to American education is the contention of the United States bureau of education in a recent report, and that the immediate extension of adequate programs of adult elementary education

The TALE of KIDDIE KATYDD by Arthur Scott Bailey

KATYDD IS SHY

"NOW—" said Mr. Frog, to Kiddie Katydd—"now tell me, how do you like the overcoat I made for you?" And Kiddie Katydd, safe in his tree once more, and snugly buttoned in Mr. Frog's gift, replied that it was the finest garment he had ever owned in all his life.



Then Mr. Frog Leaped into the Air Three Times

had never before had an overcoat on his back.

"I've come here tonight to deliver an important message to you," Mr. Frog went on. "And thinking the weather might be cooler than you liked, I made you that fine coat so you could stay out here in your tree and listen to what I have to tell you."

"I hear—" he said—"I hear that you're a musician."

"Yes," said Kiddie Katydd—for he knew well enough that Freddie Firefly had never had kept the secret.

"I hear that you're a fiddler," Mr. Frog added.

"Why, no! I've never played the fiddle!" Kiddie Katydd exclaimed. "I don't know how to do that."

"Well, how do you know that you can't, if you've never tried?" Mr. Frog retorted. "If you can play 'Katy did, Katy did,' she did, she did," by rubbing

your wing covers together, there's no knowing what you could do with a real fiddle and bow."

"That's true," Kiddie admitted. "I never thought of that."

"Well," said Mr. Frog, who appeared greatly pleased with himself, "anyhow, I want you to join our singing society. Perhaps you've heard me and my friends over in the swamp. Almost every night we have a singing party there. And if you'll only agree to fiddle for us, while we sing, I venture to say that we'll have Farmer Green getting out of his bed to listen to us."

Naturally the invitation pleased Kiddie Katydd. But for all that, he shook his head slowly.

"I'm afraid I'm too shy," he told Mr. Frog. "I like to stay hidden among the leaves, where people can't see me."

"That'll be all right," Mr. Frog assured him. "You can hide in some bush near-by, where we can't look at you."

But still Kiddie Katydd wouldn't accept the invitation. Although Mr. Frog teased and teased, all he would say was that he would think the matter over.

"Promise me this, at least—" Mr. Frog finally said—"promise me that you won't agree to make music for anybody else! Now that people know you're musical, they'll be asking you to play in an orchestra, or a band, or a fire-and-drum corps, or something. But I've invited you first, and if you oblige anybody it ought to be me—especially after I've given you that beautiful warm overcoat." The tailor looked up into the tree so beseechingly that Kiddie Katydd hadn't the heart to refuse his request.

"I'll promise that," he said.

"Hurrah!" cried Mr. Frog, opening his mouth so widely that Kiddie Katydd couldn't help shuddering at the sight.

And then Mr. Frog leaped into the air three times. And each time that he leaped he struck his heels together three times, just to show how happy he was.

Then, with a hearty "Good night!" he turned away and went skipping off.

And Kiddie Katydd, making his curious music in the top of the maple tree, kept thinking that the tailor was one of the oddest chaps he had ever seen.

He did wish, too, that Mr. Frog had a smaller mouth.

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Leslie Fenton



Many "movie" fans will recognize the pleasing countenance of Leslie Fenton, the handsome young juvenile, who has been seen in numerous motion pictures. He was born in Liverpool, England, about twenty-two years ago. He has brown hair and brown eyes, and a smile of boyish charm which adds to his engaging appearance.

AN ABBREVIATED STORY

TRUE TO LIFE

"AN IDEA for a play, eh?" Tell it to me," said Simon Ringfinger, the well-known manager, to Truxton Scribble, the well-known playwright.

"It's like this," explained the playwright, "Lottie Passover, a beautiful shop girl, is seen and longed for by Clement Gobbs, a young and unsuccessful millionaire. Lottie, struggling painfully to live on her salary of six dollars a week, finally succumbs to the gold-dusted promises of the young millionaire and goes away with him, believing implicitly that he means to fulfill his promise to marry her. But far from home he leaves her to her fate. A year later, with her child in her arms, she confronts him and shoots him dead."

Simon Ringfinger held up his hands in horror.

"But, my dear Scribble!" he cried, "that's utterly untrue to life! Audiences want lifelike plays, plays dealing with situations and events that they know are true to life because they have experienced them themselves. Give me a play like that and your fortune is made."

"Well, how's this?" said Truxton Scribble. "Lottie Passover, the beautiful shopgirl, repulses the advances of Lord Trumbles, young and dashing English nobleman, who plots in vain to ruin her. Finally, completely won over by the girl's purity and strength of character, he disguises himself and obtains a job as delivery man at the department store where Lottie is employed. He makes ardent love to her, and she, failing to recognize the nobleman in his humble disguise, falls in love with him. He then reveals his identity and makes her Lady Trumbles and takes her home to England to preside over his ancestral estates."

Simon Ringfinger, enraptured, kissed the playwright on both cheeks.

"That's a real play—that's true to life!" he cried. "Here's a check for \$5,000 advance royalty—and do you think you can write it by next Thursday?"

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THIS gentle rap at overzealous local pride is from the pen of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes. It is taken from his celebrated "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table."

Oliver Wendell Holmes was one of those men who stumbled into his life work rather than walking deliberately into it. He studied to be a lawyer and eventually won the degree LL. D. The career of a lawyer, however, did not make a strong appeal to him and he forsook it to study medicine.

As a physician Doctor Holmes may be said to have been a great success. Doctor Holmes was not permitted long to continue as a physician. His services as a professor were too much in demand and in 1847 he was appointed to the chair of anatomy at Harvard college—the university where he had received his education. He held this position until the year 1852.

Doctor Holmes is better known as a writer than a physician. He was prominently identified with the group of contributors who made a well known magazine famous some years ago and his many works have entitled him to a place among America's best writers. He died in 1894 at the age of eighty-five.—Wayne D. McMurtry.

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WHO SAID

"The axis of the earth sticks out visibly through the center of each and every town and city."

THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS by H. IRVING KING

KNOCKING WOOD

MOST of us are too intelligent to believe in silly superstitions—oh, yes, of course. But most of us, when we have boasted of our good luck proceed, nevertheless, to "knock wood." So did our remote ancestors, the tree worshippers. Says Elworthy, an authority on such matters: "The remarkable similarity in customs all over Europe points to the conclusion that tree-worship was once an important element in the early religion of mankind, and continued down to a very recent period—some even among ourselves—were substantially identical with the same rites and ceremonies observed by Egyptians, Etruscans, Greeks and Romans."

The primitive belief was that spirits resided in trees, spirits to be propitiated. Without this basic idea being entirely lost there came the period of the Sacred Groves and the Druid's oaks and then the dedication of certain sorts of trees to the earliest and simplest form of the superstition. We knock to call the attention of the tree-spirit to the fact that we recognize his influence in the good luck of which we boast and in order that he may not feel slighted and change our good fortune into bad. At least that's why our ancestors knocked wood. Our poor, ignorant, superstitious ancestors! How much better off we are than they were! Hey, there! Knock wood!

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Kissing Not Universal

Kissing as a form of greeting and affection is comparatively recent. The habit of kissing is unknown to the Polynesians, who greet by pressing noses. The Laplanders also apply their noses against the person they wish to salute. In Otaheite we are told that they rub their noses together, and, of course, we all know this is the favorite form of greeting and affection among the Eskimos. Neither the Japanese nor the Chinese kiss. In many African tribes the natives kiss the ground over which a chief has trod. In Australia, kissing the ground, or rather breathing upon it, is a form of greeting among various peoples. Lombroso tells us that kissing is a Caucasian habit and that Orientals are strangers to it.

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Laffer is the thunder that busks the streets of Ludd.

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