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Geo. E. Knapp, Editor and Publisher



EDITORIAL Opinions of the Observer

The wholesale use of the pardoning power as displayed by the recent acts of Governor Hart, of Washington, can not receive too great a censure. Were it an isolated case of a pardon granted to a convicted murderer or other criminal, we would have nothing to say, though we felt that such pardon was unwarranted, because there is ever present a possible reason which the governor may rightfully have and which is unknown to others, but when it comes to turning loose the criminals and underworld vermin indiscriminately to prey upon society, the one who thus takes advantage of the authority vested in him by law, is worthy of far more than he is likely to get in the way of a penalty, far more indeed than a good coat of tar and feathers at the hands of an outraged constituency. The man who wantonly carries a cage of rattlesnakes around and turns them loose amongst the crowds of people is actually deserving of death. He, who, under the protection of law, releases a horde of the vilest criminals to prey upon the people, is in fact no better.

The controversy over the name of Mount Ranier is a veritable tempest in a teapot and bids fair to challenge as much attention as the noted Canby wedding affair, for it has already engaged the earnest activity of one of our highly paid representatives in Congress, a member from the state of Washington with prospects of taking up at least a portion of the time of all our national lawmakers. This, together with Governor Hart's pardoning campaign should give Washington state considerable free advertising.

Middle Age for Women

"When is a woman middle-aged?" is a question capable of many answers, according to the country in which the matter is being discussed, and the number of years to the credit of the people discussing it.

The other day I was sharing my eight o'clock breakfast with my small and extremely precocious son, Eve Adams relates, in T. P.'s and Cassel's Weekly, who seized the unpropitious occasion to remark: "Mummy, I suppose now you're middle-aged?" "Perhaps I am," I replied acidly and noncommittally. "I shouldn't be surprised," continued this embryo diplomat, "if you're even over twenty!" "Neither should I," I agreed, much more generally, as I hastened to turn the conversation into less personal channels.

On the other hand, I was talking with a friend the other day, who has passed the allotted span of three score years and ten, and was deprecating a state of affairs which allows women to have a take in the politics of their country. "At all events," he grumbled, "the vote should be restricted to sensible middle-aged women." What do you mean by 'sensible middle-aged'?" I asked curiously. "Fifty, and not a day under," was the irascible response.

How Ants "Sew" Leaves

Edward Step, F. L. S., in the London Sphere, tells about a little red ant, widely distributed through all of the countries of the Far East and South, which constructs shelters for its domestic cattle among the branches of trees, uniting a number of leaves together by means of silken threads. A large number of workers pull and haul the edges of growing leaves into position while other workers bring up larvae from the nursery, and, holding them in their jaws, apply the grubs' mouths to the leaves that are to be connected, intimating to them in some way that they are to emit fluid silk. The threads are drawn from leaf to leaf, and as the silk hardens immediately upon exposure to the air, a large number of such contacts have the value of stitches, and a roomy leaf-haz is constructed.

Proper Diet for Fly

Are you feeding your house flies properly? These delicate creatures, so charming and desirable about the home, can't be happy and healthy on just "any old thing" you leave about for them, says the Kansas City Star. In the Journal of Experimental Zoology R. W. Glaser tells of a series of experiments to discover just what sort of food is suitable for them. The housewife will appreciate the information.

On an exclusively protein diet they live from one to eight days. Eating only sugar the life period is longer, but no eggs are laid—no baby flies to gladden the home. Mr. Glaser reached the conclusion that the very best food is sugar and some form of starch that can be eaten and assimilated. On such a diet they thrive, live long and lay plenty of eggs. The average life of the house fly is only about twenty days. In general, female flies live longer than males.

Reginald Denny



This popular "movie" actor began his career on the legitimate stage. He was born in England and embarked on a theatrical career on leaving college. He came to America and starred in a number of road shows. The war took him back to his native land and he became noted as a boxer in the Royal Air Force. After the war he returned as a musical comedy baritone, later being induced by a prominent producer to enter motion pictures.

Through the Glad Eyes of a Woman

By Jane Doe

OUR NOSEGAY GIRLS

I WAS dilly-dallying alongside the beauty counters of a big store the other morning, treating my susceptible nose to all the fine airs which blow round these parts. And it occurred to me that the fashionable young woman of today, judging from the amount of money she hands over those popular counters, must be a sort of animated pot-pourri of all the most delicious scents that ever blew across Araby, or—the perfumier's laboratory.

Her toilet from her hour of awakening until she lays a tired head on the pillow of forgetfulness is surely just one delicate aroma after another.

She is very liberal, you observe, with the lilac bath salts, and she dries herself on warm towels from a linen cupboard that is smelly with sweet verberna. After that she powders with a gigantic puff.

Her teeth she cleans with a paste tasty with wintergreen, and likes a mouth-wash flavored with peppermint. She washes her face in waters that are faintly milky with tincture of benzoin, which is not unlike sweet almonds to the nose, and bathes the sleep out of her eyes with eye-cups of rose water.

Her hair has to be anointed with a trifle of jasmine brillantine and she touches up her lips with a stick that reminds you of cherry.

Over her cheeks and neck she puffs a rachel or naturelle cloud of some delicate powder that can be quite intoxicatingly like a wild rose, or a suggestion of honeysuckle after a shower of rain, or a nodding violet. Maybe it is a dance night.

Another bath—now with mustard in it. She creams her neck and arms, and wipes it all off with a California poppy toilet water. She uses her best perfume, which is very alluring and baffles description. And she goes forth, rustling in silk or taffeta, with the aroma of the looms of far China or Japan still clinging to them.

And we don't see her any more until she comes back with her feet like bits of hot lead, white shoulders that ache with the shimmy-ague, and a head that feels as if it's going to burst. But she is not too tired to wipe off all that powder and lip-salve and cosmetic with plain, homely cold cream, or spray her pillow with refreshing eau de cologne.

Oh, very nice! And how grateful we should be for our nosegay girls. Let us salute them. Taking respectful care of cherry-tasting cupid bows.

A LINE O' CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs.

WHY?

WHY yield up to despair, Surrendering to care, With tears and downcast eye, When in the morning sky The glorious sun of cheer Is shining bright and clear, And shedding on your way The golden light of day To lead you from your stress Out of the wilderness If you but seize the gold The flying minutes hold? (© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Makers of Dynamite Can Take No Chances

When one approaches a factory where dynamite is made everything seems half asleep. Here and there among the scattered buildings a man may be seen slowly wheeling a rubber-tired vehicle that looks not unlike a baby carriage. He exercises the greatest care, for his load is nitroglycerin, which does not allow mistakes to happen twice. The workmen and these strange carts are used to take the nitroglycerin from the mixing room to the refinery for the alternate straining and testing it must undergo until its detonating qualities are perfected. When the dynamite has been strained and the sulphuric acid removed from it the foreman takes half a teaspoonful of the liquid, spreads it thin on a metal surface and then strikes it with a hammer. When he is satisfied the product is shipped along to the dynamite building, where the nitroglycerin is soaked up by porous clay and cut in convenient sticks for mine use. The dynamite when pressed into shape is tested out by the explosion of a small amount on a ballistic pendulum. This device has a heavy lead ball mounted on the end of a swinging arm, which is set in motion by the force of the explosion. The gage tells the amount of motion and from this the power of the dynamite is calculated.

Word "Sleet" Used to Convey Many Meanings

The word "sleet" has three distinct meanings in the English-speaking world, says Nature Magazine. In England it is nearly always applied to a mixture of snow and rain, and the same usage prevails to some extent in this country.

Again, a great many Americans, including most engineers, have long applied the name "sleet" to the smooth coating of ice, due to rain falling in cold weather that at times envelops the branches, wires and other objects and gives us the beautiful spectacle of the "ice storm." British meteorologists call this "glazed frost," our weather bureau has coined for it the name "glaze," and on both sides of the Atlantic it has sometimes been known as "silver thaw."

Lastly, the "sleet" of weather bureau usage is widely so called in America, and sometimes so called in Great Britain. A few British meteorologists have tentatively styled it "ice rain," but this name has never become established.

In view of these facts, it is a safe forecast that the term "sleet" is destined to cause meteorologists more worry in years to come than the term "cyclone"—which most people still misapply to the tornado—has caused for many years past.

Queer Marriage Customs

In many parts of India, after the marriage ceremony the bride and bridegroom are tied together by the corners of their garments and compelled to parade the full length of the village to signify that they are united for life. At a Cingalese wedding the presumably happy couple are tied together by their thumbs.

In Turkey, when the bridegroom unveils his bride to have the first view of her after the marriage, they both look into a mirror and then knock heads together so that the images may appear united.

In certain portions of China the bride is carried on a servant's back over a slow fire, on each side of which are arranged a pair of the bridegroom's shoes. Another custom is that of lifting the bride over the threshold of her new home.

Writing With a "Hill"

How many people would associate the word "pencil" with a peak or a headland?

The word is derived from the nature of the districts where slate is quarried, for the earliest pencils on record were made from slate. The word "pen" denotes a headland on the coast, or a peak in the country, and it is from these old rock formations that the material is quarried. In this way we find such names as Penrith, Pennamawr, the Pennines, and Pensance, all of which have at one time or another been actively associated with the slate industry.

In the manufacture of the modern "lead" pencils, the plumbago from which the writing portion is made is also quarried in these regions.—London Mail.

Adjusting Compass

As a rule the deviation of the compass on steel ships is compensated by means of magnets and soft iron correctors. These are so placed near the compass as to almost exactly counteract the ship's magnetism and reduce the deviation to zero. Compensation is never quite perfect, however, and the operation must be repeated and the magnets readjusted if the ship greatly changes her magnetic latitude because the earth's magnetic force changes as we recede from the poles, while the magnets do not.

Evidently Much Moved

A little girl returned home to her parents, after sitting for her school musical examination. They asked her how she had got on. "Very well, I think," she answered. "What was the examiner like?" "Quite a nice man—and so religious." "Religious! How could you tell?" "In the middle of one of my pieces he put his head in his hands and said, 'Oh, heavens! Oh, heavens! very reverently.'"

Flemish Burghers Had True Democratic Spirit

The crown prince of Sweden, guest of the mayor of the ancient town of Bruges in Flanders, expressed surprise at the democratic manners of the burghers of the town. They dropped in quite casually at the "mairie" and came to shake hands with the heir apparent of the Swedish crown. These Flemish burghers have ever been thus, according to Pierre Van Paassen in the Atlanta Constitution. There need be no surprise in their customs. When Louis VIII, king of France, arrived in Ghent to be present at the marriage of his sister to the archduke of Austria, a special entertainment was given in the market square. On the one side of the square was a luxurious lodge draped in ermine and velvet, where seats had been arranged for the cardinal princes of the church and the king. Some good burghers arriving before the king calmly occupied the royal and princely seats. When the king put in an appearance the burghers refused to give up their seats to the cardinals, though they made room for the king of France. Indignantly, the cardinal archbishop of Rheims, who was present, ordered one citizen thrown into the river. The balliff asked him: "On whose authority shall I do this?" "On the authority of a prince of the blood and a prince of the holy church," came the order. "Your highness," replied the balliff, "the man you want me to throw into the river is a cloth weaver, and that means a little more than a mere prince of France with us."

Two Simple Reasons Why Eggs Were Hard

"Lilybel, the eggs are hard again, and you know the children aren't allowed to eat hard-boiled eggs," protested an exasperated housekeeper recently to her colored cook. "How is it that you can't seem to learn such a simple thing as how to boil an egg soft?" "Ah don't know, Mis' Gray," protested Lilybel, amiably distressed. "Ah sure does try ter have dem algs de way you wants 'em; Ah sure does. Ah looks at de clock de whole time dey's bilin', so's de hand won't get away fum me. Ah caint' guess how come dey's hard-biled ag'in—onless 'twas Ah kep' my eyes on de hour hand 'stid ob de minute hand, Mis' Gray."

An excuse hardly more acceptable was that offered by Hannah, a Scandinavian of some experience in America, for Hilda, her sister, but newly arrived, who was employed in the same household. Hilda had boiled the eggs too hard. "It is because she vor always too slow," explained Hannah apologetically. "She hov always take Heelda ten minutes to boll hers eggs 'tree minutes."—Youth's Companion.

Lightning and Radio

The bureau of standards states that a radio antenna, if grounded, or provided with a lightning arrester, has some of the properties of a lightning rod, but, as commonly installed, has these properties in such limited degrees that it is not to be regarded as effective protection against lightning. On the other hand, on account of its relatively small size, it does not appreciably increase the possibility of a direct stroke. A modern lightning rod system, however, is designed and installed with a view of protecting against direct strokes, and when this is properly done, a high degree of protection is obtained. Many lightning rods in actual use are not properly installed, and it is to these that isolated cases of damage to rodged buildings are usually traced.

Few Climb Mount Ararat

Mount Ararat has long been the goal of mountain climbers and its sides have been attacked with varying success, for generations. With an altitude of over 17,000 feet, its precipitous sides present difficult problems in climbing. A proposed railroad to the summit, while within the range of engineering possibilities, is an almost fantastic scheme. A legend persists that fragments of the ark still lie upon the summit of Ararat, but the few hardy climbers who have reached this goal discourage the belief. Noah, after descending the mountain with his ship's company, is supposed to have planted a vineyard below the snow line, where he was afterward buried.

A Passive Helper

The new pastor observing a poorly dressed individual who was sitting in the rear of the church greeted him and said: "I am not sure but that we could find some place for you in church work." "Thank you, sir," the man replied, "but I already have my place in church work." "Indeed! And what is that, may I ask?" "I'm one of the poor and needy."—Boston Transcript.

Chinese Girl's "No"

When a silken-coated Chinese mandarin, resting on his embroidered knees, pops the question to the lady of his choice, he never gets a "no." So explained Prof. Franklin Lee at Columbia university, where he is conducting a course in the Chinese language. According to Professor Lee there's no such word as no in the Chinese lexicon. If the Chinese girl spurs her admirer she lips something that sounds like "bushih," which means "not yes."—Los Angeles Times.

Summons

No. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Marion County. Department No. 2. Helen Powell, Plaintiff, vs. Edgar Powell, Defendant.

To Edgar Powell, the defendant above named: In the name of the State of Oregon you are hereby required appear and answer to the complaint filed against you in the above entitled cause and court within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, and if you fail so to appear and answer plaintiff's complaint, herein for want thereof, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in her complaint, to-wit: For a decree of divorce forever dissolving the marriage contract existing between you and plaintiff and granting to plaintiff such other relief as may be equitable.

This summons is published for six consecutive weeks in the Aurora Observer, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published at Aurora, in Marion County, Oregon, the date of the first publication thereof shall be Thursday, December 18th, 1924, and the date of the last publication thereof shall be January 29th 1925, all done in accordance with the order of Honorable L. H. McMahan, Judge of the above entitled court, which order was dated and entered of record in the above entitled cause on December 15th, 1924.

HANNAH MARTIN, IVAN G. MARTIN, CAREY F. MARTIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Postoffice Address: 413 Masonic Temple, Salem, Oregon.

Summons

No. 17326. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Marion County. Department No. 2. Rosa M. McDole, plaintiff, vs. Henry McDole, defendant.

To Henry McDole, the defendant above named: In the Name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled cause and Court within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons to-wit: Within six weeks from Thursday, December 18, 1924, and if you fail to so answer or appear therein, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in her complaint, to-wit: a decree dissolving the marriage contract now existing between you and plaintiff and restoring plaintiff to her former name of Rosa M. Huntley.

This summons is published for six consecutive weeks in the Aurora Observer, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published at Aurora, in Marion County, Oregon, the date of the first publication thereof being Thursday, December 18, 1924, and the date of the last publication thereof being Thursday, January 29, 1925, all done in accordance with the order of the Honorable L. H. McMahan, Judge of the above entitled Court, which order is dated and entered of record in said cause December 10, 1924.

HANNAH MARTIN, IVAN G. MARTIN, CAREY F. MARTIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Post Office address: 413 Masonic Temple Building, Salem, Oregon. Dec. 18-25-Jan. 1-8-15-22-29.

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A Test Every Man Past 40 Should Make

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