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## It Was a Thing of Beauty

By JANE OSBORN

(Copyright.)

JIM DAWSON had smoked so many  
pipes that dreary December day  
that there was no satisfaction to be  
found in smoking another. And for a  
day or so there wasn't much work to  
be done—just watchful waiting for  
himself and his companion, Barry  
Brown.

Jim Dawson and Barry Brown, two  
promising young men who had special-  
ized in ceramics in college, had been  
sent out here to this forlorn, almost  
deserted settlement in the woods, to  
reopen the deserted clay works in  
this region. The few laborers whom  
they needed to start with drove their  
ancient trucks over the soft sandy  
paths to the works every day, rather  
than risk the onset of living there. It  
had seemed best that Messrs. Dawson  
and Brown and a man to cook for  
them should remain there night and  
day.

"Wherefore and why the smile?"  
asked Jim Dawson—for Barry Brown  
sat there, pipe in hand, gazing at the  
discarded wall on the opposite side  
of the room with a suggestion of a  
smile on his face.

"I contemplate the beauty of the  
wild cherry," replied Barry. "My phys-  
ical eyes may be looking at that man-  
gled, space of discolored, peeling plaster,  
but my 'inward eye' is feasting on a  
vision of massed blossoms against a  
blue spring sky."

Jim snorted his disgust.  
"You could also contemplate the  
beauty of wild cherry," went on Barry.  
"At least that's what a young Jap I  
knew used to tell me. He was a stu-  
dent in college, getting along on next  
to nothing—and, honestly, his theory  
seemed to work."

"Well, I never did have much imag-  
ination," said Jim, shifting uneasily in  
his kitchen chair.

"But it isn't imagination," persisted  
Barry. "At least my Jap friend said  
it wasn't. He said it was just close  
observation and a good memory—  
facilities that any one can cultivate.  
Whenever you see some joyous object  
—which to our Jap would have been  
a wild cherry tree—you observe it in-  
stantly. Later when you need some-  
thing to cheer you up you just have  
to draw back the curtain."

"Aw, bunk," said Jim. "The whole  
idea is all wrong."

Two days later Barry sat lingering  
over the bare wooden table where he  
had just dined with Jim, and regard-  
ed the discolored walls opposite with  
a look of dire gloom. Then he looked  
at Jim and he whistled, for Jim—for  
the first time in many weeks—wore a  
blithesome smile.

"I contemplate the beauty of wild  
cherry blossoms," parroted Jim.

Apparently Jim's happy mood was  
not a transient affair. He  
smiled at times for a full week. At  
length Barry could stand it no longer.  
"See here, Jim," he said. "When I  
told you about that crazy Jap and his  
theory of happiness you were right  
in what you said. It's no sort of no-  
tion for a white man. And, great  
Scott," he went on with considerable  
animation, "you seem to be bitten by  
it. Well, you've got a good imagination."

"Not at all," cried Jim, jumping to  
his feet and waving his pipe at Barry.  
"Imagination wouldn't satisfy me at  
all. It's just close observation and a  
good memory. That's what you said  
yourself. I acted on your advice. I  
observed—my cherry blossoms—and  
then as I sit here of a dull evening I  
exercise my memory."

"Cherry blossoms—you are crazy,"

Barry scoffed. "Where have you seen  
cherry blossoms around here?"

"Figuratively speaking, Barry—your  
Jap friend would have told you that  
any beautiful object would answer—the  
exquisite beauty of the seagull's  
flight, the magic of wild cherry in  
bloom, or perchance even a country  
schoolroom—hurry—through the  
woods on a dreary December after-  
noon. All schoolrooms are not un-  
gainly. This one was charming—as  
charming as cherry blossoms—so, to  
make a long story short, I profited by  
your instruction and that of your Jap  
friend—and observed. To observe  
more fully I followed her. Not un-  
derstanding my purely philosophical  
interest the little school dame was  
frightened and ran and I had to run  
after her in order to catch up with  
her and apologize. She accepted my  
apology and I escorted her home.  
Later when I had my afternoon off  
and you thought I'd driven into the  
city—I called again. Then I explained  
the cherry blossom theory—or rather  
your cherry blossom theory, Barry—  
"She must have thought you were  
in love with her," said Barry.

"Naturally I wanted her to think I  
was in love with her," Jim announced.  
"and to prove my sanity I told her  
that the cherry blossom theory was  
not my own. That it was you who  
suggested it—and I said I'd bring you  
around to call this evening. We are  
practically engaged."

"Let me out," began Barry, but Jim  
continued:

"She said she would have another  
girl with her—the other teacher in  
the country school—charming dam-  
sel—a possible cherry blossom for  
you."

"America's First Theater"

The first theater in America was  
built in 1716 in Williamsburg, Va., on  
a site facing what was then called  
and is still known as the Palace  
Green, a narrow park running north  
from Duke of Gloucester street, and  
in colonial days, extending to the  
royal governor's palace.

## FISH TALES BACKED BY RARE SPECIMENS

Museum Party Collects  
Deep-Sea Denizens.

Charleston, S. C.—Fish tales, the  
kind that are sometimes taken with  
a little salt, are being told here,  
backed by proof, however, in the form  
of a collection of hundreds of species  
gathered by the schooner Blossom on  
its recent scientific cruise.

The Blossom traveled 20,000 miles  
seeking specimens of pelagic littoral  
and island life for the Cleveland mu-  
seum. Of the more than 12,000 col-  
lected, 5,000 were forms of bird life  
and the next largest collection con-  
sisted of fish.

Headed by Capt. George F. Sim-  
mons, the expedition spent 31 months  
gathering the specimens. Sharks, the  
deadly barracuda, bonito, funny fish,  
yellow-tail jacks, flying fish, needle  
fish, skippers, half beaks and grunts  
were only a few of the hunters' prey.

Among the interesting specimens  
brought back is the Portuguese man  
of war, known to science as a siphon-  
ophore. The fish possesses tentacles  
speckled with microscopic bombs  
which explode when they land on its  
victim, and fire minute harpoons, in-  
jecting an acid poison into the flesh.

Harpoon "Sea Devil"  
The "sea devil" or "vampire of the  
sea," closely resembling the sturgeon  
of these waters, was harpooned by the  
Blossom. It has been known to pull  
the weight of a vessel after running  
afoul of the anchor chain. One blow  
from one of the wings, which extend  
as much as twelve feet from tip to  
tip can stave in a whaleboat.

The Blossom encountered cat sharks,  
brown, blue and deepsea blue sharks,  
and obtained several excellent speci-  
mens of them, including some newly  
born aboard ship. Man-eating sharks,  
known as tigers or great white sharks,  
were rarely met.

Several specimens of the deadly bar-  
racuda were secured. These are the  
only fish the South American natives  
dread.

With two fangs, measuring an inch,  
jutting out from jaws of from eight to  
ten inches long, the barracuda is  
equipped to feed upon any flesh it  
meets. It is from two to four feet  
long as a rule and attains a maximum  
weight of seventy-five pounds.

Capture Golden Dolphin.  
Other fish caught included the gold-  
en dolphin, of changing hues, and the  
acrobatic bonito, reputed to be the fast-  
est inhabitant of the ocean. One flip  
of its tail is said to be sufficient to  
carry its torpedo-shaped body a dis-  
tance of 100 feet or more.

Midcean fishing did not prove very  
productive and most of the specimens  
were caught near islands in the South  
Atlantic.

## Firm Ruined as "Frog Crop" Is Only Toads

Sacramento, Calif.—How the in-  
ability of an individual in New Or-  
leans, La., to distinguish between a  
toad and a bullfrog wrecked a bud-  
ding California industry is revealed  
in a letter received by the state de-  
partment of agriculture from Prof.  
Silas Wentworth of Los Gatos, Calif.

He writes in part:  
"At Los Gatos, a company was  
formed to propagate frogs for the  
market. A shipment of the American  
bullfrog was ordered from New Or-  
leans."

"The company borrowed a large  
sum of money to build netted run-  
ways and more land was purchased  
to keep the millions of young. An  
estimate showed that the company  
would market at least 1,000,000 frogs.  
"An advertising campaign was just  
about to be launched when it was dis-  
covered the stock sent from New Or-  
leans was toads instead of frogs, and  
the company went 'broke.'"

## Dog Population of U. S.

Estimated at 7,000,000

Washington.—Estimating the dog  
population of the United States at ap-  
proximately 7,000,000, the Department  
of Agriculture admitted that it does  
not attempt to predict the value of  
this live stock. "It is composed," said  
an announcement, "of animals with  
mixed or mongrel ancestry and canine  
aristocrats whose known parentage  
traces back through generations of  
pure-bred stock."

About 60 breeds of dogs are con-  
sidered of enough consequence to be  
given a classification in the dog world.  
Only 46 of this number, however, are  
of sufficient importance in this coun-  
try to warrant inclusion in Farmers'  
Bulletin 1491-F, Breeds of Dogs, just  
issued by the bureau of animal in-  
dustry. A copy of the bulletin may be  
obtained from the department.

## More Rain and Cold Than Sun in "Sunny" Italy

Rome, Italy.—Southern and central  
Italy's proverbial sunniness have be-  
come somewhat of a jest as a result  
of the constant drizzle and biting cold  
rain which have been falling for sev-  
eral weeks. Rome itself is beginning  
to present an astonishing spectacle  
with its streets filled with pedestrians  
wearing overcoats and carrying um-  
brellas.

The oldest inhabitants of southern  
Italy say that the summer has been  
unprecedented within their memory.  
Thousands of vacation seekers have  
been flocking back from the beach  
and mountain resorts. The South has  
been particularly affected. Naples,  
where the heat is usually intense at  
this season, was swept by a cold rain-  
storm.

## County Notes

News Items From Kent  
And Near Vicinity

Homer Wall drove to Seaside over  
last week end.

Judge E. D. McKee returned Tues-  
day from Seaside.

M. G. Tuel is driving a new Dodge  
sedan about town.

Frank Lamborn returned from the  
beaches on Monday.

Fred Fortner made a trip to White  
Salmon last Saturday.

George Lamborn is the owner of a  
new Buick master six, sold by Geo. N.  
Crosfield.

Richard Dingle was in Wasco for  
fore part of this week from Camp  
Sherman.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Newcomb, of  
beyond Grass Valley, were in Wasco  
Monday.

Newton Crossfield drove to Seaside  
to visit with his folks over the last  
week end.

Delmar Seeley was operated on at  
Wasco last Saturday by Dr. Wonder-  
lick for an abscess in the palm of his  
hand.

Mrs. J. A. Wonderlick and baby  
Margaret returned from Portland  
Sunday, the baby having recovered  
fully.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Ryan have  
moved into apartments in the Burres  
building which has been remodeled  
into cozy quarters.

Mr. Mickle, who has taken employ-  
ment with a local oil company, has  
moved to Wasco with Mrs. Mickle  
from Hermiston and will make their  
home here.

Little Howard Clark, son of D. E.  
Clark of Moro, was brought to Wasco  
Tuesday for treatment of a punctured  
lower lip, sustained when walking  
off the back porch of the family resi-  
dence.

Myrtle Helyer, seven years old, of  
Kent, broke both bones of her right  
arm below the elbow when opening a  
gate. Her injury was treated Mon-  
day evening by Dr. Wonderlick at  
Wasco.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Hayner have  
sold their place here to Joe Agee and  
expect to leave in a few days for  
Bonners Ferry, Idaho, where they  
have a small farm on which they will  
make their future home.

James F. Howell left Saturday for  
Portland from where he expected to  
embark for the middle western states  
where he will meet his wife and to-  
gether make "the extensive trip over  
several eastern states during the next  
six weeks."

O. H. Miller and C. E. VanNess,  
with the Independent Warehouse com-  
pany, Jack Sheets, in the employ of  
W. G. Armsworth, and S. Thomsen,  
employed by A. G. Futler, all have  
returned to work after suffering from  
sprained backs and having received  
diathermy treatments from Dr. Won-  
derlick.

Mr. Snodgrass, age 68 years, work-  
ing as sack sewer on the Evans har-  
vester south of Moro, was brought to  
Dr. Wonderlick's office last Friday,  
suffering from a ruptured gastric ul-  
cer. Dr. Wonderlick immediately  
took him to The Dalles where an op-  
eration relieved his dangerous condi-  
tion and reports state his recovery is  
now very probable.

## Burmese Rubies Best

The finest ruby mines are those of  
Mogok in Upper Burma. It is from  
these mines that the pigeon-blood  
rubies come. These are considered  
very valuable. There are also mines  
in the neighboring country of Siam.  
These Siam rubies are of a brownish  
red. The Burmese rubies bring  
from two to ten times as much as  
the Siam rubies. The Burma mines  
are now controlled by the Ruby  
Mines, Ltd., of London. Among the  
largest rubies may be mentioned two  
belonging to the King of Bhutan.  
In India, which weighed 804 and 174  
carats, respectively. The largest ruby  
known is one from Tibet, weighing  
2,000 carats, but it is not of first  
quality.

## Site of Tyburn.

Tyburn was the chief place of exe-  
cution in London from 1196 to 1793.  
The real site of Tyburn is a matter  
of dispute, but it is supposed to have  
been situated near the lower corner of  
Edgeware road. January 30, 1601, the  
bodies of Oliver Cromwell, Ireton and  
Bradshaw were exposed at Tyburn.  
It derived its name from Tyburne  
(two rivulets), and was so named  
from two small streams that met in  
that locality and flowed into the  
Thames. The first execution in front  
of Newgate prison, which supplanted  
Tyburn as a place of execution, took  
place December 9, 1783.

## Friendship.

Friendship throws a greater luster  
on prosperity, while it lightens ad-  
versity by sharing in its gifts and  
anxieties.

## SUN VARIABLE STAR, SCIENTIST ASSERTS

Measure Changes in Energy  
From Orb to Earth.

Washington.—The sun is a variable  
star. This central fire of the plan-  
etary system does not glow with a  
steady heat but flickers from day to  
day and from year to year, and the  
varieties of our earthly weather must  
depend at least partly on the sun's  
variations. This opinion, which has  
been supported for many years by Dr.  
C. G. Abbot of the Smithsonian insti-  
tution, finds new support in evidence  
produced by a new system he has de-  
vised for measuring and recording the  
changes in the energy reaching the  
earth from the sun.

Doctor Abbot calls attention to the  
work of H. H. Clayton, who has an-  
nounced that he finds variations of  
weather caused by solar changes.  
But many meteorologists have not  
been convinced that the sun really  
varies. They fear that the compli-  
cated measurements of Doctor Abbot,  
hindered as they are by the haziness  
and humidity of the earth's atmos-  
phere, are not conclusive. The vari-  
ability which he reports, they suggest,  
may all be due to unavoidable atmos-  
pheric sources of error.

## Announces a Direct Test.

Doctor Abbot now announces a  
very direct test that should settle the  
question. Although it is impossible  
to do the measuring from a point out-  
side the atmosphere, yet it is possible  
to select times when the transparency  
and other affecting qualities of the  
air are closely alike, and the sun  
stands at equal height above the  
horizon. At such times the solar  
heating should vary only if the sun  
does.

Selecting the month of July in the  
years 1910 to 1920 for his test, he  
collected results observed on Mount  
Wilson for all days of practically con-  
stant atmospheric conditions. The  
average monthly values thus selected  
he compared with those obtained by  
the usual process and heretofore pub-  
lished. He also compared them with  
the average monthly numbers of sun-  
spots. The three curves that express  
his results run along very closely to-  
gether. They show that the sun's  
heating in July, 1917, averaged over  
2 per cent above that of July in 1910  
and 1911. Correspondingly, the sun-  
spot numbers were 117 in July, 1917,  
only 14 and 3, respectively, in  
July 1910 and 1911.

Not content with this proof of the  
reality of long-range solar changes,  
Doctor Abbot rearranged the mea-  
sures in a way to test short-interval  
solar variation. For this purpose he  
picked out from the new data all the  
days that gave high values of solar  
heating, and all those which give low  
ones. The average excess value for  
51 high days was plus 1.43 per cent,  
and the average defect for 51 low  
days was minus 1.47.

## Range Not So Great.

The same days, as already pub-  
lished four years ago, indicated on  
the average plus 0.51 and minus 0.42  
per cent, respectively. Thus the days  
shown above normal by the new  
method of selecting times of equal  
atmospheric clearness had already  
been shown as above normal by the  
usual process, and vice versa. Of  
course the range as formerly pub-  
lished could not be so great, because  
the errors of observation could not be  
expected to fall the same in the two  
sets of data. Some days would be  
high and some low, not because of  
the sun's condition, but because the  
small observational errors helped to  
make them so.

Doctor Abbot's new method, he  
hopes, may be convincing of the sun's  
real variability. This will make all  
the more important and interesting  
his establishment under the joint aus-  
pices of the National Geographic so-  
ciety and the Smithsonian institution  
of a new solar observatory on Bruk-  
karos mountain in southwest Africa.  
This site he selected last March after  
studying on the ground conditions in  
Algeria and Beluchistan. The moun-  
tain is 5,200 feet high in a desert  
where the yearly rainfall averages  
only 3 1/4 inches. Roads and construc-  
tion are rapidly going ahead under  
the supervision of A. Dryden, inspec-  
tor of public works for the govern-  
ment of southwest Africa. The com-  
plex apparatus required has been pre-  
pared and the expedition is expected  
to go forward soon in care of W. H.  
Hoover, director, and F. A. Greeley,  
assistant.

## Religious Bodies' Wealth

Placed at Three Billion

Washington.—The total wealth of  
all religious organizations in the  
United States in 1922 is estimated at  
\$3,271,558,000 on a basis of returns  
received by the federal commission. The  
study is part of a voluminous report  
on national wealth and income made  
in response to a senate resolution.  
The wealth of the religious organi-  
zations it is disclosed, is slightly  
more than 2 per cent of the total esti-  
mated wealth of the country.

The largest single religious denomi-  
nation, both in property and in mem-  
bership, is the Roman Catholic church.  
Its membership embraced 38 per cent  
of the estimated entire church mem-  
bership of the country in 1922. The  
estimated value of its church property  
represented 25 per cent of the total  
church property. In proportion to its  
size, however, the Protestant Episco-  
pal church is the wealthiest of all, its  
church property being estimated at a  
value of \$223 a member.



BEATRICE FENNER, BLIND GIRL  
MUSICIAN, WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Miss Beatrice Fenner, a 20-year old  
blind girl of Los Angeles, California,  
who has been awarded a scholarship  
by the Julliard Musical Foundation.  
It is said that she received her inspi-  
ration to compose songs two years ago  
while listening to a selection being  
broadcast by radio from a Pacific  
coast station.  
Some of her compositions have already  
been sung by Amelia Galli Curci,  
who predicted that Miss Fenner's gen-  
ius would enable her to accomplish  
things in the musical world almost un-  
touched heretofore.  
Miss Fenner is now in New York, and  
the American Foundation for the  
Blind has arranged for her to live at  
the New York Institute for the blind  
while she pursues her studies.

## Unselfish.

Ego is the mainspring of the film in-  
dustry, from star to janitor, and no  
place is this more in evidence than in  
the divorce court. The other day a  
case came up in which a pretty young  
thing asked for separation and \$5,000  
a year alimony. "How much does your  
husband earn a year?" the court  
wanted to know. "Why, he earns \$5,  
000 a year," said the sweet young  
thing, "but I know he could earn more  
if he had to, and I'm willing he should  
keep all that."

## A Reason.

Mother—"If you wanted to go fish-  
ing, why didn't you come and ask me  
first?" Johnny—"Because I wanted to  
go fishing."—New Haven Register.

## Reports Man-Ape Tribe Akin to "Missing Link"

London.—A dispatch to the Daily  
Express from Johannesburg, South  
Africa, tells of an unnamed traveler  
who reports having encountered in the  
northern Katanga district of the Bel-  
gian Congo, a curious tribe of natives  
whose physical characteristics suggest  
"the missing link."

The traveler described one individ-  
ual as half man and half ape. He was  
six feet tall and had an exceptionally  
long arm, a projecting jaw and a rec-  
eding forehead. He had the normal  
negroid nose, woolly hair, startling  
black eyes, a strongly bearded and was  
of exceptionally powerful physique.

## California Man Possesses Smallest New Testament

San Francisco.—Possession of the  
world's smallest New Testament is  
claimed by Charles Benjamin of 3243  
Sixteenth street, San Francisco.

Clearly printed and containing the  
entire New Testament, the book is  
but five-eighths of an inch in length,  
half an inch wide and a quarter of an  
inch thick.

The miniature book was given by a  
Samoan islands beachcomber as his  
most valued possession to the wife of  
a sea captain, who in turn presented  
it to Benjamin. It was printed in  
1805 in Glasgow, Scotland.

## South African Tables to Get Novel Steaks

Capetown.—Shark steak, like whale  
meat, which became popular on the  
western coast of the United States  
some years ago, has been placed on  
the South African market as a side  
issue of a scheme to gain cheap sup-  
plies of shark leather. The tail is  
considered the best cut for steaks.

Fish have long been eaten in China,  
the Archipelago, the Gold Coast, New  
Zealand and Japan. The chief draw-  
back to shark meat is its oiliness,  
but dealers here say a process has  
been conceived to extract much of the  
oil without much expense.

## Sable Child

Little Elinora, aged nine, who has  
recently moved from a distant city,  
corresponds frequently with Mary,  
who was her closest chum. A few  
days ago Elinora received a letter  
from Mary in which she said: "Tell  
me when your birthday comes, for I  
want to send you a present. My birth-  
day is next Tuesday."—Youth's Com-  
panion.

## Groceries For the Family

Whether for Child or Adult, we have in  
our store the Foodstuffs desired by every  
member of the family.

With quality assured, the attractive prices  
we make our customers draw many to  
our store.

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Annual August Kodak Clearance Sale

ALL KODAKS FULLY GUARANTEED

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Graflex .....                 | \$90.00 |
| Brownie No. 3 A .....         | \$2.25  |
| Premo No. 12 .....            | \$10.00 |
| Brownie No. 3 A Folding ..... | \$10.00 |
| Premo Jr. ....                | \$4.50  |

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