

What Irvin S. Cobb Thinks about

Summer Influenza.

SANTA MONICA, CALIF.—In this favored land we are now starting to celebrate the customary seasonal rite of having our summer influenza.

Summer influenza is distinguished from winter influenza by the fact that the former does not set in until September, thereby providing intervals for spring and fall to slip in between.

The symptoms remain practically the same. The eyes water copiously, but the nose runs second. The head stops up thoroughly, thus providing proof of the fallacy of the old adage—all sinus fail in dry weather. The patient barks like a trained seal, but the difference here is that the seal stops barking if you toss him a hunk of raw fish.

One could go on at length, but it's difficult to continue a writing job when you're using a nasal inhalant to punctuate with and have a taste in your mouth like moth balls smothered in creosote dressing.



Irvin S. Cobb

The Art of Cussing.

MY OLD chum Burgess Johnson, once an editor but now a college professor, tells a credulous bunch of advertising men that Mark Twain was the champion all-time all-American cusser—could cuss five solid minutes without repeating himself.

Pardon me, Burgess, but Mark Twain never did any such thing. Once I heard him at his out-cussing best—denouncing a publisher who had offended him. He swore for five minutes all right, but over and over again he used the same few familiar oaths which the English-speaking race always have used. He didn't introduce a new or an original one.

I studied the art of cussing, both by note and by ear, under such gifted masters of profanity as southern steamboat mates, New York newspaper men, London cab drivers, western mule whackers and north woods timber choppers.

With my hand on my heart I solemnly affirm that not one of these alleged experts ever employed any save the dependable age-seasoned standbys, to wit, seven adjectives, two strong nouns, one ultrastrong noun and one compound phrase—the commonest of all.

Romance for King Zog.

FOR about the fifth time comes a plaintive plea from Albania, one of those remote little border countries of eastern Europe where every now and then peace threatens to break out. They have a king over there. At least they had a king at the time of going to press with this dispatch. His name is King Zog. This is neither a typographical error nor a vaudeville gag. The name positively is Zog, and radio comedians may make the most of it.

For many months he has been paging the world for a wife. The qualifications call for the lady to have \$5,000,000. His majesty would also like for her to turn Mohammedan, but the main requirement is that \$5,000,000 bank roll.

California's Coastline.

WHILE it's quite a roomy coastline, California has at present only one coastline. This is a source of mortification to patriotic native sons, Florida having two such, one on either side, besides a dampish area in the middle known as the Everglades.

Still, in a way, California's silvery strand continues to excel. Within easy speeding distance we have at least one beach resort where, when Palm Springs folds up on account of the heat, many of our artistic colony go to relax. So wholeheartedly do some go in for this that often you may stand off a quarter of a mile and hear them relaxing.

Occasionally a relaxationist relaxes so completely that it takes weeks for him to get over it. His friends leave him at the seaside only to gather at the bedside.

The Changing World.

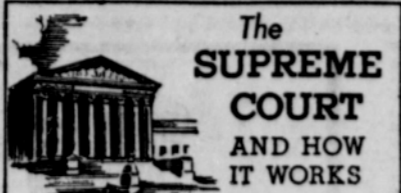
IT WAS Susan B. Anthony who dedicated her life to the cause of emancipation for her sex. But it was her grandniece who lately attained the headlines by suggesting that, with the addition of a buckle here and a ribbon there, a nightie would make a suitable evening gown for almost any occasion.

Thus do we see how from one generation on to another is handed down the flame of genius and service to womankind.

But, although the inspired suggestion is already weeks old, there still are no signs that it is finding advocates among the queen bees of the cultural hive. Maybe the reason is that a ball of the Hollywood artistic group would feel so ostentatiously overdressed if she wore a full-fashioned nightie to a social function.

IRVIN S. COBB.

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The SUPREME COURT AND HOW IT WORKS

Few Laws Invalidated

By ROBERT MERRILL

DURING the century and a half of its existence, authorities estimate, congress has enacted approximately 25,000 public laws.

Of those 25,000, they compute, fewer than 75 have been declared unconstitutional at this writing. That means less than three out of a thousand—approximately three-tenths of 1 per cent.

On the score of constitutionality a baseball writer, with these statistics, would give congress a batting average of .997.

There are several reasons for this scoring. First: Congress, throughout its long history, has sought to keep its acts within the Constitution.

Question Must Be Raised.

Second: No final decision is ever made on the constitutionality of a law until a person, or group of persons, feel that the law violates a constitutional right, and ask the Supreme court to act as umpire in the case. And, as history shows, the Supreme court has been reluctant to outlaw congressional acts.

Consistently the court has decided that every presumption is in favor of the validity of an act of congress. It has explained that if an act can possibly be interpreted in such a way as to render it valid, even though another possible interpretation would render it invalid, the former interpretation will rule to assure the will of congress its fullest possible effect within constitutional limits.

Here are the actual words of the court in one case:

"It is elementary when the constitutionality of a statute is assailed, if the statute be reasonably susceptible of two interpretations by one of which it would be unconstitutional and by the other valid, it is our plain duty to adopt that construction which will save the statute from constitutional infirmity."

Can't Act on Own Volition.

And in another: "The section, if so construed, would, at least, raise a grave and doubtful constitutional question. Under the settled practice, a construction which does so will not be adopted where some other is open to us."

That the court cannot act on the constitutionality of a law on its own volition or on the mere request of authorities has been established by its own decisions.

A notable instance occurred when an act of congress attempted to give the Supreme court power on appeal to decide suits which might be brought against the United States in the court of claims by certain Cherokee Indians solely to determine the validity of any act affecting their lands, passed after a certain date.

Proceedings were begun under this act, but the Supreme court decided that it had no constitutional authority to render an opinion. Under the Constitution, it held, the court has power to determine the validity of congressional legislation only when a "case" or "controversy" is brought before it, by contending parties.

Source of Court's Right.

"The right to declare a law unconstitutional," explained the court, "arises because an act of congress relied upon by one or the other of such parties in determining their rights is in conflict with the fundamental law. The exercise of this, the most important and delicate duty of this court, is not given to it as a body with revisory power over the action of congress, but because the rights of the litigants in justiciable controversies require the court to choose between the fundamental law and a law purporting to be enacted within constitutional authority, but in fact beyond the power delegated to the legislative branch of the government."

On an earlier occasion—in 1793—the secretary of state asked the Supreme court to advise the executive department as to the construction of treaties, laws of nations, and the laws of the land, which, he said, were often presented under circumstances that "do not give a cognizance of them to the tribunals of the country." Chief Justice Jay replied that the Constitution did not confer such power upon the court.

On at least one occasion the Supreme court decided that an act was unconstitutional after a President had expressed his conviction that it was unconstitutional. President Taft vetoed a measure on the grounds that the Constitution did not give congress the authority assumed in the measure. Congress, however, passed the bill over the presidential veto. Eventually the act came before the Supreme court in a lawsuit, and the court decided that congress was right.

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Soil Barren 20 Years Is Saved

Lhor, Germany, is boasting how it has made poor soil, unsuited for agriculture, yield riches. The land was first planted thickly with oak. After 20 years it was underplanted with beech, which acts as a nurse tree for the oak to bring it to maturity. The oak is being marketed, and brings the highest price of any in Europe.

WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK...

By Lemuel F. Parton

Judicial .300 Hitter.

NEW YORK.—Some may choose the role of a Judicial Coriolanus. Their retreat forward after stout labors is honorable, too, for all that it is made under the shadow of a presidential frown. White-bearded George Sutherland, however, will not budge.

He likes his work, and, reading between the lines, you gather that he has yet to know a president fitted to say whether he does it well or ill. For fifty-odd years he has watched presidents come and go, often into oblivion, but his longish, resolute countenance, year in and out, has been picked up by every spotlight reaching after the .300 hitters in his profession.

Nor does he scare easily. As a teen-age agent for Wells Fargo in the Blackfoot country, he learned early that the biggest warwhoop often comes from the littlest Indian.

Nor is he awed by prodigies, political or otherwise. He was a sort of prodigy himself, a graduate of the University of Michigan and a lawyer by every legal measuring rod before he was twenty-one and a married man to boot.

President Harding sent him into the Supreme court. According to some of Harding's cronies, he could have been Secretary of State if he had not been born in England. That means he missed the cabinet by fifteen months. He was no older when his parents brought him over here.

Now he is seventy-five, and when the court is sitting he gets to work at half-past nine and eats his noon-day snack in his office in order to keep up with those Anti-New Deal decisions which have prompted a roiled administration to offer him a paid-up life membership in a three-hours-for-lunch club and then some.

France's Big Bad Boy.

JACQUES DORIOT has figured out a new salute for the members of his Parti Populaire Francais. Picture a short man hanging onto a street-car strap, take away the strap, and you have it, just about. The net effect is a pretty compromise between the Fascism which France's biggest bad boy only half avows and the communism which he bitterly repudiates.

A lot of revolutionary water has spilled over time's dam since Jacques Doriot was a confessed red. Once he defied the worst jails in France to advance the cause of revolution. Then he visited Moscow and saw sights that frightened him back home to an orthodox family, old-fashioned suspenders and all the philosophical concomitants of these.

Now he is imbedded as the boss of St. Denis. That is a radical suburb of Paris. Jacques Doriot was its mayor until the government threw him out, alleging some questionable business touching upon municipal contracts. The title was taken away, but not much of the authority.

The St. Denisites still shower him with "vives" when he runs plump fingers through his black shock of hair and roars, "Mes amis!" and they read his La Liberte with the devotion of converts. That tells them, chiefly, to throw down the present radical government in France and raise up—Doriot.

Head Man of Finland.

JUSTUS MANNERHEIM'S Homberg hat rides his grizzled head at a Broadway slant. His barbered mustache lifts perkily at either end. The tops of his gloves are folded back. His vests sport natty white piping. His swarthy cheeks are shaved down to faint blue shadows. This at seventy. He could be a hold-over beau of the Cotillon era.

He is, as a matter of fact, the great man of Finland, field marshal and, some say, uncrowned king. It is a little less than king that his countrymen hail his birthday. The old French fireside philosophers had it that clothes do much to make the man, but, rated on his record, Justus Mannerheim would be sizable in any gathering if he wore only salvation army hand-me-downs.

He has bulked large in the Finnish picture since 1918, when his small republic carved off the vast iceberg that had been imperial Russia. His white guards whaled the everlasting daylight out of home-grown reds. Needing extra help when Bolsheviks threatened across the border, he talked Germans into helping, and then talked them back home when a clash with a British expeditionary force seemed imminent.

All the while he was clearing a ditch here, strengthening a fence there, to make plainer the cleavage from Russia. His people made him premier, but he grew too great for any title. Now every title in the land honors him.

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Listed Industrial Sins

Britain's royal commissions of inquiry, during the last century, sincerely and honestly catalogued the sins of the industrial world of the day in its royal reports—reports from which Karl Marx drew his inspiration and facts in his indictment of society.

Silk Prints, Jackets and Big Brims

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



HERE'S giving you a very proper formula for smart spectator sports costumes to wear these summer days. The combination runs thusly—stunning silk print for the dress which must have a jacket, cape or coat of the same or of some other plain silk related to the ensemble, with matching print silk details, to which add headgear that makes a wide brim appear at its widest. The fuss and furor being made over gay prints and wide brims is on the increase as summer advances.

The vogue started early in the season, at which time fashions at the Belmont racetrack set the pace for a colorful and luxurious summer costume program, that highlights silk prints in unmistakable terms. Then, too, the emphasis placed on big brims is becoming more and more apparent as fashions take a definite stand.

At outdoor events fashionables are adopting this formula of silk print costume plus a huge brim with greatest enthusiasm. Noteworthy among high-style gestures is the topping of one's print dress with a coat or a cape or a jacket of silk bengaline. The revival of bengaline is big news in the fabric realm, and it's good news for bengaline is so dependably wearable and has an air of gentility about it that ever appeals to discriminating taste.

In assembling your costumes to be worn in the grandstand or to view what's going on from the club verandah the big thought to keep in mind is the importance that fashion attaches to matching or related jackets or coats or capes if your taste runs in that direction. If you like to do things notably "modern" you will see to it that your dress be monotone with your coat or cape or jacket done in spectacular print. The swank outfit to the left in the picture tells the story more dramatically than words. In this instance it is the coat that is of gay jockey plaid linen-like silk that tops a simple monotone sports frock. This type is a "last word" fashion

BOLERO EFFECT

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



Rivalling the princess style in popularity in children's fashions is the dress with a bolero or at least with a bolero effect. The idea of a bolero is really a peasant trend, such as is wielding a widespread influence throughout juvenile styles this season. The cunning white pique frock pictured has a simulated bolero typical of the Dalmatian dress. Wee brass buttons go down the front and there is a dash of gray embroidery at each side of the front done in red, blue and yellow. The typical peasantlike pillowbox hat sports a streamer tassel of pompons repeating the color of the embroidery on the dress.

ROMANTIC MOOD IS KEYNOTE OF SEASON

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

For the very formal evening gown the romantic mood is the keynote of the season. Crisp silk mousselines, silk nets and silk marquisettes or stiff silk taffetas make gowns with yards and yards of skirt fullness swirling and billowing about the ankles. Some are stiffened with cording like "Southern Belle" hoop skirts, others use several layers of the silks in contrasting or matching colors to give the bouffant effect. Exotic striped sheers over plain silk foundations sometimes have huge ruffles of self fabric around the hem to accent the width of the skirt.

There's romance in daytime clothes, too. Frills and furbelows in the way of ribbon-bow trimmings and neckwear, also blouses of the sheer fabric-trimmed fluffly-ruffle type add the feminine touch. As to romance in hats there's plenty of it in the way of large leghorn capelines, many having long ribbon streamers for dressy wear, while for wear with tailored suits there are immense black or navy leghorns that are banded with ribbon tying in a sprightly little bow.

New Evening Frocks Are

Beau Catchers for Fair

The new evening frocks are regular beau catchers, and the dance floor looks just like a garden filled with beautiful, ethereal blossoms. Full-skirted frocks of chiffon or lace with matching, long capes, complete with dainty hoods, are selling fast. But they should be worn only by the very young woman. Then there is the marquisette dress and bolero, with short, high, puffed sleeves. This comes in delicate blue or rose and has the bottom of its full skirt strewn with tiny velvet forget-me-not clusters.

Luxury In Filet Crocheted Squares

Elegance without extravagance! It's yours in this filet lace spread, which requires only humble string for the making. See how beautifully the 10 inch companion squares are made to contrast? If you prefer, but one square may be used and repeated throughout.



Pattern 5815

You'll be overjoyed to find both squares so easy! In pattern 5815 you will find instructions and charts for making the squares shown; an illustration of them and of the stitches used; material requirements.

To obtain this pattern send 15 cents in stamps or coins (coins preferred) to The Sewing Circle Household Arts Dept., 259 W. Fourteenth St., New York, N. Y. Please write pattern number, your name and address plainly.

Foreign Words and Phrases

Ab actu ad posse valet consecutio. (L.) Inference (or deduction) from what has been to what may be, has force.

Cambio non e furto. (It.) Exchange is no robbery.

Cor unum, via una. (L.) One heart, one way.

Ego spem pretio non emo. (L.) I do not purchase hope with money.

Finis coronat opus. (L.) The end crowns the work.

Le vrai n'est pas toujours vraisemblable. (F.) The truth is not always probable.

Res est sacra miser. (L.) A suffering person is a sacred thing.

Ces vers enlèvent le lecteur. (F.) These verses delight (charm) the reader.

"Quotations"

Next to the suffering of them who have not stands the want of joy of them who have.—Owen D. Young.

I have solved all the world's problems time and time again, and still they go on being insoluble.—George Bernard Shaw.

Vitality is the life force which makes the immense difference between living and existing.—Fannie Hurst.

America is full of organizations, but not of organization, in the sense of order.—G. K. Chesterton.

Sometimes one pays just for the things one gets for nothing.—Albert Einstein.

Science has left man behind and man is losing his breath trying to keep up to it.—Joseph Caillaux.

KEEP COOL WITH 5¢ KOOL-AID AT GROCERS. MAKES 10 BIG COOL GLASSES!

Reflection is a flower of the mind, giving out wholesome fragrance; but revelry is the same flower, when rank and running to seed.—Tupper.

HELP KIDNEYS To Get Rid of Acid and Poisonous Waste. Your kidneys help to keep you well by constantly filtering waste matter from the blood. If your kidneys get functionally disordered and fail to remove excess impurities, there may be poisoning of the whole system and body-wide distress.

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