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ach Showed the Way to Pure Modern Music

The fountain source of all was, of course, Bach. When Bach had shown the way, there was a surge and uprush of pure music in central Europe to which nothing in the history of other arts can be compared, unless it be the building of the French cathedrals. It was as if a vast gold mine had been discovered, opening out to those happy mortals who had first right of entry long galleries of metal, precious and pure; nor did they waste their matchless opportunity, but tirelessly worked on, mining in streams a beautiful clear coinage which was good in all the markets of the world. Of almost all the great composers of the nineteenth century fertility is the conspicuous trait; they were limited only by the capacity of their hands to write down what their invention dictated. And what they dictated was, broadly speaking, all good. Haydn's symphonies, Schubert's songs, remain. Countless, they still have meaning for us—more meaning than most of the music of the day. The world had not changed, but the human mind had suddenly found means to appreciate it newly, and the whole story of creation, all the sumptuous diversities of human life, all the accumulated experience of the ages, was virgin soil, a child's garden, of richness and freshness inexhaustible.—Basil De Selincourt, in "The English Secret."

Myth of the Amazons Older Than Greek Fable

The Amazons are best known from Grecian mythology. The origin of the myth, however, is said to antedate even the heroic age of Grecian fable and to come from Asia Minor. Far back in antiquity these female warriors are said to have come from the shores of the Caspian sea and, conquering Asia Minor, to have built the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Myrina and Kyne, says the Detroit News. The worship of their Titanic queen, a sort of "queen bee," was carried on with barbaric ceremonies, even to the time of authentic Greek history. Always known as "Ma," this arch priestess was said to be served by 6,000 minor priestesses and by eunuchs without number. When the Spaniards and Portuguese discovered and settled the east coast of South America they encountered on every hand, from the Gulf of Mexico to Paraguay, an Indian legend of a redoubtable tribe of female warriors who had their home somewhere along the banks of that river, the Amazon, which now bears their name—no doubt given them by the European settlers, who were familiar with the Amazons of ancient fable.

Wasted Words

Johnston missed his train the other evening, so he went to have his hair cut. When he entered the barber's shop he was in a quarrelsome frame of mind.

"Cut it without conversation," he growled, as he took his place in the chair. "Don't want any hair restorer, scalp invigorator, dandruff eradicant, face lotion, potion or anything else. I've read all about the Near-East troubles, and don't interest myself in boxing, racing or football. As regards the weather—"

Here a customer nudged Johnston's elbow. "You'll have to write it down on his slate, mister," he said, "if you want to tell him anything. He's deaf and dumb."—Tonsorial Journal.

King George Saves Time

King George's estate at Sandringham is the one spot in England where daylight saving is used the year around, and has been for more than fifty years. During all this time the clocks have been kept half an hour ahead of Greenwich time, and the reason was to insure punctuality. King Edward, who had the reputation of never being late, even to tea, introduced the idea when he was prince of Wales and it was soon taken up by the nobles who lived in the community.

Hard Boiled

The waitress, very much out of sorts, sailed haughtily up to the table at which sat the grouchy customer. She slammed down the cutlery, snatched a napkin from a pile and tossed it in front of him.

Then, striking a furious pose, she glared at him. "Whatcha want?" she snapped. "Couple of eggs," growled the diner. "How ya want 'em?" "Just like you are."—Notre Dame Juggler.

Watchful Idling

The world treats the momentous business of spooning as a joke. "My little man," a deacon said to a small boy, "have you no better way of spending this holy Sabbath afternoon than idling away your time on your front lawn?" "I ain't idlin' away no time," the little man exploded. "There's a feller inside spoonin' with my sister, and she's payin' me a nickel an hour to watch out for pop and mom."

An Easy One

"That artist daubing his brush upon his palette reminds me of two women kissing each other." "How so?" "He's mixing paint."

A Duplicate

A citizen was seen standing in a dejected attitude before a lamp post. "Well, Maria," he mumbled, "I know I'm drunk. Why don't you say something?"—Bughouse Bugle.

This Old Love Letter Was "the Real Thing"

The man's mother had given the man's wife a love letter which she found hidden away in a mass of old papers. It had been written to the man when he was a boy and the writer was his sweetheart, fifteen years old. The man's mother laughed when she handed it to the man's wife, and the man's wife laughed when she handed it to the man.

But the man did not laugh. "Aha," said the wife in her merry way, "see how the past rises up against you."

The man took the letter and slowly unfolded it and softly read it aloud:

"Dearest boy," he read, "I'm afraid you are mad at me because I walked with Johnnie Nicholson yesterday to school, but it wasn't my fault at all. You know I love you, dearest boy, a thousand million times more than I could love Johnnie, and when you look cross at me it breaks my heart. Ain't you going to take me to the school picnic Saturday—'cause if you don't I can't go. I cried when I wrote this—that's why it's spotted. Don't make me cry any more, dearest boy."

The man looked at the letter for some time. His gaze softened and he sighed.

"That was the real thing," he murmured, and he carefully folded the letter and turned away.

And then the man's wife was sorry she had given the letter to the man.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Method Is Devised to Seal Copper and Glass

Most metals will not adhere permanently to glass after they have been sealed to it while in a semi-molten condition, and if they are in the form of rods or blocks. Metal and glass expand when heated and contract when cooled at different rates, so that after sealing and cooling, inevitable separation occurs. The one notable exception has been platinum, which expands at very nearly the same rate as glass and has, therefore, been highly prized in the making of vacuum bulbs where electric current must be led into the bulb and the vacuum kept perfect and free from leaks. But platinum is much more costly than gold and so the electrical engineers have found a way by which copper may be sealed so closely to glass that a vacuum may be maintained. If the metal is flattened out into a very thin sheet with a knife-like edge the thing can be done. This is because the stresses which the joint may have to endure are in proportion to the thickness of either the copper or the glass. A thin sharp sheet of glass may similarly be sealed into a block of copper. So again has necessity become the mother of invention.

Census Statistics' Little Joke

Miss Mary V. Dempsey, junior statistician of the United States census of 1920, who has recently completed her task, believes that census reports as made by enumerators over the land are more comical in some essentials than the latest joke book. Miss Dempsey had 250 clerks under her classifying the reports and found her diversion in documents that classified "pigs' feet singers" under "musicians"; and listed among other occupations those of "assembler of gravity"; "philosopher at home"; "instructor in a school for brides" (Niagara Falls); "instructor in a vestibule school" and "laborer in a hair mine."

Raggedy Ann's Funeral

When Raggedy Ann, the pet burro of Battery F of the Twelfth field artillery, recently died at Fort Houston, Tex., the men gave their mascot a burial with full military honors. The pet burro died in a battle against the pack mules of the battery. The body of Raggedy Ann was lowered into a grave on Pershing field as field guns fired a salute and the bugler played taps. At the grave a headpiece was erected whereon were engraved testimonials of the love and affection which the members of Battery F felt for their pet. A wreath of alfalfa was placed beneath it.

Mozart and Others

A certain music composer of much talent and popularity—we will call him Jiffers—has a happy appreciation of his own work, as his friends all know.

So highly does he estimate Jiffers' compositions that some of his friends were much startled the other day when he said gravely: "Did you ever notice that the names of all great composers begin with M?"

"Yes, M," said the composer. "Mozart, Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer, Moszkowski—and Me!"

Pearls in U. S. Rivers

Through scientific propagation of fresh water mussels in the rivers of America, experts in the United States bureau of fisheries say it will be possible in time to make the rivers of the country yield fabulous harvests in pearls. Even now pearl fishing is conducted in some rivers of the United States, and during the last year more than \$15,000,000 worth of pearls were found in the mussel shells at the bottom of the Mississippi, Black and White rivers alone.

Some Difficulty

A very stout and portly gentleman was once asked why he did not play golf, and this was his reason:

"I did try it once, but I found that when I put the ball where I could see it I could not reach it; and when I put it where I could reach it I could not see it."

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